The 'Witness' was never better or more useful than it is to-day.
'Dominion Presbyterian.'

Montreal Weekly Witness
and Canadian Homestead.

The 'Witness' deserves the good words that have been said of it.
'Christian Guardian.'

SIXTY-THIRD YEAR, Vol. 63, No. 50.

MONTREAL, TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 15, 1908.

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

CHURCH UNION.

The Rev. F. J. Day Pleased With Result of Final Session of Joint Committee.

HAS CONFIDENCE IN SPIRIT THAT WILL ACTUATE THE NEW UNITED CHURCH.

The Rev. Frank J. Day, pastor of Zion Congregational Church, returned yesterday from Toronto, where he has been in attendance at the sessions of the joint committee on Church Union. The committee has been in existence for five years, and at this, the fifth assembly, a basis of union was adopted that was accepted by the delegates as a fair one, and it will be sent down to the church courts of three of the negotiating denominations—the Presbyterians, Methodists and Congregationalists—to be dealt with at their next annual gatherings. It is expected that it will be at least two or three years before the basis now reached can be ratified by the laity and become the constitution of the united church. It is quite possible, indeed probable, Mr. Day says, that amendments will be made and the basis just agreed to revised before being finally adopted.

'There are two things that stand out prominently in connection with the negotiations,' said Mr. Day, in an interview to-day, 'and, to my mind, they are most gratifying features. Indeed, they underlie the whole question of union in a most important sense. The first thing is that the breadth of the statement of doctrine, in my opinion, gives sufficient freedom for present acceptance and for future revision and development. The second point was the spirit of fairness and liberality possessed by the delegates, which inspired a desire to provide, in the basis, scope for the utmost liberty of conscience. This characteristic marked the entire proceedings, and as a result I am able to trust the spirit of the united church in the development of the new constitution.'

The Congregationalists, Mr. Day remarked, strongly desired and pressed for a simpler creedal statement than that contained in the nineteen articles comprised in the basis of union; but when it was seen that other denominations had conceded much in the eliminations that had been made, it was felt that the Congregationalists could and should accept the basis, although sacrificing much that they had contended for. The report of the Congregational delegates on this point was referred to the committee on doctrine, and was carefully considered by them. It was felt, however, that no important modification of the doctrinal statement could be made so the statement stands practically the same as it was last year. A conscience clause which this body desired inserted will be incorporated in the preamble.

Mr. Day remarked that there had been a good deal of suspicion and prejudice in the minds of those who favored remaining as separate denominations. If there was anything like this in the minds of the delegates it had disappeared during the negotiations. He saw no reason for these feelings to sway the minds of the laity when they would come to consider the basis of union. No doubt, he said, there would be differences of opinion, and the thought had not been to compel all people to accept the same views and see things eye to eye, but rather to frame a creed and polity that most true Christians at least could accept.

While adopting the basis of union, which it is expected, will be published by the end of January, the delegates, Mr. Day said, are not necessarily committed to it, and some of them may, in their own church courts, suggest amendments for future consideration either by the united church or otherwise. The proposed polity of the united church is regarded as very satisfactory. No name has, as yet, been decided upon, but suggested names will be published in the report of the basis of union.

BURNED TO DEATH

SHOCKING CASUALTIES.

Ottawa, Dec. 13.—Four little children lost their lives in a fire which at an early hour this morning destroyed the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Scharff, residing near Hawthorne, a village about five miles from the city. The father, a farmer, arose about six o'clock and kindled the kitchen fire. With his wife he later went to the outbuildings to attend to the morning work among the cattle. During their absence the house took fire, from overheated pipes, it is supposed, and, when noticed by the parents, the place was enveloped in flames. All attempts by the grief-crazed parents to enter the burning building were futile and the little ones perished in their beds. The charred remains were afterwards recovered. The youngest child was an infant of three months, and the oldest four years of age.

Brunswick, Vt., Dec. 13.—Mrs. Laura Smith, housekeeper for James Gilkey, a wealthy farmer here, and her two-year-old daughter, were burned to death early to-day in a fire that destroyed Mr. Gilkey's farm buildings on the North Startford road. Mr. Gilkey escaped with difficulty.

GUARDSHIP SEIZED.

The 'Alix' of Venezuela Captured by Dutch Cruiser 'Gelderland.'

MERELY A REPRISAL AGAINST CASTRO'S GOVERNMENT.

Willemstad, Island of Curacao, Dec. 13.—The Dutch cruiser 'Gelderland' came into this port this morning towing the Venezuelan coast guardship 'Alix,' with the Dutch flag flying and a Dutch crew on board. The 'Gelderland' captured the 'Alix' off Puerto Cabello, on Saturday. At that time the 'Alix' was lying close in shore, and, notwithstanding the threat which the Venezuelan government had made to fire upon any of the Dutch warships committig a hostile act, the 'Gelderland' steamed at full speed towards the guardship and sent an officer and guard in a launch to seize her. This they did without resistance, and no shot came from the forts on land.

The crew of the 'Alix' were put ashore and the Dutch officer and marines remained on board, the 'Gelderland' finally taking the 'Alix' in tow and steaming away with her prize.

Naturally, the people of Curacao, who have long been clamoring for activity on the part of the Dutch government, are greatly rejoiced over this evidence that Holland has at last begun active measures against Venezuela, but the Governor of Curacao, in explaining the incident, had this to say this afternoon:

'The capture by our warships of coastguards and war vessels is not to be considered an unfriendly act against the Venezuelans. It is merely a reprisal against Castro's government, which refuses to give satisfaction for his unfriendly acts toward Holland. The seizure of these vessels will make it impossible for the Venezuelan government to carry troops or ammunition to and from the various ports.

A communication to this effect has been forwarded by the Dutch government to the German minister at Caracas.'

The situation between Venezuela and the Netherlands has been strained for some months. The trouble arose indirectly from the expulsion from Caracas of M. DeReus, the diplomatic representative of Holland, but it had already been rendered acute by the course of Venezuela in issuing a decree on May 14 last, that practically killed the commerce of Curacao.

President Castro refused to withdraw this decree, notwithstanding the fact that Holland issued an ultimatum that she would take retaliatory measures unless he took prompt cognizance of her demands. Castro suggested that Holland send a representative to Caracas to confer with him on this subject, but this the Netherlands government declined to do. Without waiting, however, to ascertain whether or not this suggestion would be adopted, Castro sailed for Europe.

Paris, Dec. 14.—During his stay in this city, Castro kept himself closely confined to his hotel, refusing to give out any statement to newspaper men except through some members of his suite. On the train yesterday, however, he accorded an interview to a representative of the 'Temps,' saying that as he was leaving France he felt at liberty to receive a journalist. The interview, while guarded, fully confirms the representations made by Castro at Santander to the effect that he was desirous of settling Venezuela's outstanding diplomatic affairs, and, so far as France is concerned, has already made the first steps in that direction. He said, however, that everything for the moment must be subordinated to the restoration of his health, and that he would submit to an examination in Germany, on which would depend the question of a surgical or merely medical treatment. He added that he might return to Paris.

PUBLIC MEETINGS BILL.

AIMS AT POLICY OF MILITANT SUFFRAGETTES.

London, Dec. 13.—The text of Lord Robert Cecil's public meetings bill was issued to-day. It aims a death blow at the policy of the militant suffragettes, as it provides, firstly, that any one at a lawful public meeting who acts in a disorderly manner for the purpose of preventing the transaction of business for which the assembly has been called shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding $25 and imprisonment not exceeding one month; secondly, that any one offending under this section at a political meeting during the progress of a parliamentary election shall be guilty of an illegal practice.

Heretofore, the law did not provide any remedy against the breaking up of public meetings or the prevention of speakers being heard, unless an actual assault occurred.

MACDONALD COLLEGE CASE.

The very important case of the Wm. Grace Company vs. Sir Wm. C. Macdonald, is at present before Mr. Justice Charbonneau, in the Superior Court. This will be remembered as a disputed account between the parties, in connection with the construction of the Agricultural College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, and a sum of about $175,000 is involved in the litigation. Mr. H. J. Kavanagh appears for the plaintiff, with Sir Alexandre Lacoste as counsel, and Mr. J. E. Martin with Mr. C. G. McKinnon for the defendant.

THIRTEEN KILLED.

Giant Dynamite Blast on Panama Canal Construction Prematurely Exploded.

MANY MEN INJURED—TRAIN HAD A NARROW ESCAPE.

Colon, Dec. 12.—A giant blast of dynamite, already prepared for firing, was prematurely exploded in the workings at Bas Obispo to-day. At least thirteen men were killed and fifty injured. It may be that others have been killed, for the debris is piled up in all directions.

Bas Obispo cut is about thirty miles from Colon, and the shock of the explosion was distinctly felt here. Numerous reports are current as to the cause of the accident, but the official version from Culebra states that during the loading of the last hole of the blast, the dynamite in this cutting was discharged, and the remaining twenty-two tons were exploded by concussion.

The holes had not been connected electrically and the discharge was set for 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The last hole was being loaded under the supervision of one of the most efficient powder men in the employ of the commission.

A passenger train had just passed when the explosion occurred, but it was not in any way damaged. The majority of the victims were Spaniards.

Colon, Dec. 13.—The explosion yesterday at Bas Obispo of a twenty-five-ton dynamite blast was the most serious accident in connection with the building of the Panama Canal since the United States took control. A thorough investigation, with a view to fixing the responsibility, has been ordered, and already officials are taking evidence and endeavoring to ascertain the cause of the premature discharge of the blast.

For a distance of eight hundred feet in length and four hundred feet in width the Bas Obispo cut presents a graphic picture of the terrific effects of the explosion. The whole hillside has been devastated, the dynamite rending the earth in twain, and tossing huge boulders in all directions. A ninety-ton steam shovel lies a complete wreck, crushed under the weight of falling rocks. Every one of the crew was killed. All the tracks in this section were torn to pieces, and are now covered with tons of debris. Hundreds of men were on the scene today, working heroically to find the bodies of their dead comrades.

The charge consisted of fifty-one holes, sixty feet deep, and spread out over a large section of territory.

TWO MORE VICTIMS

OF IMPURE COAL OIL IN THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

Winnipeg, Dec. 14.—On Saturday two more victims were added to the long and horrifying list of deaths in this province from bad coal oil. One of these was Miss Victoria Raymond, of Alexander, and the other was M. Farrell, a messenger boy of Virden, Man. The latter's employer was also badly burned.

DIED FROM FEVER

DEVOTION TO THE WOMAN HE LOVED COST FRANK GRIFFITH HIS LIFE.

Chicago, Dec. 14.—A devotion to his sweetheart that would not permit his leaving her bedside when she was ill of typhoid fever, cost the life of Frank Griffith, 34 years of age, a Northeastern University athlete of the early '90's, just on the eve of his wedding. Some months ago Griffiths's financée, Miss Susan Paddock, fell ill with the fever, but was sustained in her fight with the ailment by the presence of Griffith at her side. She recovered, but he was stricken with the same malady, and died yesterday.

WATER TANK BURST

MUCH DAMAGE CAUSED AT THE ISLAND YARD OF THE I. C. R. AT ST. JOHN. N.B.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 14.—The I. C. R. water tank at Island yard, holding a hundred thousand gallons, or five hundred tons of water, burst with a mighty roar last night at 10 o'clock. This morning the broken timbers and twisted steel bands mark the spot. The force of escaping water from the tank broke the bridge across Marsh Creek and also broke all the windows in the dynamo room and stores department. Some idea of the force of the flood can be gained from the fact that pieces of iron casting weighing 300 lbs. were hurled a hundred feet. Two men were knocked down but escaped uninjured.

The I. C. R. buildings were flooded. The damage, including the loss of the tank, is estimated at ten thousand dollars. The break was due to the rotting of the iron bands which held the tank.

MISSING RELATIVE INQUIRY.

Information as to the whereabouts of John Alston, formerly of 75 Spottiswood street, Edinburgh, lately in Montreal, is desired by his father and the Rev. W. D. Reid, 207 Delorimier ave., city.

BLACKMAILER SENTENCED.

William Huckle Sent to Penitentiary for Seven Years.

JUDGE SNIDER CONSIDERED THE PRISONER UNWORTHY OF MERCY.

Judge Snider, presiding over the Wentworth Assizes at Hamilton, on Saturday, sentenced William Huckle, who had been found guilty on a charge of blackmail, to seven years imprisonment in the penitentiary. A few years ago he conducted an employment agency in Montreal.

His Honor, while addressing Huckle just previous to passing sentence, remarked that this offence was very serious. It was punishable by fourteen years in prison. He was not a young man, but one who had had a long experience in criminal cases, and who knew the terror such conduct as his inspired in the minds of people. He could not see how the jury could have hesitated to find him guilty, as he had no doubt about it whatever. While a jury was privileged to make such a recommendation as it had, a judge was not bound to act on it.

As to his crime it had the result of making a very serious reflection on the character of Alice Cox, against whom not one word of suspicion should rest so far as the court could learn. Then as to Blanche Cox, there was nothing against her character, and she showed that she had strength of character enough to face her alleged traducer.

His Honor said he could not see one bright spot in the whole case so far as Huckle was concerned. Not one good thing had been accomplished; its whole course had been evil, and had it not been for the recommendation of the jury he would have sentenced him to ten years in the penitentiary. As it was he would sentence him to seven years.

The prisoner has no connection with people of the same name at present residing in this city.

PERSIAN REBELS

Proclaim a Republic at Tabriz.

Berlin, Dec. 13.— A despatch from Baku states that revolutionists have mastered the province of Azerbaijan, the most north-westerly province of Persia, and have proclaimed a republic at Tabriz, the capital.

RESULT OF STRIKE

WINDSOR TUNNEL CONTRACTORS LAY OFF 500 MEN.

Windsor, Ont., Dec. 13.—Following a strike by a few jackmen and the timber men the tunnel contractors laid off practically the entire force of about five hundred men at Nos. 3 and 4 shafts last night. The men were laid off indefinitely, but it is expected that work will be resumed in a week or two. The lay-off is not considered a serious drawback, as the work on this side of the river has been pushed ahead so rapidly that only about six months more will be needed to complete it. A separate force is still working in the other shafts.

STEVENSON DEAD

KEEPER AT ROCKWOOD ASYLUM WAS ATTACKED BY A PATIENT LAST WEEK.

Kingston, Dec. 14.—Last week Samuel Stevenson, a keeper at Rockwood Asylum, entered a room to adjust a blind. He laid his hammer down and turned to the window, when a patient seized the weapon and struck Stevenson a heavy bow on the head. Stevenson fell unconscious and was taken to the hospital for treatment. He suffered from concussion of the brain and lingered unconscious until last night, when he passed away. He was 47 years of age, married, leaving a wife and nine children, the oldest not being over 17 years. The patient who hit him was a victim of delusions.

ST. JOHN RIVER DISPUTE

St. John, N.B., Dec. 14. — Messrs. John Keefe and A. P. Barnhill, this city, have been appointed a commission by the Dominion Government to investigate the matter of obstructions on the upper portion ofSt. John River. It will be remembered that on several occasions there have been clashes between Canadian and American lumber men in and about Vanburen, Maine. Americans claimed the right to stretch booms across the river, and they did so, with the result that war was started with the Canadian operators in that district, whose log driving was interefered with, and the booms were blown up with dynamite. The late Mr. Levi Pond, known as 'Admiral' on the river, was most aggressive in fighting the Americans. The matter was brought to the atention of the Governments at Ottawa and Washington, and it was decided to appoint a commission to look into the matter. The commissioners for the Dominion Government, Messrs. Barnhill and Keefe, will have as counsel, the Hon. H. A. McKeown and the Hon. W. P. Jones. No date has been fixed for the hearing.

ACT ENFORCED.

Prominent Bengali Leader Arrested Under Summary Jurisdiction Law.

MUCH EXCITEMENT CAUSED IN CALCUTTA.

Calcutta, Dec. 13.—Great excitement prevails here owing to developments in the agitation which has been going on for some time against the government. The most prominent Bengal leader in East Bengal, Dutta, was arrested at Burrisol on Saturday and conveyed to an unknown destination. Another prominent nationalist leader, Mitra, editor of the 'Sanjibani,' has been arrested at Calcutta, while the editor of another native paper has been sentenced to transportation on the charge of sedition.

London, Dec. 13.—The new Summary Jurisdiction Act has been enforced in India with dramatic suddenness by the arrest of Dutta, who personally has been a remarkable force for years past. He has been regarded as the uncrowned king of the district in Bengal, of which Burrisol is the chief town. Dutta is a lawyer of great attainments. He is a born leader of men and had much influence among all classes of Bengalese. He was at the head of the boycott movement.

DYNAMITE EXPLOSION.

Four Workmen Seriously Injured

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—Owing to the premature explosion of a blast at the quarries of the International Portland Cement Company in Hull, this evening, four men were seriously injured, one of whom will probably die. The accident took place in a quarry at a depth of about sixty feet below the earth's surface. A large section of rock had been drilled and several charges of dynamite inserted and made ready for firing. One of the men, Thos. McKinstry, undertook to connect up the battery, but in some manner the current happened to be on, and immediately he touched the ends of the wires the charges exploded. The pit was filled with flying rock and it seems miraculous that any of the men escaped. The casualties were:— Alphonse Belanger, skull fractured, may die; Zephras Bigras, shoulder and arm fractured; Thos. McKinstry, foot crushed; Louis Guivremont, leg fractured.

Two others were slightly injured, but did not require medical attention.

BOMB OUTRAGE IN CHICAGO

TWO BUILDINGS WRECKED BY EXPLOSION.

Chicago, Dec. 13.—Two buildings were wrecked and windows were shattered for a block around by a terrific explosion of a bomb in an alley in Wabash avenue, near Sixteenth street, to-night. The wrecked buildings adjoined the Coliseum, where the First Ward Democratic ball, an annual revel, against the holding of which this year much opposition has been made, is scheduled to be held to-morrow night. The police are working on the theory that the bomb thrower designed to frighten people from going to the Coliseum and thus prevent the ball. The report of the explosion was heard for a mile. The congregations of Grace Episcopal Church, adjoining the Coliseum, and of the Open Church, a block away, and guests of several nearby hotels, rushed to the streets excitedly. A two-story frame building in Wabash avenue collapsed and took fire. The fire leaped across a vacant lot and spread to another frame building, which was also wrecked. Properties of the Coliseum stored in the buildings were fuel for the flames. It was reported that men had entered one of the buildings a short time before the explosion, but the police and firemen have found no bodies in the ruins.

Another theory is that the bomb was thrown as a demonstration in the 'Gamblers' war,' which has been marked by the firing of a series of bombs in the vicinity of alleged gambling places said to be favored by the police to the detriment of the bomb-throwers, whose places have been closed.

The First Ward ball has long been a source of contention between reformers and promoters of the annual festival. Recently the pastor of Grace Episcopal Church sought and failed to get an injunction to prevent the holding of the ball, on the ground that it was prejudicial to the morals of the community.

CRUEL STUDENTS

SERIOUS RESULT OF A FOOL HAZING.

New Brunswick, N.J., Dec. 13.—Alleging that their brother, Henry, a freshman at Rutger's College, was brutally hazed, Harry and Samuel Jacobson, druggists, at Elizabeth, came here to-day and demanded an investigation. They said that young Jacobson was compelled to roll pennies across the main street of the college town with his nose, and that he was then subjected to a beating with fence pickets. The boy, they say, is at his home in a serious condition. The faculty are investigating

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Japan is to try to scare the C. P. R. off the Pacific, as she did the United States lines, by cutting rates.

'Filial and Admirable, Empress of the Heavens, equal and bright in practicing holiness, is the posthumous title conferred on the late Dowager Empress of China.

The King, who has been suffering from a slight touch of influenza, following a severe cold, is pronounced well again. He held an investiture at Buckingham Palace to-day, during which he walked briskly about the rooms and conversed freely and animatedly with those present. Upon the advice of his physicians, the King has given up his visit to Lord Burton, in Derbyshire, because of the inclement weather, and returns to Brighton to-morrow.

In consequence of his having been howled down by suffragettes at the Albert Hall meeting on Dec. 5, Mr. Lloyd-George, chancellor of the Exchequer, has decided not to address any meeting in the future at which women are present.

The London Stock Exchange has posted notices forbidding all smoking in the building during business hours. This action has found echo in most of the leading London offices and banks, where it is said smoking will be banned not only during business hours, but after as well.

Five lines of ferry boats running from Broadway, Brooklyn, to Manhattan, stopped running on Sunday without any notice having been given. Traffic has been greatly reduced since the opening of the Williamsburg bridge, but the court has issued an order that the city of New York keep the lines in operation, either by finding a lessee or operating them itself.

Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan has given a hundred thousand dollars for the rebuilding of the Episcopal churches of San Francisco, destroyed by the earthquake three years ago.

In New York, on Saturday, a score of persons were injured by the collapse of a gallery at a moving picture show on the Lower East Side.

Mr. Frank Griffith, of Chicago, an athlete of the Northwestern University, has, after helping nurse his promised wife through a severe attack of typhoid fever, died himself of the disease on Sunday.

Nearly thirty-five thousand workingmen in the United States have been killed during the past year and two million injured.

The Prince of Wales having given his assent, was, on Friday last, at Brantford, made head chieftain of war in the Six Nations Indians, by proxy. The Prince chose the Turtle Clan, and, amid Indian splendor, at the Obeweken council house, was given the title, 'O-Non-De-Yoh,' meaning Lord and King. All the tribes were represented.

A young girl was fatally injured while tobogganing in Winnipeg on Saturday.

BURGLARS SECURE $2,500

KNOCKED POSTMASTER OF THE AMERICAN SOO, SENSELESS.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Dec. 14.—Three unknown men entered the postoffice here last night while Deputy Postmaster Frank Higgins was making out a payroll, knocked him senseless with a sandbag, and then escaped with $2,500. They are supposed to have gone to Canada. Mr. Higgins recovered consciousness early to-day and crawled out of the building and gave the alarm.

ARMAMENTS OF ARGENTINA

REJECTION OF DEPUTIES' VOTE CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE.

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 13.—The Senate has finally confirmed the report of the armaments commission, rejecting the vote of the Chamber of Deputies, which authorized the expenditure of $75,000,000 for increased armaments. The commission's report, as previously cabled, recommends a maximum expenditure over a period of six years of $33,000,000.

This action of the Senate was entirely unexpected, and the measure will be immediately re-introduced in the Chamber, probably, and in the terms of the Constitution, it will be given the force of law by a two-thirds majority, which is already assured. No loan will be issued or special tax imposed for the purpose of raising the required sum, as, in view of increasing production and the prosperous condition of the national finances, periodical payments will be effected from the ordinary resources.

The budget now before Congress shows a reduction in the national debt of $45,000,000 since December, 1905.

SHOW THE 'WITNESS' TO YOUR FRIENDS.

TALK THE 'WITNESS' TO YOUR FRIENDS.

And you will easily secure at least a few subscribers. You can share with them the clubbing offers given on page 8 of this issue, or the splendid offers connected with the 'King's Book' premium on another page. Our various premium offers give pleasant rewards for new friends secured.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Openjng to Take Place on Wednesday, January 20.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—It was announced on the conclusion of yesterday's Cabinet Council that the Dominion Parliament would meet on Wednesday, Jan. 20. This is somewhat later than had been anticipated, but the delay is doubtless due to the absence in England of four of the Cabinet ministers, one of whom, the Finance Minister, is responsible for the estimates and for other important business. Mr. Fielding's absence at this time is due to an effort on the part of the Canadian Government to obtain the ratification of the Franco-Canadian Treaty of Commerce.

The meeting of parliament on Jan. 20 will be for the swearing in of the members of the Lower House and the election of a Speaker. That done, the Commoners will adjourn until the following day, when the customary formalities of the opening will take place in the Senate chamber.

The programme of private bill legislation for the approaching session of parliament, from present appearances, will be decidedly light. The Senate will seemingly have most to do for on it devolves the duty of sifting out the evidence in all divorce applications, of which there are already fourteen on hand to be dealt with. This is the largest number of divorce applications ever received in any single session.

It is now conceded that the Speakership will go to Mr. Charles Marcil. Mr. Hugh Guthrie, of South Wellington, and Mr. McIntyre, of Southport, are mentioned for the Deputy-Speakership.



MR. CHARLES MARCIL, M.P.

ELECTION PROTESTS.

The Hon. Frank Oliver Will Have to Defend Edmonton Seat.

CONSERVATIVES CONDEMN THE ACTION AGAINST THE PREMIER.

Ottawa, Dec. 8.—The protest entered against Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in Ottawa, appears to be the work of a wing of the Conservative party whose action in the matter is not approved by the party as a whole. The 'Citizen,' Conservative, editorially, condemns the protest as uncalled for and trivial.

Mr. T. S. Kirby was last night elected president of the Ottawa Liberal Association, to succeed Mr. F. M. Journeaux, recently appointed collector of customs for Ottawa. Mr. Hal McGiverin, M.P., in an address during the meeting, referred to what he termed the insult to the Premier in the protesting of the latter's election for Ottawa. 'I cannot understand,' he said, 'how any sane legal mind could hold the letter written by Sir Wilfrid Laurier to me to be a contravention of the Election Law. During the campaign I said at a meeting that I would do all in my power to see the recommendations of the Civil Services Commission in the matter of salary increases carried out. The Premier read this statement and wrote me saying he considered the recommendations fair and reasonable, and would endorse them, though he had no power to force the government.' Mr. McGiverin held that no legal objection could be taken to this letter.

Edmonton, Dec. 8.— The following seats are protested in Alberta:—

Liberals—The Hon. Frank Oliver, Edmonton; Wilbert McIntyre, Strathcona; Dr. Clarke, Red Deer.

Conservatives—C. J. Magrath, Medicine Hat; John Herron, Macleod; M. S. McCarthy, Calgary.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 8.—It is learned here to-night that the four New Brunswick election appeals will proceed no further.

Charlottetown, P.E.I., Dec. 8.—A petition against the return of L. E. Prowse, one of the successful Liberal candidates for Queens in the federal election, was filed by L. P. Tanton on Saturday. This makes only two for the Island, the other being against A. L. Fraser. Conservative member for Kings.

Toronto, Dec. 8.— It transpired this morning that another election protest was filed on Saturday, in addition to those made public, but, as it did not reach the office of the registrar until 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, it has been declared as having been filed today; therefore is not regarded. The legal time for filing petitions expired at one o'clock on Saturday. The belated petition was against the election of James P. Rankin, the successful Liberal candidate in North Perth, and the petition was filed by G. L. Money.

Regina, Sask., Dec. 8.—Only one protest has been entered in Saskatchewan in connection with the federal elections. Mr. Turriff's seat in Assiniboia has been protested by Chas. Rusk and Fred Driver.

Winnipeg, Dec. 9.—Charges of bribery preferred against George McLeod, W. A. Carson and Rod McLennon, all prominent Liberals who were summarily imprisoned and refused bail on the eve of the Federal election by the Attorney-General's Department, have been dropped. They were set for preliminary hearing before Magistrate McMicken yesterday but there was no prosecution when the accused arrived, and the cases were dropped.

Coaticook, Que., Dec. 10.—Mr. P. T. Thomas, petitioner in the Stanstead county protest, has withdrawn his protest.

We Hear of More Cures

Of troubles originating in impure blood, scrofula, loss of appetite, catarrh, rheumatism, by Hood's Sarsaparilla than by all other so-called remedies combined. Somehow those cured by Hood's seem to stay cured, and they gladly tell the good news to others.

Blood Purifier—"I have used Hood's Sarsaparilla and have found it the choicest blood purifier. It sends a strong steady stream of life throughout the weary body. There's life and strenth in every drop of it." HILDA SMITH, 46 Wellesley St., Toronto.

Afflicted 16 Years—"Hood's Sarsaparilla has cured me of scrofula, with which I have been troubled 16 years, and caused by vaccination. My little daughter had a scrofula swelling on her neck and Hood's Sarsaparilla also cured her." MRS. NORA HUGHEY, Hughey, Tennessee.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is sold everywhere. 100 Doses One Dollar. Prepared only by C. I. Hood Co., Lowell, Mass., U. S. A.

N. B. Do not take a substitute. Insist upon having Hood's.

THE PATRONAGE SYSTEM

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS VIEWS.

In the course of an interview with the special Ottawa correspondent of the 'Canada,' Tuesday, the Hon. G. P. Graham, Minister of Railways and Canals, referring to the patronage question, said:

'Certain newspapers give proof of much hypocrisy in discussing the question of patronage. So long as governments are composed of human beings, and so long as the party system prevails, there will be between the members of any government whatever and their friends warmer sympathy than that which can exist between such ministers and their opponents. For this reason, all things being otherwise equal, governments will always be inclined to give preference to their friends. To pretend otherwise would be the greatest possible hypocrisy, and everybody knows it.

'It is to be regretted that too many people, in both parties, seem to believe that the distribution of patronage, instead of being a mere incident of the government, is the principal task of those in power.

'When a man considers that, by the mere fact that he has given his support to such or such a government, he should be allowed to transact business with that government on a scale of exorbitant prices or special privileges, that man goes much too far and ceases to be a true friend of the party to which he belongs.

'The government, like every business firm, must get from purveyors and contractors the full value of the money which it spends.'

Continuing, Mr. Graham added that he did not consider the tender system as the best in every case, and, in his opinion, the open market often offered better advantages.

Referring then to the patronage list in his department, he said that the number of those from whom tenders are asked for the Intercolonial Railway was now so large (198 names throughout the whole of Canada) that he had decided, for next year, to call for tenders through the press, instead of writing to those on the list.

The Hon. Minister concluded the interview with the following remark: 'On the whole, if errors of judgment occur now and then, we are entitled to state that we control the expenditure of the people's money with as much care as if our own money was concerned.'

HULL'S FINANCES.

Hull, Que., Dec. 7.—According to the financial statement for the city of Hull, covering the year just closing, there will be a surplus of about $7,000, the first in the history of the city. The council, under Mayor Thibault, has done splendid work. During the year there was a heavy water works undertaking, and $20,000 and interest was applied to the debenture debt. Hull will meet Ottawa to discuss the proposal to establish a joint publicity bureau.

TORONTO CHANNEL ISLANDERS.

Toronto, Dec. 9.—Natives of the Channel Islands resident in Toronto, decided to form a fraternal organization similar to that of their fellow-countrymen in Montreal.

SIKHS REFUSE TO LEAVE CANADA.

Government Commissioner and His Party Have an Exciting Time in Vancouver.

Vancouver, Dec. 7.—Following an exciting adventure with Tejah Singh and his Hindoo followers, Mr. J. B. Harkin, Federal government commissioner appointed to arrange for the sending of a thousand Hindoos to Honduras, decided that his task was impossible and that the Hindoos would not move from British Columbia. Mr. Harkin and the Dominion government officials of Vancouver had a decidedly lively Sunday afternoon, being once threatened with bodily attack by a band of stalwart Sikhs, who are now amongst those who refuse to be moved from their new homes.

Having returned from Honduras, Sunday was set by Mr. Harkin for an explanation of the scheme. In company with Dr. Alex. Munro and Mr. J. H. MacGill, of the Immigration Department, and several interpreters, as well as by the Rev. J. Knox Wright, formerly missionary to India, Mr. Harkin repaired to the Hindoo Temple in Fairview. There he was informed that a service, at which five hundred Hindoos were in attendance, was proceeding in the Holy of Holies of the Temple, and upper room. The government party was told that all its members remove their shoes before entering the upper room. Dr. Munro declined to take off his shoes and insisted that Tejah Singh and other leaders should come to the basement room for a conference. The Rev. Mr. Wright and other interpreters strongly advised in favor of this course. They declared that the invitation to the inner temple was a trap laid for the government commissioner, and that if he agreed to it the Hindoos would immediately cable home to India the news that their temple had been desecrated, and the story would ring from one end of India to the other. Acting on this advice, Mr. Harkin and his committee declined to remove their shoes, and, consequently, did not enter the inner temple. After he had prayed an hour, Tejah Sing finally appeared in the basement, but declared at once that the Hindoos would never go to Honduras. He declined to hear any official report. He interrupted Mr. Harkin when the latter attempted to explain. Dr. Munro stepped forward at this moment and insisted that the government's representative should not be treated rudely. 'Stop! Stop!' angrily shouted Dr. Munro, at the same time pressing his hand towards Tejah Singh's face. Instantly there was a rush of a dozen Sikhs. They crowded around Dr. Munro with upraised hands and cried excitedly, 'We have no fear, we are not afraid.' No blow was struck, but the situation was tense. The incident broke up the meeting.

Vancouver, Dec. 10.—What looks very much like a checkmate has been effected by Teja Singh in the interesting game this Hindoo has been playing against the Dominion Government since the first proposal was made to remove the Hindoos from British Columbia to Honduras. Teja Singh to-day completed negotiations for the formation of all unemployed Hindoos into an incorporated company of land owners, their chief asset being valuable property near North Vancouver, facing English Bay. In this last move Singh has not only dealt the death blow to the British Honduras scheme, but he has effectively removed all indigent and unemployed Hindoos from the labor market, and has thus in one respect benefited white laborers.

Teja Singh, the newly-appointed leader of the Hindoos, to-day purchased a hundred and fifty-two acres of land in North Vancouver municipality, the purchase price being $41,000, and he has secured an option on another property valued at $80,000.

CASE DISMISSED

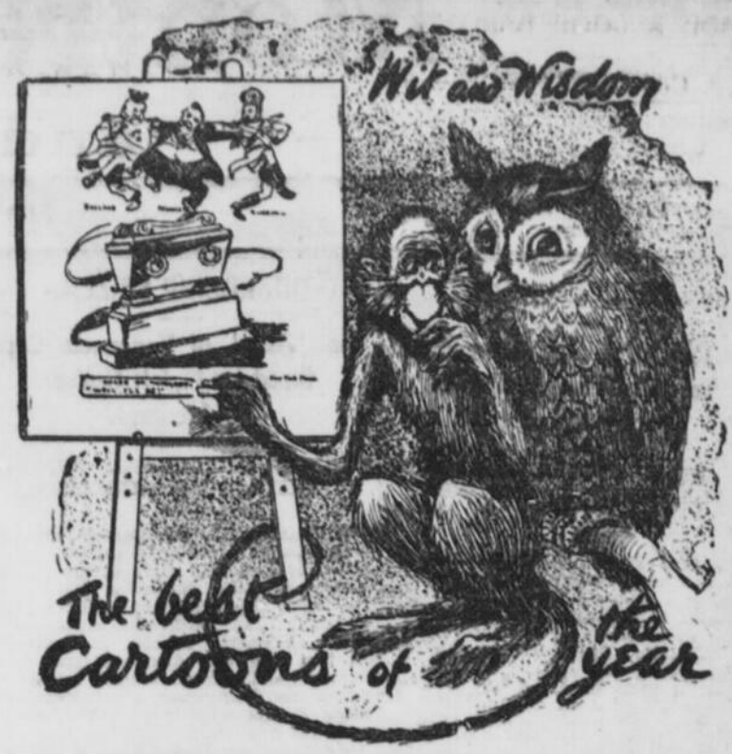
RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY CANNOT BE HELD LIABLE FOR TAXES UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Ottawa, Dec. 7.—On the grounds that a religious community cannot be held liable for taxes, even though its members utilize the property for agricultural pursuits, the action of the Cantley School Commissioners to recover $300 from the Fathers of the Holy Ghost, has been dismissed. The order owns considerable property near Ironsides, Wright county, and when the case was heard some time ago in Hull it was claimed by the commissioners that from the property market produce was being sold as well as wood and lumber, and that consequently the community should not be exempt. Against this it was contended that the property was used for theological studies, and further that the farm produce was raised by students in the course of study as a result of experiments in agriculture. It was not raised for purposes of sale, but rather than have it go to loss it was sold. This was upheld by the court.

FATAL RAILWAY SMASH

ENGINEER AND FIREMAN KILLED AT FORT WILLIAM.

Fort William, Ont., Dec. 9.—An engineer named Noble and a fireman named Osler, of this city, were killed in the C. P. R. yards last night as the result of the collision of a switch engine, of which they had charge, with a freight train. The freight train was crossing the main line at what is known as the 'puzzle switch,' when the switch engine ran into it. The cab of the engine was completely wrecked, while a car on the freight train was thrown from the rails and overturned. The two men, whose bodies were fearfully mutilated, were married, and each leaves one child.



1908 Caricatured

'World Wide' Cartoon Number.

A large number of Cartoons by the brightest wits and truest pens have been collected by 'World Wide' during the year from the leading publications of both hemispheres. The choicest of these are reissued in the 'Cartoon Number' (to appear Dec. 26), and form a humorous and effective review of the interesting world events of this most interesting year.

A careful examination of this 'Cartoon Number,' which, besides its weekly quota of reading matter gives a complete index to the contents of the whole volume, will give a better idea of the scope of 'World Wide' and of its value, than columns of descriptive matter.

Your friend, who does not take 'World Wide,' would greatly enjoy it as an introduction to Canada's leading review.

Single Copies, **FIVE CENTS** Postpaid to any address.

The 'Cartoon Number' is included with all annual subscriptions. New subscribers remitting now, receive this Cartoon number free. Subscription rate to 'World Wide,' $1.50 a year to any address—a capital Xmas or New Year's gift.

'Witness' readers who do not take 'World Wide,' should mention this advertisement when sending in their annual subscription to the 'Witness,' and we will promptly send them free a copy of the 'Cartoon Number' for examination.

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

SPECIAL CLUBS { 'Weekly Witness' and 'World Wide' - - - - $2.00
'Weekly Witness', 'World Wide' and 'Canadian Pictorial' $2.50

These Clubs governed by postal regulations on Page 8.

MR. G. B. BURLAND'S WILL

VALUE OF THE ONTARIO PORTION OF THE ESTATE.

Toronto, Dec. 9.—The will of the late Mr. George Bull Burland, of Montreal, president of the British American Bank Note Company, who died at Los Angeles, California, on May 22, 1907 was filed for probate in the Toronto Surrogate Court to-day. No mention is made of the Quebec estate which is estimated to be worth about $3,000,000.

Th Ontario part of the estate totals $478,772.15, of which amount $13,900 is in the Albion Hotel, Ottawa, and $460,-324 in stocks.

The legatees are Henrietta Rae Burland daughter, London, England, $15,-000; Dr. McPhail, $50,000; Wattie Burland, $5,000; Benjamin Burland, $5,000; Maude Burland, $5,000; Hattie MacGarry, $1,000 The residue, $397,772.15, goes to Jeffrey Hale Burland, son, Montreal; Henrietta Rae Burland widow of George C. Stephens, London, and Clarissa Jane Burland, daughter, wife of Henri M. Ami, Ottawa in equal shares. In addition these latter three receive in equal share the whole of the Quebec part of the estate.

DENOUNCED STOW

JUDGE RIDDELL PRACTICALLY ORDERS ARRREST OF ENGLISH CAPITALIST.

Toronto, Dec. 8.—Justice Riddell this afternoon practically ordered the arrest of E. Kenyon Stow, an English capitalist, on a charge of perjury. He was defendant in the Non-Jury Court in an action for $51,300 damages. Judge Riddell acted peremptorily in the case in giving judgment against Stow, and in favor of the plaintiff, Mr. J. E. O'Meara, an Ottawa lawyer. Judge Riddell stated that Stow was dishonest and unreliable, that he had been uttering false bonds on the stand, and stated also that he had already laid the facts of the case before Crown Attorney Corley. At the same time the judge allowed Mr. O'Meara to amend his claim to ask for $100,000 damages, instead of $51,300, as first claimed.

The charge against Stow is that as part of his evidence, under oath, in open court, he made an assertion that he did not agree to give one, T. Carling Kelly, ten percent of the stock of a company to be formed to take over the Otisse Mining Company, such assertion being known to said Stow to be false, and being intended by him to mislead the court.

Toronto, Dec. 9.—Justice Riddell today in the Non-Jury Court gave judgment for $80,300 against the British capitalist and mine financier, E. Kenyon Stow, in favor of the Ottawa lawyer, J. E. O'Mara.

CROZIERS PLEAD GUILTY

Milton, Ont., Dec. 9.—Thomas and Milton Crozier pleaded guilty when arraigned before Judge Magee, at the Assizes here to-day, for their second trial on charges of counterfeiting, and were sentenced, the father to seven years in Kingston penitentiary, and the son to one year in the Central Prison.

CHURCH UNION

REPLY TO ANGLICAN BODY BY JOINT COMMITTEE OF OTHER CHURCHES.

Toronto, Dec. 11.—The joint committee of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational churches, which has been discussing the details of the proposed united church, succeeded this afternoon, after a lively discussion, in framing a reply to the communication from the Anglican Church in Canada setting forth the conditions on which that body would consent to consider church union. The joint committee spent over an hour of arduous argument in wording the reply. The obstacle in the way of a union between the Anglican and the three other churches was the communication from that body which set forth the question of the 'Historic Episcopate.' The joint committee replies to this as follows:

'This committee regrets that it is unable to accede to this condition, but if the Church of England in Canada shows that it is willing to interpret the "Historic Episcopate" in a liberal spirit and to meet the joint committee on a free and equal basis to explain its interpretation, the conference on church union will be glad to meet with the proper representatives.'

The discussion of the report of the sub-committee on administration was finally brought in and adopted. It provides for common funds where practicable, separate trusts where this would be found inequitable, and safeguards for all claimants on the funds.

The finding of the committee will now be submitted to the supreme courts of the churches concerned, and by them to the lower court, and by the latter to the individual congregations, who will be asked to vote upon it. The hope was expressed that by the close of 1910, or the beginning of 1911, this process would be completed, and the organic union of the three churches would be an accomplished fact.

Principal Patrick, of Winnipeg, in an address following the decision expressed the opinion that it marked the greatest step in the religious world since the Reformation. Principal Gordon, of Queen's University, Kingston, moved a resolution, which was carried by a standing vote, expressing the thankfulness of the delegates at the happy result of the meeting, which then adjourned.

RAILWAY COMMISSION

ISSUE TWO PRECAUTIONARY ORDERS.

Ottawa, Dec. 9.—The Railway Commission has issued several orders designed to promote the safety of travel on the railway lines of Canada. One of them provides for a daily inspection of electric bells at all highway crossings, and another stipulates that where freight cars are used on main line trains they must be equipped with air brakes, steel tires and metal trucks designed for passenger service. Where these requirements are not complied with on account of exceptional circumstances, the trains must not be run at more than thirty-five miles per hour.

ROLLS ACQUITTED

NOT GUILTY OF CHARGE OF STEALING CAMPAIGN LITERATURE.

Cobourg, Ont., Dec. 11.—The trial of R. L. Rolls, the Fenella postmaster, for the theft of Conservative campaign literature, which occupied Tuesday afternoon before the grand jury, and Wednesday, Thursday and to-day before the petit jury, resulted to-day in a verdict of acquittal. Twenty-seven witnesses were called, seventeen for the Crown and ten for the accused, most of the latter being witnesses as to character. Addresses of counsel were concluded last night, and this morning, at the opening of the court, Judge Benson charged the jury. The charge was fair and impartial, the prosecution being commended, but every point that told in favor of the accused being explained to the jury. After a lapse of an hour without the return of the jury a disagreement was looked for, but at the end of another hour the jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and Rolls was discharged without comment by the judge.

BOY STARTED FIRE

BARNS AND FARM OUTBUILDINGS NEAR OMEMEE, ONT., DESTROYED.

Omemee, Ont., Dec. 10.—The barns and outbuildings, with their contents, belonging to T. B. Laidley, Elmhurst Farm, two miles from here, were burned at six o'clock this morning. The stock and horses were saved, with the exception of three head of cattle. The fire was started by a Home boy, who disappeared afterwards, and has not yet been captured.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE

SIR WILFRID LAURIER INTIMATES THAT IT IS FOREMOST A PROVINCIAL QUESTION.

Ottawa, Dec. 8.—At a meeting of the Women's Christian Temperance Union a letter from Sir Wilfrid Laurier on the women's suffrage question, which has been discussed here a good deal lately, was read. Some time ago the Premier, with others, was asked if he would support woman suffrage. His letter, while not committing himself one way or the other, intimates that this question is one for provincial legislation before being considered by the Dominion Government

TORONTO POPULATION.

Toronto, Dec. 11.—It is announced that the police census shows that Toronto has a population of 314,678. If East Toronto, West Toronto and North Toronto and a part of the township of York, now considering the question, vote in favor of annexation to the city, the population will be brought up to 338,513

MADE A GOOD BARGAIN.

G.T.P. Company Claims Eastern Section of Transcontinental Will be a Rich Asset.

AN OFFICIAL ANSWER TO THE RUMORS OF THROWING UP CONTRACT.

It was announced Thursday that both the Grand Trunk and Grand Trunk Pacific intend to apply to parliament at the next session for powers to issue increased capital stock.

In view of this application, a new booklet was issued Thursday from the offices of the G. T. R., dealing at length with the position and prospects of the Grand Trunk Pacific, which it claims to be 'the only all-Canadian route,' between coast and coast. The fact that the booklet deals exhaustively with the eastern portion of the G. T. P., is the best possible refutation of the assertion made just prior to the general election that the company intended to throw over its obligations in regard to this eastern end. So far from this, it is evident that the company looks on the eastern end of the transcontinental as an asset of great value. Here is the official statement put forth in the booklet:

'By the terms of the lease to the company of this portion of the railway it will also be seen that the company will practically have the free use of it for a period of seven years, and taking into account the time allowed for construction which is fixed at seven years, no payments will be required to be made on account of rental until 1919, and since it is to pass through an entirely new and undeveloped section of the country which is now known to be rich in agricultural and mineral resources, as well as timber, it is anticipated that long before the first payment on account of rental becomes due, the company will have reaped a rich harvest from the traffic that will exist upon its completion. This section of the line between Quebec and Winnipeg will pass through what may appropriately be termed the mineral belt of eastern Canada, as in this district adjacent to the main line are located the now famous Cobalt deposits, as well as nickle, copper, iron, etc., which are only awaiting the advent of the railway to be brought forth for manufacture.'

BOY STOLE APPLES

AND WAS WOUNDED BY SHOT FROM TEACHER'S GUN.

Owen Sound, Dec. 10.—It would be a serious thing if every boy who entered a neighbor's yard and stole a few apples should be liable to be shot; the country would not stand for that sort of thing, was the comment of Judge Hatton, at the Sessions yesterday on the charge against Robert Gatis, school teacher, Williamsford, accused of having shot at Chase Roberts, with intent to do serious bodily harm. Gatis pleaded guilty.

In consideration of accused's good character, sentence was suspended.

Gatis had been annoyed by boys stealing fruit from his orchard, and thought he was entitled to fire at them for the purpose of frightening them away. He had not meant to injure Roberts and, judging from the wound in the latter's thigh, it appeared that the bullet must have glanced off some object before it struck him. The accused agreed to pay all expenses and give Roberts compensation.

HUNTINGDON TOWNSHIPS 'DRY'

BY A MAJORITY OF 15 DUNDEE VOTES FOR PROHIBITION.

Dundee, Que., Dec. 8.—By their vote yesterday the ratepayers of Dundee have declared for prohibition, and there will now be no license in any township in the County of Huntingdon. The by-law refusing to grant any licenses was sustained by a majority of 15, the figures being: For license, 66; against, 81.

The neighboring town of Fort Covington, which is just across the border, in New York State, has had prohibition for some time, but it was ineffective, because residents could cross the line, and purchase liquor in Dundee, which is only about a mile distant.

As a result of the vote there is great rejoicing amongst the temperance people in both towns.

TRACKED BY JILTED GIRL

AWARDED $3,250 DAMAGES ALTHOUGH SHE HAD WRITTEN LETTER ASKING FORGIVENESS.

The jury trial in the breach of promise case of Miss Emma O. Sims against R. C. Bach, has resulted in a verdict for plaintiff. She claimed $10,000 damages on the ground that the defendant, after paying her attentions and making an engagement with her, married another woman.

The evidence went to show that the parties lived in the same boarding house, exchanged presents, kept company together, and acted throughout as sweethearts. The plaintiff and defendant were both examined.

In her evidence Miss Sims swore that the defendant promised to marry her, and fixed the date. Shortly afterwards, however, she learned that, after leaving on a trip to the West, he had married a girl from New York. She then decided to follow the couple out West, and after arriving in Brandon, Man., met Bach face to face. Bach and Miss Sims went to a hotel together, after they met in Brandon, and in the hotel Miss Sims wrote a letter asking forgiveness.

It was claimed on behalf of the defence that when Miss Sims wrote the letter in Brandon, asking for forgiveness, she renounced all right to any claim.

The circumstances of this strange letter seemed to be somewhat puzzling, and before retiring, one of the jurors asked His Honor whether, in his opinion, this letter had the effect of renouncing all claims for damages. Mr. Justice Curran replied that if the circumstances were as described by the defence he would entertain that opinion.

After deliberating for almost an hour the jury arrived at a unanimous verdict granting the plaintiff $3,250 damages.

McGILL REQUIRES TWO MILLIONS.

MR. R. REFORD GIVES $50,000 TOWARDS THE SALARIES' FUND.

In the annual report of McGill University, adopted on Wednesday, it is stated that two milion dollars are required—one of which is to make good the losses incurred by the recent fires.



MR. ROBERT REFORD.

In addition to that, there is still the greatest need for the other million dollars for which the university was appealing before the fires took place. This money is wanted for increasing salaries, for endowing professorships now a charge on the general income, for erecting in the immediate future a new science building, for the proper maintenance of the library and museum, for endowing the graduate school, for giving a larger number of undergraduate scholarships and exhibitions, and for the immediate initiation of a scheme for college residences.

More resignations of professors are impending, and the report declares that higher salaries must be paid if the University is to keep its best men.

In a reference to the Macdonald College, it is recalled that before the session opened, the barns which formed part of the old farm were unfortunately destroyed by fire, and the generous founder made this the opportunity of planning new buildings on a much more extensive scale. These are now approaching completion, and the board of governors, acting in consultation with Principal Robertson, hopes to be able to arrange at an early date for an inaugural ceremony, such as shall mark their appreciation of the magnitude of Sir William Macdonald's latest benefaction.

Mr. Robert Reford, a member of the board of governors of McGill University, has donated securities to the value of $50,000 to that institution, on the sole condition that revenue accruing therefrom be devoted to the augmentation of professors' salaries as the governors may see fit. In making the donation, Mr. Reford says he is 'well aware of the great desirability, indeed necessity, of an increase of the salaries of the professors of McGill University, if first-class men are to be retained and the high standing of the university continued.'

QUEBEC SALOONS

ALDERMEN PROPOSE TO HAVE THEM OPEN FROM 7 A.M TO 10 P.M.

Quebec, Dec. 11.—At a meeting of the City Council this evening notice was given by Ald. Jolin that at the next meeting he would move for the closing of bars at 10 o'clock every night except Saturday, when they close at 7 o'clock, and that no bars be open before 7 a.m.

A city by-law exists that no commercial traveller, being in Quebec, can take orders here before obtaining a license from the city, which costs two hundred dollars. Ald. Cummings to-night gave a notice to amend that by-law, so as to include contractors, insurance representatives, traders, or all others, who, not residing in this city, come here to carry on their business.

SMOKE FROM LOCOMOTIVES.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—As a result of the order of the Board of Railway Commissioners directing the railway companies to take immediate steps to prevent the unnecessary discharge of smoke from their locomotives while working in the vicinity of cities, towns and villages, the local mechanical department of the C. P. R. has begun to take steps to comply with the order and three engines in the Ottawa yards have been fitted with smoke-consuming appliances.

STATE-OWNED CABLES.

Great Meeting in London Presided over by the Lord Mayor.

HON. MR. LEMIEUX URGES THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR CHEAPER COMUNICATION THROUGHOUT THE EMPIRE.

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 11.—An influential meeting was held in the Mansion House today, in support of the movement in favor of state-owned cables and cheaper rates. The Lord Mayor, Sir George Truscott, presided, and among those present were the Duke of Argyll, Lords Strathcona, Milner and Jersey, the Hon. Messrs. Rodolphe Lemieux, Fielding, Fisher and Sir Frederick Borden, Sir Edward Sassoon, the Agents-General of the colonies, a number of members of parliament, and a number of city business men.

There was some objection to state-owned cables expressed in the word 'socialism,' but Sir Edward Sassoon emphasized the difference between socialization and imperialization.

The Hon. Mr. Lemieux, who was warmly received, claimed that the cause of cheaper communications between the Mother Country and the colonies had never received such influential support as now. He surveyed Canada's record in this regard, with an incidental tribute to Sir Sandford Fleming. Then he asked, should we lay our ardor aside. (Cheers.) It was utterly vain to boast of the unity of the Empire until its component parts had become more fully acquainted.

'Judging from what I have read in the daily press of the United Kingdom,' continued Mr. Lemieux, 'very little information is given concerning the dominions beyond the seas. The life, opinion and aspirations of our fellow subjects in both hemispheres should cease to be what it practically is to-day, a closed book.'

Continuing, Mr. Lemieux said he was more particularly concerned with a state-owned cable service across the Atlantic, as it would be a logical sequence to the establishment of the Pacific cable. This one step would be of incalculable importance. It was a feasible scheme, and one that could be worked on a paying basis.

The figures, he said, showed that the Pacific cable was not worked at an annual loss each year. There had been an excess of earnings over expenditure ranging from $125,000 to $278,000 a year, which was regularly employed in paying off the original capital expenditure.

The twentieth century was Canada's. Was it not a wise policy to give cheap telegraphic communications to both countries. (Cheers.) He welcomed the help given by the United States, but as this great reform is to be achieved at no distant future he claimed that Great Britain and her premier colony should lead, not follow. State-owned cables across the Atlantic would immediately lower the charges fifty percent. It is believed that there would eventually be a uniform charge which would not exceed ten cents a word.

It would immediately bring down the charges for messages between England, New Zealand and Australia to half, or less than the present exorbitant rates. It would be the harbinger of a Pan-Britannic cable and a telegraph system encircling the globe.

'Can that be accomplished?' said Mr. Lemieux. 'I think it can. I believe it will. I have searched in vain for the word 'impossible' in the latest edition of the English dictionary.'

Captain Muirhead Collins, of Australia, read a message from Premier Fisher, cabled this morning.

The Duke of Argyll, Lord Milner, Sir Arthur Spicer, president of the London Chamber of Commerce, and the Hon. Mr. Fielding, also spoke earnestly in favor of a cheap system on Imperial grounds.

Resolutions in support of the movement and calling upon the British Government to convene a conference, were carried.

Premier Asquith was also requested to receive a deputation of business men.

DR. WORKMAN LOSES

APPEAL WAS DISMISSED BY METHODIST COURT LAST NIGHT.

The appeal of the Rev. Dr. Workman was dismissed by the Methodist Court of Appeal, Toronto, on Thursday, on the ground that the new evidence offered was not sufficient to justify the claim of the appellant that the action of the board of the Wesleyan College was ultra vires. The announcement of the decision was made by the Rev. Dr. Carman at the close of to-night's session. Dr. Carman intimated that in the course of a few days a detailed written decision might be handed out.

BRAMPTON LOCAL OPTION CASE.

Toronto, Dec. 11.— The Divisional Court to-day quashed the decision of Chief Justice Sir W. R. Meredith, granting a mandamus to compel Brampton Town Council to submit a local option by-law at the municipal elections. Therefore a by-law will not be submitted.

ACQUITTED OF ARSON CHARGE.

Belleville, Ont., Dec. 11. — W. H. Bradshaw, of Tyendinaga, was tried at the County Court House here, charged with arson. He was tried once before and the jury disagreed. It was charged that the accused set fire to his uncle's farm and stole some money from the house while the family were fighting the fire. There were thirty witnesses for the Crown. Mr. Gus Porter, M.P., for the defence, called no witnesses, but made a strong appeal on behalf of the prisoner, who was acquitted by the jury.



Rural Telephones for Family Protection.

It's not an unusual thing for tramps or burglars to get into country houses and, while the men are away, frighten the women.

Often they don't stop at merely frightening, but sometimes steal and occasionally commit murder.

Unless immediate assistance can be summoned, the women are practically at the mercy of these ruffians.

With a telephone in the house neighbors can, at a moment's notice, be called in.

Or, in case of a sudden illness, during the night, to go for a doctor might mean the loss of a dear one's life.

With a telephone at hand, the doctor can, without loss of time, be summoned and, in the meantime, advise what to do.

It's every farmer's duty to himself and family to have a telephone.

He can never tell at what moment it may be the means of saving a life.

But what he does want is a durable and reliable telephone—one that has a reputation behind it.

Write us for more particulars about this kind of a telephone, the cost of installing, etc.

You can build and operate your own telephone line.

The Northern Electric & M'f'g. Co., Ltd.

427 Seymour St. VANCOUVER. 599 Henry Ave. WINNIPEG. Cor. Notre Dame & Guy Sts. MONTREAL.

Use address nearest you. No. 303

THE FERTILE NORTHLAND

ADDRESS BY MR. R. E. YOUNG TO THE CANADIAN CLUB.

'Canada's fertile northland' was the subject of an address delivered by Mr. R. E. Young, of the Railway Lands Branch of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, to the members of the Montreal Canadian Club at the weekly dinner.

For the purpose of making his subject perfectly clear the speaker exhibited maps showing the northland in red colored ink. This colored part stretched over Manitoba and parts of Saskatchewan and Alberta, while towns dotted red were observed on the map near the Arctic region. This surveyed red area Mr. Young said, had now 8,582 miles of railway, a population of 1,118,976, thirty-five million acres of homesteads, besides which nine and a half million acres of land were under cultivation and six million acres were under wheat.

The speaker said he had spent nearly twenty years in the northland, and he predicted that it would be a country of extraordinary wealth and prosperity. In this great northland thirty million acres were opened out to settlers, and on Nov. 1 three million acres of this country had been granted to settlers. In 1906 the land under wheat was five million acres, in 1907 it was also five millions, but this year it was six millions. The production of wheat two years ago was a hundred million bushels, last year it was seventy-one millions, but prosperity had come again this year, as the one hundred millions was once more reached.

Mr. Young said that Mr. James J. Hill, the railway magnate, had stated that there would be two hundred million people in America in 1950, and they would want all the wheat Canada could raise.

Next, the speaker referred to the financial side of the matter, and he informed the assembly that at a farm of three hundred and seventy-five acres at Saskatoon the wheat had realized a profit of $40.73 per acre, while at a farm of two hundred and fifty acres, near Calgary, a net profit of $32.40 per acre had been made. He referred to other prosperous farms and then said that 41,000 homesteads had been given away up to Nov. 1 in the North-West.

The lecturer contended that the idea that latitude governed climate was absurd. In the summer vegetables had been observed growing at Fort Good Hope, on the Mackenzie River, fourteen miles from the Arctic boundary.

Mr. Young then exhibited some wheat which had been grown at Simpson, nine hundred miles north of the international boundary. He also referred to the wheat grown at Fort Providence, Fort Liard, Stanley Mission, Chipewan and Vermilion, and stated that at the latter place thirty thousand bushels were raised this year. He maintained that there was as much land to be settled as was now settled north-west of Winnipeg. In speaking of the climate of the North-West Mr. Young said the temperature from June 1 to Aug. 20, at Fort Providence, was very much the same as at Montreal. Of course, it was extremely cold in winter, but they did not grow anything then. The quality of wheat, said the lecturer, improves up to the north limit, up to which it can be raised.

Reference was made to the other assets of the North-West, and Mr. Young told his audience that it was a country of great possibilities. He mentioned the natural gases found along the Peace River, and the salt, gold, and copper regions there. After speaking of the minerals to be found on the banks of the Mackenzie river, and dwelling upon the resources and wealth of the Yukon, Mr. Young spoke on New Ontario, and referred to the prosperity reigning in this country. Since 1900 it had been found that there were sixteen million acres of clay land in New Ontario. Cobalt had sprung up and the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Temiskaming railway lines were now laid through this wonderfully rich country.

The lecturer in one of his concluding sentences said he hoped that the great waterway of 3,100 miles from Montreal to Chipewyan, which was navigated by the old fur traders, would eventually prove a great commercial highway. In terminating his address he said he believed that through God Canada was destined to be a great country and it only remained with the people of the Dominion to make it so.

Mr. E. E. Howard, president of the club, occupied the chair.

CLERGYMEN FOR ANGLICAN CHURCH

BISHOP OF OTTAWA BELIEVES CANADIANS SHOULD BE CHOSEN.

Ottawa, Dec. 8.—That the Anglican churches should no longer augment their clerical supply from Great Britain was the opinion expressed by the Bishop of Ottawa at the meeting of the Anglican Church. The time, he said, had arrived when the Church ought to be able to provide a sufficient number of clergymen from among Canadians, and no longer go to England to augment her forces, particularly in view of the fact that in England there is a falling off in the supply. It was unfair to the Mother Country to drain on her resources.

LATE MRS. SARAH A. BAKER

DAUGHTER OF A U. E. LOYALIST AND AN EARLY SETTLER IN ONTARIO.

Mrs. Sarah A. Baker, descended from a United Empire Loyalist on her father's side, and from one of Nelson's captains on her mother's, died recently at 'Quinte, Waldon Road, Acton, England, an octogenarian.

Mrs. Baker was born, and many years of her married life were spent, in Canada, in New Brunswick and Ontario, and it was not till they were well past the prime of middle life, that business reasons induced Mr. and Mrs. Baker to remove to England.

The story of Mrs. Baker's life is a typical example of the life of the early settlers in Canada, whose comforts and conveniences were few, and who were often real pioneers of civilization in the district in which they established themselves.

Mr. Philip Brewer, Mrs. Baker's father, was the son of one of those men whose loyalty to his King drove him from his home in the United States after the war of independence. He settled at Elginburg, Ontario, with his wife, a daughter of Captain King, R.M., and the late Mrs. Baker was a twin, the eldest of the nine children. Mr. Brewer was a Quaker, having been brought up by his mother as a believer in the practice of the principle of peace, and the marriage of his daughter, Sarah, to Joseph Baker, was solemnized in the Quaker fashion. The Bakers first lived on the Bay of Quinte and later, relinquishing their farm, moved into Trenton, where Mr. Baker engaged in business.

Some inventions in the line of machinery, which Mr. Baker brought out soon after this laid the foundation of the engineering business that is at present carried on at Willesden Junction and Mr. and Mrs. Baker, and their four sons, removed to London, as the best centre of a world-wide trade. Mr. Baker died at Acton sixteen years ago, soon after taking up his residence in England.

JUDGE BLANCHET DEAD

PASSED AWAY UNEXPECTEDLY LAST NIGHT AT QUEBEC.

Quebec, Dec. 11.—The Hon. J. G. P. Blanchet, Judge of the Court of King's Bench, died unexpectedly at his residence last night. The late Judge Blanchet has been in ill health for some considerable time, and only recently he obtained leave of absence from his judicial duties, but his sudden death was totally unlooked for.

CHARGED WITH FORGERY

Woodstock, Ont., Dec. 12.—An interesting case was heard in the [illegible] Court here, when David Malcolm, a young farmer from East Zorra, was charged by his aged and frail father, with having forged his name to a joint note in favor of A. Rowell for $[illegible], and which purported to have been signed by the two Malcolms, who, until a few weeks ago, lived together on the farm of the father.

At the conclusion of the case the Magistrate dismissed it.

The young man Malcolm was then at once taken into custody again, charged with having forged his father's name to joint notes for W. H. Nesbitt for $800, Macdonald Manufacturing Company for $1,500, Robert McFarlane for $500, and Wood Bros., for $420. He pleaded not guilty, and was committed for trial at the spring assizes, bail being fixed at $4,000.

A number of civil actions arising out of the refusal of the old man to recognize the signatures on the notes as his own are pending in the local courts.

NEW COUNTY JUDGES

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—Appointments are announced to three vacant county court judgeships in the province of Ontario, as follows:—Simcoe, C. J. Mickle, of Chesley; Essex, E. A. Wisner, of Barrie; Manitoulin, C. E. Hewson, K.C., of Barrie.

McGILL PROFESSOR IN OTTAWA.

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—Dr. Walton, Dean of McGill University, was the guest of the Canadian Club of Ottawa to-night, when he delivered an address of historic interest on 'Lord Durham and his work in Canada.' There was a large attendance, and Dean Walton was given a warm welcome. Professor Stephen Leacock of McGill, will address the Canadian Club at a near date on 'The Work of Robert Baldwin,' in continuation of the series of the lectures begun by Prof. Walton to-night.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

He Proposes Remedies for the Regulation of Corporations, Labor, the Railways, and Refers to the Inland Waterways, Inter-state Fisheries, Foreign Affairs, Ocean Mail Lines, Hawaii, the Philippines, Cuba, and the Army and Navy.

Washington, Dec. 8.—In his annual message to Congress, delivered to-day, President Roosevelt deals with numerous subjects, among them being: Corporations, labor, the courts, and injunctions, conservation of natural resources, inland waterways, inter-state fisheries, foreign affairs, ocean mail lines, Hawaii, the Philippines, Cuba, the army, and the navy.

The message is, in part, as follows:—

The financial standing of the nation at the present time is excellent, and the financial management of the nation's interests by the government during the last seven years has shown the most satisfactory results. But our currency system is imperfect, and it is earnestly to be hoped that the Currency Commission will be able to propose a thoroughly good system which will do away with the existing defects.

CORPORATIONS.

As regards the great corporations engaged in inter-state business, and especially the railways, I can only repeat what I have already, again and again, said in my messages to the Congress. I believe that under the inter-state clause of the Constitution, the United States has complete and paramount right to control all agencies of inter-state commerce, and I believe that the National Government alone can exercise this right with wisdom and effectiveness, so as both to secure justice from, and to do justice to, the great corporations which are the most important factors in modern business. I believe that it is worse than folly to attempt to prohibit all combinations as is done by the Sherman Anti-Trust Law, because such a law can be enforced only imperfectly and unequally, and its enforcement works almost as much hardship as good. I strongly advocate that instead of an unwise effort to prohibit all combinations, there shall be substituted a law which shall expressly permit combinations which are in the interest of the public, but shall at the same time give to some agency of the national government full power to control any supervision over them. One of the chief features of this control should be securing entire publicity in all matters which the public has a right to know, and, furthermore, the power, not by judicial, but by executive action, to prevent or put a stop to every form of improper favoritism or other wrong-doing.

The railways of the country should be put completely under the Inter-State Commerce Commission, and removed from the domain of the Anti-Trust Law.

Telegraph and telephone companies engaged in inter-state business should be put under the jurisdiction of the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

LABOR.

There are many matters affecting labor and the state. If the wage-worker to which I should like to draw your attention, but an exhaustive discussion of the problem in all its aspects is not now necessary. This administration is nearing its end; and, moreover under our form of government the solution of the problem depends upon the action of the states as much as upon the action of the nation. Nevertheless, there are certain considerations which I wish to set before you, because I hope that our people will more and more keep them in mind. Very much of this movement must be outside of anything that can be accomplished by legislation; but legislation can do a good deal. Postal savings banks will make it easy for the poorest to keep their savings in absolute safety. The regulation of the national highways must be such that they shall serve all people with equal justice. Corporate finances must be supervised so as to make it far safer than at present for the man of small means to invest his money in stocks. There must be prohibition of child labor, diminution of woman labor, shortening of hours of all mechanical labor; stock watering should be prohibited, and stock gambling, so far as is possible, discouraged. There should be a progressive inheritance tax on large fortunes. Industrial education should be encouraged. As far as possible we should lighten the burden of taxation on the small man.

If there is any one duty which more than another we owe it to our children and our children's children to perform at once it is to save the forests of this country, for they constitute the first and most important element in the conservation of the natural resources of the country. There are, of course, two kinds of natural resources. One is the kind which can only be used as part of a process of exhaustion. This is true of mines, natural oil and gas wells, and the like. The other, and of course ultimately by far the most important, includes the resources which can be improved in the process of wise use; the soil, the rivers, and the forests come under this head. Any really civilized nation will so use all of these three great national assets that the nation will have their benefit in the future.

INTERSTATE FISHERIES.

I call the attention of the Congress to the importance of the problem of the fisheries in the interstate waters. On the Great Lakes we are now under the very wise treaty of April 11, of this year, endeavoring to come to an international agreement for the preservation and satisfactory use of the fisheries of these waters which cannot otherwise be achieved. Lake Erie, for example, has the richest fresh water fisheries in the world, but it is now controlled by the statutes of two nations, four states, and one province, and in this province by different counties. All these political divisions work at cross purposes, and in no case can they achieve protection to the fisheries, on the one hand, and justice to the localities and individuals on the other. The case is similar in Puget Sound.

But the problem is quite as pressing in the interstate waters of the United States. The salmon fisheries of the Columbia River are now but a fraction of what they were twenty-five years ago.

This nation's foreign policy is based on the theory that right must be done between nations precisely as between individuals, and in our actions for the last ten years we have in this matter proven our faith by our deeds. We have behaved, and are behaving, towards other nations, as in private life an honorable man would behave towards his fellows.

The President also referred to the Ocean mail liners, Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippines, the army and the navy.

PANAMA SCANDAL

ALLEGATIONS THAT PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT KNEW OF GRAFT.

The New York 'World' is calling upon Congress to make immediately a full and impartial investigation of the entire Panama scandal. The investigation of 1906 was blocked in the Senate Committee by the refusal of Mr. Wm. N. Cromwell to answer questions put by Senator Morgan of Alabama, and since Senator Morgan's death nothing has been done. Recently the Indianapolis 'News' charged that the United States paid American citizens forty million dollars for property which cost said citizens only twelve millions, and asked, 'Who got the money?' President Roosevelt has replied that the forty million dollars was paid not to American citizens, but direct to the French Government. The 'World' declares Mr. Roosevelt's statements to be untrue, and that the President knows they are untrue. As to where the loot went the 'World' says only one man knows it all, and that is Mr. Cromwell and that the two men in Mr. Cromwell's confidence are Mr. Theodore Roosevelt and Mr. Elihu Root. It was they, the 'World' says, who aided Mr. Cromwell in consummating the Panama revolution, arranged the terms of the purchase of the Panama Canal, made the agreement to pay forty million dollars for the canal property and ten million dollars additional for a manufactured Panama Republic, every penny of which sums was paid by cheque on the United States Treasury to J. P. Morgan & Co., and not to the French Government as Mr. Roosevelt maintains.

Answering the 'World's' charge of corruption in the Panama matter against President Roosevelt and Secretary Root, Mr. Charles Taft, proprietor of the Cincinnati 'Times-Star,' says 'The one thing that gave the story political value in the eyes of those who used it, was the fact that the story, as printed, carried the names of a brother of the Republican candidate for the presidency and of a brother-in-law of the president. * * * * * * But after a little time has passed, after the most desperate efforts of the cornered "World" and "News" have produced all the evidence they can, an apology will be in order from those newspapers. In the meantime, Mr. Taft reserves the right to take legal steps, which have been made more desirable by the events and insinuations of the past forty-eight hours.'

President Roosevelt, speaking to the committee of the Deep Waterways Association on Thursday of the charges of corruption made by the New York 'World' and Indianapolis 'News' against himself, Secretary Root and Mr. Cromwell in the matter of the Panama Canal purchase, said he was proud that there was no cause for the charges made. They had, he said, cause to be ashamed of a certain set of Americans in connection with the canal, and that was of those who had been guilty of infamous falsehood concerning the acquisition of the property and the taxation of the canal itself, and, if they could be reached for criminal libel, he intended to have them reached. If they could not be reached, all the facts ever known in the matter were at the disposal of each and every one of the committee, of anyone in Congress, or all Congress, if they wished to see them.'

ATTACKED BY INSANE PATIENT.

Kingston, Dec. 9.—At Rockwood Asylum yesterday afternoon a patient violently attacked Samuel Stevenson, a guard, while he was adjusting a blind in the room. The patient grabbed a hammer and as Stevenson's back was towards him he swung the weapon, letting it come into serious conflict with the guard's head. Stevenson fell unconscious and is in the hospital now, suffering from concussion of the brain. It is not thought, however, the skull is fractured.

AN AFFRAY IN KANSAS CITY

Several Persons are Killed and Others Injured.

JOHN SHARP, THE ADAMITE, IS MIXED UP IN A RIOT.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 8.— In the shadow of the City Hall, a riot in which religious fanatics and the police participated resulted fatally:

The dead are: A. O. Dalbow, a policeman; Lola Pratt ,a girl, 14 years old.

The fatally injured are:— Patrick Clark, police lieutenant; Pratt, a Adamite leader; Michael Mullane, a policeman.

Those severely hurt are:— H. E. Steger, policeman; G. M. Holt, probation officer.

The trouble occurred while the streets were crowded with people. While the fight was in progress the participants traversed an entire block.

Holt, probation officer, of the Juvenile Court, to-day went to Fifth and Main streets to investigate a case of alleged abduction. Near that corner he met Sharp, who was exhorting a crowd. With Sharp were a woman named Selzer and five children, ranging in age from three to fourteen years of age. Holt did not like the manner in which the woman attempted to get money contributions from the crowd, and he decided that she and her male companions were not proper persons to have the custody of young children.

The woman announced that she and 'Adam God' would conduct services at Poorman's Mission to-night, whereupon she and her companions started toward the mission. Holt then inquired as to the identity of the children. The woman replied that the officer 'had better attend to his own business.'

The officer persevered in his inquiries, and 'Adam God,' who wears a long white beard and hair, struck him a heavy blow behind the ear, inflicting an ugly wound. Holt, who was not armed, then started for the police station for assistance. As Holt moved away the preacher tried to shoot him, but the cartridge failed to explode.

At the police station Policemen Chas. Dalbow and Harry E. Steger were ordered to arrest Sharp and his followers.

Sharp and his companions were within fifty yards of the police station when the officers stepped into the street. The Sharpites, with profane abuse, served notice on all that they would preach right 'under the eyes of the police station, and the police cannot prevent us.' The officers did not, however, expect serious trouble, and were not prepared for the volley of bullets which met them almost immediately after they appeared on the scene.

Dalbow was killed instantly, and a bullet passed through Steger's arm. Other officers, hearing the firing, rushed into the street and a general fight ensued. The officers refrained from shooting for fear of endangering the lives of innocent persons. Lieut. Clark, who had come into the street unarmed, was shot in the eye, and Patrolman Mullane was shot in the back as he hurried into the police station for reinforcements.

In the meanwhile a riot call brought policemen from all directions. Thoroughly aroused, the officers closed in on Sharp and his followers, firing as they went. When the firing ceased, Pratt lay seriously wounded.

The woman and the children fled to a houseboat in which they lived on the Missouri river. Fifty policemen followed them and found that the woman had barricaded herself in the houseboat. Standing on the boat with a shotgun, she shouted to the officers: 'Come on, you fiends.' The boat was only a few feet from the bank of the river and several of the officers dashed toward it. The woman dropped her weapon, and, seizing two of the children, she sprang into a rowboat and began to row into the middle of the river. She was ordered to stop, but she only plied the oars more vigorously. The police fired a volley at the rowboat. One shot struck Lola Pratt, tearing away the greater part of the child's face. She died to-night. The woman surrendered. At the police station she said she was Mrs. Pratt, wife of one of the companions of 'Adam God,' and mother of the dead child.

Louis Pratt, who was with the preacher when the first shooting took place, was arrested, uninjured.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 10.— James Sharp, self styled 'Adam God,' and the man who led the fanatics in their fight with the officers, was arrested to-night at Monticello, Johnston County, Kan. He made no resistance. Louis Pratt, one of the leaders of the fight on Tuesday, died at the hospital this afternoon of his wounds. Almost at the same time Michael Mullane, a policeman, who was shot during the riot, died, making the total number of deaths four.

Kansas City, Dec. 11.—A. J. Selsor, a bystander, who was injured in the fight between religious fanatics and the police on Tuesday afternoon, died early this morning at the University Hospital. This brings the death list in connection with the case up to five, Officer Mullane and Louis Pratt having died yesterday.

Winnipeg, Dec. 8.—A despatch received here to-night from Kansas City, stating that John Sharp, the Adamite, who last July defied the N. W. Mounted Police and the R.N.W.M.P. in Saskatchewan, to-day had a pitched battle with the police of Kansas City.

Sharp, it will be remembered, crossed the international boundary from North Dakota last July, claiming to have a mission to the Doukhobors. He stated that he was Adam and that his wife was the Blessed Virgin. The whole party, with their prairie schooner, marched the length of Manitoba to Yorkton, Sask., and interviewed the Doukhobors, who received them not. Sharp then retreated in good order southward down through Saskatchewan to the boundary, again driving the whole of this remarkable journey. He held off the red-coated police of both provinces with loaded rifles. Though his threats to fire here were not tested, the people are now much relieved that the fanatics got back to their own country without blood being shed in Canada.

THE MILTON TERCENTENARY

NOTABLE GATHERING IN LONDON DOES HONOR TO HIS MEMORY.

London, Dec. 8.—There was a notable gathering in the theatre of the British Academy at the opening of the celebration of the tercentenary of John Milton's birth. Those who assembled included men most prominent in art, science and literature and the learned professions.



JOHN MILTON
at the age of 21.

The features of the evening were the reciting of a poem of homage, specially written by Mr. George Meredith, the novelist, and an oration by Dr. A. W. Ward, of Cambridge, who presided.



JOHN MILTON
In his prime.

John Milton was born in Bread street, London, on Dec. 9, 1608, and died in London on Nov. 8, 1674. During the last twenty years of his life he was totally blind, and it was during this sad period that he wrote his most famous works, 'Paradise Lost,' 'Paradise Regained,' and 'Samson Agonistes,' selling the copy of 'Paradise Lost' for the immediate sum of five pounds, and the promise of an equal amount after the sale of thirteen hundred copies of each edition. When a youth at Cambridge, his beauty and innocence caused him to be styled 'The Lady of Cambridge' for many years afterwards.



JOHN MILTON
at the age of 62.

New York, Dec. 9.—To celebrate the 300th anniversary of the birth of the poet, John Milton, the state and the city, representatives of foreign governments, and men prominent in educational and literary life, joined in exercises at the Church of the Ascension here to-day. Music by a selected choir of girls played a prominent part in the services, the programme of which also included the recitation of sonnets and verses from Milton by Ben Greet. President Roosevelt sent a letter regretting that the pressure of public business would not permit him to attend.

Mr. James Bryce, the British ambassador, wrote:

'It is well that this occasion of the anniversary of the birth of John Milton should be celebrated here in America, not only because he was the friend and contemporary of some of those who planted the institutions of England upon these western shores, but also because he was the man who best expressed in verse of unsurpassed beauty and incomparable strength, these ideas of the English Puritan in the seventeenth century, which have so profoundly affected the American spirit.'

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[For other Clubbing Offers, see last page.]

THE CORONATION OATH

A CHANGE ANNOUNCED BY THE EARL OF CREWE.

London, Dec. 8.—The Earl of Crewe, Colonial Secretary, replying to-day to a question asked in the House of Lords, announced that the government was contemplating submitting to parliament proposals eliminating from the coronation oath the words by which the sovereign was compelled to declare that Catholicism was superstitious and idolatrous.

Lord Lansdowne, on behalf of the Opposition, welcomed the announcement. The Duke of Norfolk thanked the government on behalf of Catholics, he being the leading English layman of that faith, and commended it for its courage.

Lord Kinnaird warned the government that the country would not quietly acquiesce in the change.

HOPS BILL

PASSES SECOND READING IN THE BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, Dec. 9.—The House of Commons at 3.30 o'clock this morning passed the second reading of the Hops Bill.

The bill prohibits the use of hop substitutes in the manufacture of beer. The second clause of the measure is regarded as strongly protective, especially against Germany. This prohibits the importation of hops except in bags distinctly marked with large, painted letters, giving the name of the owner, planter or grower, the name of the country where produced, the year grown, and the gross weight of each bag. Any contravention of this law will render the importer liable to a fine of $10 for each bag. It is contended that the conditions under which hops are grown in Germany, where there is a large number of small producers, will make it unprofitable for the growers to comply with this regulation.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

MR. WILSON'S EXPLANATION OF THE ORIGIN OF THE OUTBREAK.

Washington, Dec. 10.—That the outbreak of the foot and mouth disease, now prevalent in several states, was due to the importation into the United States of either biological products, or such material as straw, with merchandise, or in the clothes or effects of immigrants, is the opinion of Mr. Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture. He gave this as the most plausible explanation in an appeal to-day to the House for an emergency application of $500,000, needed by the Department of Agriculture to fight the disease.

'It now seems clear that the present outbreak had its origin near Detroit,' added Mr. Wilson, 'and that the infection in the other states came through that source. In view of the strict quarantine on imported animals, it does not seem possible that it would have been brought in with live animals.'

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Government to Submit Important Programme Next Session.

London, Dec. 11.—The Government's determination that there shall be no immediate dissolution of Parliament, but that the ministers will meet Parliament at its next session with an important programme, of which the budget will be a leading feature, was announced by Mr. Asquith at a banquet given him by the National Club to-night by 200 members of his party as a mark of their appreciation and confidence.

The occasion had been anticipated with great interest, as affording Mr. Asquith an opportunity to explain his legislation in the face of the rejection by the House of Lords of Liberal bills.

In a speech justifying the legislative work the Liberals already had accomplished, Mr. Asquith invited the party to treat the veto of the House of Lords as the dominating issue in politics, but he declined to dissolve Parliament, he declared, at the dictation and caprice of the Upper Chamber. To admit such a claim on the part of an irresponsible chamber, the Premier said, would be immeasurably absurd, as it would render the Liberal Government subject, session after session, to a series of general elections. The Government would, therefore, choose its own time for dissolution.

With regard to the next session of Parliament, Mr. Asquith said he was unable at this stage to specify the details of the programme that would be brought forward, but he declared it would not be a colorless list of non-contentious measures. The chief work would be concerned with the budget and the weighty domestic issues therein involved, and on it the Government would stand or fall, or, at any rate, be judged. It would raise again, in its acute form, the Premier concluded, the great controversy of free trade versus protection.

In concluding, Mr. Asquith said the Government deemed that the financial fight must absorb a large part of the next session. It was satisfactory that they did not have to provide, like the two great protectionist countries, for an enormous deficit, respectively estimated in their cases at £23,000,000 and £28,000,000, but the task before the Chancellor was a very severe one. They would be judged by the budget, which would raise in a most acute form the controversy whether social reform would be financed by free trade or by the alluring, impoverishing fallacies of protection.

The decreased direct taxation thus hinted at by the Premier is understood to include greatly enhanced license fees from the liquor trade.

THE KING'S HEALTH

NO CAUSE FOR ANXIETY, SAYS THE 'LANCET.'

London, Dec. 10.—In view of the disquieting rumors abroad, the 'Lancet' is authorized to state that the health of His Majesty the King gives no cause for anxiety. The King contracted a slight cold, and subsequently showed symptoms of influenza and neuralgia, but he improved under treatment, and he has derived decided benefit from the change of air at Brighton.

GUELPH WINTER FAIR.

Addresses on Agricultural Topics by Canadian Experts.

MEETING OF THE ONTARIO WOMEN'S INSTITUTES.

Guelph, Dec. 7.—If the winter fair goes on increasing at the same rate, an enlargement of the building cannot be postponed very long. The need of greater accommodation is recognized on all hands, but the difficulty has been to obtain the funds.

The exhibition this year is a pronounced success. The cattle exhibits total double those of last year; the hogs are smaller in number, but the show of poultry is simply wonderful, and the judges had a very hard task in deciding on their awards. Owing to the quarantine regulations, no cattle from the United States are exhibited, and Canadian cattle shown at Chicago have been detained there.

The Ontario Experimental and Agricultural Union started its meetings this afternoon, and in the course of his remarks the president, G. A. Brodie, of Bethesda, took the opportunity of uttering a word as to the need of advancement in agricultural methods. 'Farming is degenerating,' he remarked. 'Our fathers were better farmers than we are. We seem to have caught the western idea of trying to mine our land, instead of farming. We in Ontario congratulate ourselves in being leaders in agriculture, but such is far from the truth. The old countries can teach us many lessons. They practise intensive farming, and if we wish to occupy the proud position of leaders in agriculture we must take the lesson and fall in line.'

That 400,000 plants had been sent out to farmers, was the statement of Prof. E. J. Zavitz, in his report on co-operative forestry. A report on conditions in the province would soon be issued, showing that there were areas in good farming districts which must depend on local efforts, and also some hundreds of square miles which must be reclaimed through provincial management. Land of the latter type existed in Norfolk, Lambton, Bruce, Simcoe, Durham, Northumberland and Lanark. In Parry Sound and Muskoka the problem was appalling.

Guelph, Dec. 8.—Comparisons between the farmers of Canada with those of older Europe were given in an interesting paper by President G. C. Creelman, of the Ontario Agricultural College, at to-day's meeting of the Ontario Experimental Union. The Italian or French peasant was content to cultivate a small quantity of land under conditions which would make a Canadian farmer ready to abandon the business. In the system of agricultural education in the countries which he had visited last summer, he had found each institution specializing on a particular branch of work, rather than affording facilities for the gaining of general information.

The manner in which the perennial sow thistle had spread throughout the province was the subject of general complaint in the discussion of Mr. J. E. Howitt's paper on the eradication of the weed. It was suggested that legislation should be passed authorizing steps to remove the pest. The means to be adopted were not positively defined. The majority of correspondents who had been asked for opinions, however, recommended better cultivation and the planting of rape in fields infested with the thistle. The rape will mature more rapidly than the thistle and choke it.

The organization of farmers' institute clubs was advocated by Mr. G. A. Putnam. The first of these organizations was founded two years ago, and Mr. Putnam said that the department was gratified with the success of the experiment.

The following officers were elected:—President, J. O. Laird, Blenheim; vice-president, G. S. Henry, North York; secretary, Prof. C. A. Zavitz, Guelph; assistant secretary, J. Buchanan, Guelph; treasurer, Prof. H. L. Hutt, Guelph; board of control, President G. C. Creelman, Ontario Agricultural College; H. S. Hamer, Perth; F. C. Nunnick, Guelph; G. H. Carpenter, Fruitland, and W. F. W. Lennox, of Newton Robinson.

Addresses on the poultry industry were delivered at the public meeting, at which the Hon. J. S. Duff, Minister of Agriculture, presided to-night. The minister referred to the growing importance of the industry as a result of the expansion of the market in growing towns. Miss Mary Yates, of the Macdonald Institute, who spoke on the feeding of chickens, said that although Canadian eggs exported to England had been successful in that market the same could not be said of poultry. This was due largely to improper feeding. Interesting addresses were given by Mr. H. L. Baldwin, of Toronto, and W. R. Graham, manager of the poultry department at the Ontario Agricultural College.

Guelph, Dec. 9.—People of Guelph were reassured to-day by a statement by Mr. Duff, Provincial Minister of Agriculture, as to the future of the exhibition. It is to stay in Guelph.

A paper on the feeding of cattle was contributed by Mr. George Rice, of Tilsonburg. The writer said that while the feeding of horses had been a special study, the same attention was not given to the diet of the cow, which produced the equivalent of ten thousand pounds of beef in a year by a series of delicate processes. Any one could throw feed into a manger, but to obtain the best results the stock should be carefully studied, and its characteristics should be considered.

In order to provide a clean milk supply cut out the slovens, was the practical advice given in the second paper of the dairy course, read by Mr. W. F. Stephen, of Huntingdon, Quebec, secretary to the Montreal Milk Shippers' Association. Since women had been replaced by men in the dairy, there had been a neglect of cleanliness in the work. 'The backs of their hands are dirty, but the palms are clean—after they have been washed in milk,' was the caustic comment of the speaker on the methods of the successors to the dairymaids of the past.

Great interest was evinced in the lectures delivered in the Winter Fair building on the causes, prevention and treatment of common ailments of horses. The speakers were Messrs. J. Standish, Walkerton; William Smith, Columbus, and J. Hugo Reed, professor of veterinary science at the Ontario Agricultural College.

Some plain statements in regard to the lack of provision for the education of the youth of rural districts along the line of their future pursuits as agriculturists were made to-night by President G. C. Creelman, of the Ontario Agricultural College, at a public meeting in the City Hall. Mr. Creelman took the opportunity of suggesting concerted action on the part of farmers to prevail on the school authorities of their districts to adopt means to meet the need. 'The boys on the farm to-day are no better educated for their life-work than the hired man; the girls are not as well prepared to take their places as wives and mothers as were their mothers,' asserted Mr. Creelman.

Guelph, Dec. 10.—Judging of seed grain took place to-day. The first prize fell to Thomas McMurchy, of Loree, Collingwood, whose crop had won fourth prize in the fields. The second was carried off by Jas. McLean, Richmond Hill, second prize winner in the earlier competition. The third went to John McDiarmid, of Lucknow, who stood fourth in his district in the field crop test. John Cockburn, Puslinch, won the fourth prize, while a second Lucknow man, Jas. Baird, a first prize winner before, was fifth.

In the afternoon, Mr. T. D. Wardlow spoke on the raising of wool. He expressed the opinion that manufacturers had been forced to procure wool from England and other countries, not because it could be produced more cheaply there, but because it was placed on the market in better condition. Since 1882 there had been a decrease in the number of sheep in Ontario of seven million. Sheep were kept profitably on the farms of Great Britain, where rent and taxes were higher than in the Dominion. Despite changes of fashion, standard wools were always salable. Yet some farmers in Canada adhered to such breeds as Cotswolds and Lincolns, for whose fleeces the manufacturer had no use except to manufacture low grade carpet warp. The wool industry in Ontario had suffered from the disappearance of the small carding factory, where the farmer learned the requirements of the trade through contact with the manufacturer. Mr. Wardlaw suggested that receiving and grading warehouses be established at centres in the province. There the wool could be handled and sold at auction. 'Canada should be the leading wool producing country of the world,' declared the speaker. He said that Ontario, Southern Quebec, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island were growing some of the best of stapled wool from which could be made cloth as good as any that was imported.

If our trade with Great Britain in bacon is not a profitable one, and if the Canadian farmer can use the product of his farm to better advantage than in finishing bacon hogs, then the falling off in the export of Canadian bacon may be regarded as a matter for congratulation rather than one to be deplored, but the thoughtful person may be pardoned if he views with some alarm such a marked falling off in a very important industry,' said Prof. G. E. Day, of the Agricultural College, in his address on the outlook for the swine industry in Ontario. He pointed out that while the sale of Irish and Danish hog products in Great Britain had materially increased in seven years that of Canadian products had decreased 31 percent. At the same time there had been an increase in the home market as a result of the opening of the Western territories.

Prof. Day found several reasons for the decrease of exports of Canadian hogs to Britain. The high price of grain tempted the farmer to sell his crop rather than use it as feed. The distrust of the packer on the part of the farmer was the most regrettable feature of the case.

Denmark had escaped much of this friction through her co-operative packing houses. It was also a small country and near the British market, and these circumstances tended to keep down the expense account.

There seemed to Prof. Day no good reasons why Canada should turn over the British market to the Dane. It had great advantages in the matter of cost of production and could drive Denmark out of the British market if it went about it in the right way. It would require attention to feeding and care in the selection of breeding hogs. The extension, too, of dairying in this country worked in the interest of the bacon industry. If we drop the bacon hog at this critical juncture we may expect to see the swine industry shrink to a much greater extent than it has shrunk already, unless some unforeseen circumstance opens up a fresh outlet for our surplus product. 'The farmers of this province have already sacrificed millions of dollars through lack of uniformity in the product they have sent to Great Britain,' declared Prof. Day.

The need of more concentrated effort to produce a better and more uniform quality of creamery butter was emphasized by Mr. John Scott, second vice-president of the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association, at a meeting held at the Agricultural College. There was improvement and it must be continued.

Mr. Frank Hams, dairy instructor for Western Ontario, said that in perhaps sixty percent of the factories, through neglect rather than ignorance, requisite provision was not made for the handling of the by-product, buttermilk. In many creameries the lack of adequate water supply and drainage facilities must be remedied before a first-class product could be assured.

Mr. Joseph Burgess, official referee, alluded to the necessity for a uniform temperature in loading and shipping butter. Government cars were, he considered, better iced than private ones.

Guelph, Dec. 9.—To-day was the opening date of the Woman's Institutes of Ontario. In his opening address, Prof. C. C. Creelman asked the delegates to notify him if they knew of any girl desiring to take a course in the Macdonald Institute. He would then aid her with funds provided by the legacy of the late W. H. Massey for that purpose. 'When every room in the institution is occupied by a farmer's daughter will be the happiest day of the president's life,' remarked Mr. Creelman, who welcomed the delegates.

Mrs. W. J. Hunter, of Brampton, voiced the thanks of the ladies for the welcome afforded them. She felt that there should be more farmers' daughters in the Macdonald Institute. The women's institutes should partake of the nature of a great fraternal society, without secrets.

In his review of the year's work, Mr. G. A. Putnam, superintendent of Farmers' Institutes, said that while the greatest latitude should be allowed the institutes in their work, the time had come when they should undertake some definite lines of work. He suggested the study of labor-saving household methods and the application of co-operation to dairying and preserving, etc., water supplies, disposal of waste and the pure milk question should be considered.

'Problems of the people' was the title of the address of Mr. C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, but he devoted himself chiefly to the questions for the consideration of women. A great deal of energy had been expended in the development of the material side of life rather than on the development of the people. Even the experiments of the Department of Agriculture had been carried on with a view to adding to the productiveness of the new fields.

Miss Bartha Van Rensslaer, of Cornell University, declared the call on the resources of the farmer's wife was far greater than on those of the society woman or business woman. Her work was not so hard as that of her sisters in the city. The woman of the farm must be highly educated, and speaking of the result of this education, Miss Van Rensslaer said: 'You will have your own automobile.' 'When you feed your family well you are doing the best temperance work in the world,' remarked the speaker in discussing the question of feed.

Guelph, Dec. 10.—Miss Van Rensslaer to-day spoke on the adoption of modern devices to aid the housewife in her daily labors. In factories every effort was made to save time and labor. The same attention was not given to the house. Miss Van Rensslaer gave her attention to the discussion of labor-saving devices in the home, such as power washing and ironing machines.

Miss M. U. Watson, of the Macdonald Institute, asserted that the necessity of the housekeeper was executive ability. She reviewed the courses taught at the institute, and showed their application to the work of the home.

The discussion of the milk problem occupied the convention for a time during the afternoon. Prof. Dean spoke of the care of milk. He favored the closed paper bottles as containers for the beverage, and explained that milk must always be kept covered. The necessity of keeping cows and utensils used in the dairy clean was emphasized by Prof. S. F. Edwards.

SUNDAY OPENING OF THEATRES

MONTREAL POLICE COMMITTEE WILL ENFORCE THE LAW.

A deputation representing both provincial and city branches of the Lord's Day Alliance waited on the Police Committee Thursday afternoon and asked that the Lord's Day Act be enforced in order to prevent the threatened opening of city theatres on Sunday. The deputation, which was introduced by Ald. Carter, consisted of the Rev. W. D. Reid, provincial president of the Alliance; the Rev. H. S. Osborne, provincial secretary; the Rev. Dr. Gordon, the Rev. Dr. Johnston and Mr. J. H. Carson.

The Rev. W. D. Reid, in addressing the committee, said there was no doubt that the opening of moving picture shows on Sunday was absolutely contrary to law, but no further steps could very well be taken to close them until judgment was given in the appeal which had been made against the conviction recorded by Judge Choquet in the case that had been taken against the proprietor of the Ouimetoscope. Now, however, that the theatres threatened to open their doors on Sunday, the Lord's Day Alliance appealed to the Police Committee to do what was necessary in order to prevent this further infringement of the law. They believed it would be offensive to all the best citizens of Montreal to have the theatres opened on Sundays.

Other speakers followed in the same strain. Dr. Johnson said he quite appreciated the position of the owner of the theatres, namely, that if moving picture houses are allowed to open on Sundays his theatres ought to have the same privilege. All the same it was regretted that the owners had thought fit to defy the laws.

Ald. Proulx, the chairman, said he was very glad to meet the delegation. The Police Committee had never refused to enforce any law they could—(hear, hear)—but sometimes they had to encounter many difficulties. The committee would give the chief of police instructions to do everything that could legally be done to enforce the law.

In accordance with the threat made by the Sparrow Amusement Company, the Academy and Theatre Francais were opened on Sunday, and two performances given, both afternoon and evening in each. This was done with a view to forcing the city to close the Sunday moving picture shows. There was no police interference, but constables were sent to each theatre, and their reports on the performances were handed to Chief Campeau.

MAYOR OF WINNIPEG

MR. W. SANDFORD EVANS ELECTED BY LARGE MAJORITY.

Winnipeg, Dec. 9.—The latest figures in the mayoralty contest are as follows:—

W. Sanford Evans	5,869
R. A. C. Manning	4,293
W. S. Eades	121

According to these figures also, all the by-laws were defeated. It is regretted that the police and bridge by-laws suffered defeat. Both the money by-laws



MR. W. SANDFORD EVANS.

suffered defeat, not because of adverse majorities, but because the necessary two-fifths vote was not polled. The plebiscite on the question of a two-year term for controllers was defeated. The majority against it was only 58. The figures on this by-law were: For, 3,619; against, 3,677.

Aldermen elected are: Ward 1, R. C. McDonald; Ward 2, Edward Cass. Ward 3, Lendram McMeans, barrister; Ward 4, W. R. Milton; Ward 5 (2-year-term), Ald. J. R. Gowler; (one-year-term), J. Wiloughby; Ward 6, Ald. McLean; Ward 7, Ald. Porter (acclamation).

Sanford Evans was born in Spencerville, Ont., in 1869 and received his public school education at Hamilton. Later he took a B.A. course at Victoria University, and M.A. post-graduate work in political science at Columbia University. Seeking for a wide field in life, Mr. Evans soon chose the journalistic profession. In 1897 he joined the staff of the Toronto 'Mail and Empire' as editorial writer, continuing there for two years and a half. Mr. Evans arrived in Winnipeg in Jan., 1901, to assume the editorship of the Winnipeg Telegram. He continued in newspaper work here until 1905, when he started a financial and brokerage office, which he still directs. During his residence in the city Mr. Evans has taken deep interest in public and municipal affairs. He unsuccessfully contested Winnipeg as the Conservative candidate for the House of Commons in 1904. One year ago he was elected a member of the Board of Control, heading the poll and distancing all others in the race. Mr. Evans has held many important offices and numerous public bodies, and is widely known in the city. In 1900 he was married to Miss Mary I. Gurney, of Toronto.

FALSE PRETENCES CHARGED

A PROMINENT REGINA INSURANCE MAN IN TROUBLE.

Regina, Dec. 9.—The arrest of Armstrong Dean, promoter, and one of the directors of the Globe Fire Insurance Company here, yesterday, on a warrant from Fernie, developed a sensation. Mr. Dean is charged with theft and taking money under false pretences. The Globe Company did a large business in Fernie just before the great fire there last summer, and much stock was sold by Mr. Dean, under representations that the company had a capital of $250,000. Claims arising out of the fire, however, forced it into liquidation, and information sworn out against Mr. Dean charged that nine thousand dollars were wrongfully obtained from Fernie citizens. Mr. Dean is a very prominent citizen of Regina.

SASKATCHEWAN BY-ELECTIONS

Winnipeg, Dec. 9.—Returns from the by-elections in Saltcoats and Humboldt, in Saskatchewan, show that the Scott Government has scored two decisive victories, the ministers being returned with large majorities. In Saltcoats the vote, with one poll to hear from, stands: Calder, 1,108; Green, 228. Mr. Green will lose his deposit. Returns from Humboldt also indicate that Mr. Sinclair has lost his deposit, Mr. Motherwell being returned.

VILLAGE ALMOST DESTROYED.

Indian Head, Sask., Dec. 9.—A disastrous fire is reported from the little village of Kenlis, north of here, which narrowly escaped being totally destroyed. The loss is unknown, but a number of people lost all their belongings.

BROCKVILLE'S ADMINISTRATION.

Brockville, Dec. 11.—At a public meeting of the ratepayers of Brockville a resolution was passed endorsing the principle of non-political administration of town affairs, which has been in vogue here for the past five years, with good results.

By Command of the King

THE KING, being aware of the great interest taken by the Nation in general in the "Letters of Queen Victoria," recently published, has commanded that a new and popular edition should be issued, in order that the book should be brought within reach of all His Majesty's subjects.

National Edition of the King's Book

This great opportunity should be promptly seized by every one who can possibly do so.

Thanks to His Majesty's thoughtful intervention, this great national work, hitherto costing £3 3s. ($15.00) can now be got for the extremely low price of $1.50. The work is complete in three volumes, excellently printed, and bound in crimson cloth gilt, with 16 plate illustrations.

In these pages the public are admitted to the privacy of Court and Cabinet. The book not only reveals the delightfully human side of the great Queen's character as it has never been revealed before, but also throws a flood of light on the inner history of great events in our annals, and enables us to understand the working of our Imperial system and the personal action of the Monarch in domestic and international relations.

His Excellency Earl Grey, Governor-General of Canada, writes:—'The volumes containing these letters should be in every household. . . They will make an admirable Christmas present.'

Sir James Whitney, Premier of Ontario, writes:—'The book is unique.'

The work is to-day on sale, and any reader of the 'Witness' can obtain it

From the 'Witness' Office for $1.50.

The 'WEEKLY WITNESS' for one year, anywhere in Canada, (outside Montreal and Suburbs), an dthese three volumes, postpaid, for $2.35.

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In each of these three offers postage is included, but subscriptions must be in Canada and outside Montreal and suburbs, or for countries where no extra postage is needed. See page 8 for list.

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DEMILL SHOT INDIAN

DISPUTE AS TO WHO KILLED A DEER—INDIANS GET AWAY WITH THE VENISON.

Rose Isle, Man., Dec. 11.—Alfred Demill, nephew of Premier Roblin, had a desperate duel with an Indian following a dispute over the carcass of a deer which Demill claims he shot, but which the Indian came along and ordered him to leave. Demill refused to do this, and the Indian thereupon covered him with his rifle. Demill ran in behind a tree and his opponent dropped behind the deer, with the rifle still pointed at Demill. Demill then shot the Indian through the arm. Two other tribesmen then came on the scene, and drawing knives threatened Demill, but he held them off at the point of his rifle. They, however, took the disputed venison with them.

KLONDIKE MOTHER LODE

THE REV. DR. PRINGLE'S PREDICTION.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 10.—The Rev. Dr. Pringle, of Yukon fame, addressing the Canadian Club here this evening on 'The Yukon,' said that some day the mother lode from which the Klondike placer gold had come would be discovered and would startle the world. He said the killing of the Mackenzie & Mann railway bill in 1898 was a mistake, which had resulted in throwing nearly the whole of the Yukon trade to the United States. He predicted great opportunities for trade from eastern Canada in the Yukon country.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

FIRST BREAK IN WINTER NAVIGATION OCCURS.

Charlottetown, P.E.I., Dec. 10.— The first break in winter navigation in this province occurred to-day. The steamer 'Empress' plying between Summerside and Point du Chene, crossed with difficulty and remained in Point du Chene all night, and will come direct to Charlottetown to-morrow morning with mails. The 'Northumberland,' plying between Charlottetown and Pictou, got over to Pictou this morning, but, on account of a heavy snowstorm, will not return until it becomes calm. She will continue on the route. The government steamer 'Minto,' now in port, goes to Pictou on Saturday to coal. The 'Stanley' is now in Pictou, thus leaving the Summerside-Point du Chene route without any steamer, although citizens are clamoring for the 'Stanley' to keep the route open.

P.E.I. CABINET

Charlottetown, P.E.I., Dec. 11.—The Haszard Liberal Ministry was reconstructed to-day as follows: Premier and Attorney-General, F. L. Haszard; Provincial Secretary and Minister of Agriculture, John Richards; public works, J. H. Commiskey, without portfolio, G. E. Hughes, Benjamin Gallant, John McMillan, J. D. McInnis, Captain Joseph Read, Lauchin McDonald, Speaker Matthew Smith. Richards succeeds I. E. Reid and is only member to go to country for re-election.

Tercentenary Stereographs. To hear of them is to want them. We give them as premiums on very easy terms. They will far exceed your expectations. See another page.

SASKATCHEWAN UNIVERSITY

WESTERN CITIES COMPETE FOR NEW INSTITUTION OF LEARNING.

The foundation of the University of Saskatchewan is an established fact, and a president has been selected, but there still remains the choosing of a site on which to build up an institution that can take its place with the two other universities that are already in the west—the University of Manitoba, founded in 1878, and the University of Alberta, a new college, but already at work.

The difficulty is not to find a suitable location—there are several of them offering—it is to find the most suitable. Prince Albert, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon, among other cities, are bidding for the college, and the natural advantages of the first named place seems to give it the lead so far. Situated as it is on the banks of the Saskatchewan River, with wheat fields on one side, and forests and mines on the other, rare opportunities for practical work will be afforded the students of the various branches of practical science. As forestry is to receive a large share of the attention in the new university that is now beginning to be recognized as due to its importance, the proximity of these natural resources is likely to have weight with those who make the decision.

One of the local papers sees other advantages that would accrue to the university, should it locate at Prince Albert. 'We might even go so far,' says the Prince Albert 'Herald,' 'as to donate a beautiful site by the lordly Saskatchewan, where boat crews to compete with Oxford and Cambridge, Yale and Harvard might be trained in years to come.'

FIRE IN WINNIPEG

MOLSONS BANK BUILDING DAMAGED TO EXTENT OF $20,000.

Winnipeg, Dec. 12.—Fire in the basement at the rear of the Molsons Bank building to-day did damage to the extent of $20,000. The heaviest sufferers were the Canadian Importing and Jewellery Manufacturing Company, who had that section of the building rented for a warehouse and factory. The loss of the bank is not known, and the officials decline to give any estimate of either that or the insurance. The Banque d'Hochelaga, which is next door was damaged to the extent of $3,000, covered by insurance.

MR. FRANK PRATT RESIGNS.

Toronto, Dec. 8.—After fifteen years' service, Mr. Frank Pratt, general secretary of the Toronto Young Men's Christian Association, has resigned. He desires to take a rest for eight months, having felt the strain of his work severely. Mr. Pratt has been instrumental in the work of clearing off a debt on the buildings of the Association of $125,000, and in otherwise advancing the work.

'BLACK HAND' LETTER WRITER.

Toronto, Dec. 11.—William Gillespie pleaded guilty in the Police Court this morning to writing black hand letters, and was sentenced to four months in the Central Prison. When he was arrested he was examined at his own request as to his sanity. The medical men decided he was perfectly sane. The police magistrate, in sentencing Gillespie, remarked that all such cases, which were becoming numerous, would be severely dealt with in future.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCES.

ONTARIO.

The Royal Mint of Canada, Ottawa, is to commence mining English sovereigns. Every sovereign has the letter C directly under the King's head.

Fire which started in Allan Bros.' bakeshop, Keewatin, on Wednesday morning, about seven o'clock, caused the death of Andrew Allan, aged 18, whose body was charred beyond recognition.

At Lindsay William Brooks has committed suicide by hanging himself with a towel tied to the grating of the cell door. He recently escaped, but was recaptured.

By a majority of one the Brantford Council has decided not to allow a local option by-law to go to the electors in January.

Hamilton retail grocers have decided to revive a black list system, with the object of preventing people who owe one trader a large account changing to another grocer and repeating the practice.

Under a coroner's jury's verdict, Jos. Millroy has been committed for trial for fatally wounding Richard Deane in a house near Dryden. Eight witnesses testified that Millroy had been acting strangely, and suddenly jumped up, and, after yelling at them to stand back, began firing, hitting Foy, Deane and Stanton, in rapid succession. Millroy, in his evidence, stated that he had been interfered with before he shot. They had been jostling him, and he became alarmed and drew the weapon, whereupon they rushed upon him and it was discharged accidentally.

It was brought out in evidence at the preliminary examination of William Balsdon, at Bowmanville, that no lamps were burning at the Sandbank Siding on Nov. 23, when a collision occurred, causing the deaths of three men. The court held it was Balsdon's duty to see that the lights were burning, and the magistrate committed him for trial.

Sir James Whitney has refused to grant fiats permitting actions to be brought against the Hydro-Electric Commission to upset the Toronto and London power-by-laws. Sir James based his decision on his personal knowledge of the intentions of the legislature in passing the power enactments under which the by-laws were framed.

Brockville City Council has entered into a five-year agreement with the Bell Telephone Company by which the company pays the corporation five hundred dollars per year rental for the use of its streets, and fixes the rate for business 'phones at $50 and residence telephones at $25 per year.

Prof. Shortt was on Tuesday the guest of the Kingston Board of Trade at a banquet. The feature of the evening was a presentation to him of silver plate. The affair was attended by 150 of Kingston's prominent business men and citizens, and was given in recognition of the services rendered the city.

John Sage, formerly of Smith Township, who was a resident of the Algoma district for the past ten years, was drowned while fording the Goulais river with his team. The water was three or four feet deep, with a strong current.

The Kingston Council is recommended by a committee to pay a cash bonus of ten thousand dollars to the Wormwith Piano Company, whose plant was recently destroyed.

The Ottawa National Trades and Labor Council is in favor of the City Council imposing a tax on outside contractors who work in the city.

The medical students of Queen's University, Kingston, have made an apology to Mayor Ross for their treatment of him, following their clash with the police.

Arising out of the Wentworth County election, Mr. E. J. Guest has commenced an action for slander against Colonel Ptolemy, damages being laid at $5,000. The allegation is that plaintiff was accused of approaching an election officer to tamper with the ballot boxes in the by-election of 1905.

Ottawa Board of Trade, on Wednesday, decided to apply to the Provincial Government for a charter for an electric belt line to run from Ottawa to Morrisburg, westward from Morrisburg to Brockville; north from Brockville to Darling, there to meet the North Lanark steam railway now in the course of construction, from Ottawa to Darling. Eastward from Morrisburg, it is proposed that the line should run to the south-eastern corner of the boundary between Ontario and Quebec.

Mr. and Mrs. John Paul, of Sarnia, were found dead in bed on Wednesday morning, being asphyxiated by gas. The discovery was made by their son, Mr. W. R. Paul, who was passing the house on his way to work, and seeing no move about the place, went in to investigate. Going into the bedroom he found his parents both lifeless.

In his charge to the grand jury, Judge Ermatinger, at St. Thomas, uttered a strong protest against the prevalent use of profanity in public places by the people of Ontario, and incidentally drew a contrast between Ontario and Quebec which was all in favor of the French province.

While imposing a fine of $70 and costs on a bartender at Owen Sound, Magistrate Creason declared he had never heard anything like the perjury in this case since local option was established.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Moral and Social Reform Council, in Toronto, Mr. George E. Foster, M.P., alluded to the saw-off in political contests. If they wanted to get rid of the conditions, they must get down to the foundations of political impurity. He believed the following action should be taken: (1) Disenfranchise the voter who accepts bribes; (2) disqualify the candidate who is proved to have given bribes; (3) make the public responsible for the prosecution, and not private citizens; (4) eliminate the vicious system of patronage; (5) inaugurate a thoroughgoing campaign by the Church, press and other instruments of reform.

Druggists in Toronto feel aggrieved at the action of the Ontario Medical Council in employing 'spotters,' who have secured convictions against chemists for prescribing. The latter deny that they prescribed; they merely supplied remedies for the ailments from which the spotters said they were suffering, and which turned out to be bogus. The chemists are appealing from the conviction.

It is expected that 4,000 delegates from all parts of the world will attend the National Laymen's Missionary Congress, to be held in Massey Hall, Toronto, March 31, April 1, 2 and 3.

At a conference of the Anglican clergy of Ottawa a committee was appointed to consider practical means of controlling the theatre as to the character of the plays presented in the city. The members of the committee are disposed to urge upon the Dominion Government the necessity of a system of censorship. Just as the government is moving to keep out evil literature, so there should, the committee believes, be power given to some official to control the theatres.

Annie Babcock, aged 34 years, is dead as a result of taking rat poison in mistake for headache powders. She was employed as a domestic in Brantford. Being troubled with a headache she took the powder and died in convulsions.

The Royal Canadian Cat Club has 197 cats on exhibition in Toronto this week the largest exhibit in the club's history. Besides ordinary prizes, the Club is offering 270 specials.

A convention of Ontario Liberals is to be held in June next.

QUEBEC.

A report has reached Quebec of the death of Art. Tremblay, of Jonquieres. He was employed in cutting down a tree with three other workmen when it fell, striking him on the neck. He seemed to recover himself and went back to the camp alone, his companions not thinking he was seriously injured. He was dead, however, when they returned from the bush.

Members of the Eastern Townships Press Association have entertained at dinner Mr. C. H. Parmelee, who has been appointed King's Printer at Ottawa. The dinner took place at Waterloo, and in the course of the proceedings Mr. Parmelee was presented with a gold-headed walking stick. The townspeople of Waterloo propose to tender Mr. Parmelee a banquet.

On the arrival of a freight train at Cookshire a man was found riding between the cars. His feet were badly frozen and he was nearly dead from cold.

The Hon. A. Robitaille, ex-provincial secretary, and member of the Provincial House for Quebec Centre, has been appointed prothonotary for the Quebec district. The Hon. Mr. Roy, provincial secretary, will be appointed city attorney of the Ancient Capital, in the place of Sir C. A. P. Pelletier, now lieutenant-governor, and Mr. Robitaille. The question will then arise whether Mr. Roy will continue to occupy his seat in the Provincial Cabinet.

The Department of Labor has been advised that the parties to a strike which has been in progress for several weeks in the Ritchie boot and shoe factory, at Quebec, have asked for the application of the Lemieux Act to the dispute.

Writs for the by-elections in the Legislative Assembly for Chateauguay, St. Ann's, St. Mary's, Laval and Quebec Centre were signed on Thursday. The polling takes place on Dec. 28. Mr. Leclerc has been selected as the Liberal candidate for Quebec Central.

WESTERN CANADA.

Magistrate Daly has dismissed the case against Joseph Hallett, who was arrested in Toronto and brought to Winnipeg on a charge of causing the death of Miss K. Polson by running over her. The evidence was of the most contradictory character, some witnesses declaring that the waggon was open, others that it had a round cover; some said it was dark, others that it was red. The magistrate declared that the evidence failed to connect Hallett with the affair in any particular, and to make assurance doubly sure, Hallett was able to prove an alibi.

A sad accident, resulting in the death of George Hall, about 24 years old, has occurred at the house of William Foster, about eight miles south-east of Killarney, Man. The young man was assisting in digging a well, and while putting in the crib it slipped and crushed him, and before it could be removed life was extinct.

Benchers of the Law Society of Manitoba have petitioned the Government for the appointment of two more King's Bench judges, and that the Appeal Court judges may be relieved of their duty as assize judges.

Mr. Keary has been re-elected mayor of New Westminster, B.C., for the seventh consecutive term.

County Court Judge Grant, of Vancouver, B.C., has announced in emphatic terms that no longer will his court be allowed for use as a medium for railroading of Japanese into the favored realm of British citizenship. Judge Grant declared that the usual formal certificates by notaries giving statements of good character will not hereafter be allowed, but that the strictest requirements of the law must be complied with.

At a special meeting of the Winnipeg Board of Trade on Tuesday, which the Hon. Mr. Oliver attended, Mr. Andrew Strang, Winnipeg, was recommended to fill the vacancy on the Railway Commission, caused by the death of the Hon. Mr. Greenway.

Owing to the alertness of Guard A. Turnbull, the lacrosse player, Sergt. James Brymner, of the provincial jail, New Westminster, B.C., was saved from death. The sergeant was attacked by John Pertella, who is condemned to death, and who smashed a bottle over the officer's head. Turnbull interfered, and prevented a renewal of the attack.

Robert John Costley died in St. Boniface Hospital as the result of poisoning from an overdose of veronal.

The movement of homeseekers from the United States to Southern Alberta during the months of October and November has shown an astonishing increase over the same months of 1907. The entries for homsteads at the Calgary office alone show an increase of 205 over 1907, and the sales of land by the C. P. R. Company in their irrigation block east of Calgary, have run near the million-dollar mark during the past two months, these sales being made in small areas to actual settlers.

Mr. Jefferson Myers, president of the Oregon State Fair Commission, and Mr. Tom Richardson, advertising manager, arrived in Winnipeg on Thursday to consult with Winnipeg business men on the question of holding a World's Fair there in 1912 to celebrate the centenary of the landing of the Selkirk settlers in Manitoba.

MARITIME PROVINCES.

A laymen's missionary movement has been inaugurated at Charlottetown, P. E.I.

Mrs. James T. Hurley, of St. John, has lost her life by suffocation by a fire in her home. It is thought she was attacked by a fit of epilepsy, to which she was subject, and that this caused her to drop a lighted lamp, setting fire to the bed-clothes. Only her aged father was in the house with her. A neighbor, who tried to save her, found her sitting on the floor moaning and the flames about her. The flames prevented him going near, and by the time the firemen arrived the woman was dead.

At the meeting of the St. John Council, Mayor Bullock, on behalf of the aldermen, presented a solid silver bowl, suitably engraved, to Ald. John McGoldrick, who has represented Stanley ward at the Council for twenty-five years, and who has filled important places at the council board.

A message from St. John says a fatal accident took place in the woods near Grand Bay, by which Stanley Gordon Shanes, aged fourteen years, lost his life. He went into the woods with two men to cut wood. While yarding a log, one end caught under a root. The other end swung and hit him on the head.

In connection with the G. T. P. construction work at Baker Lake, near Edmundston, N.S., an Italian foreman on the work was killed and another Italian hurt by the explosion of dynamite. The man killed was Ciavarila Angelos, aged forty years. The one injured is Angelo Blagadio, aged thirty.

Joseph Mann, a car cleaner employed in the I. C. R. yard, St. John, has had a narrow escape. By an oversight he placed his ladder near the main line rails, forgetting that the Halifax express was due. The engineer, however, noticed the ladder and brought the train to a standstill, but not until the locomotive had struck the foot of the ladder, throwing Mann 14 feet to the ground. He was injured about the head.

The St. John's Board of Trade has decided to interview the Government on the question of settlers for New Brunswick. There is need of an agricultural college for the province, and the Government ought to spend a larger sum in the education of the farming community.

Measures are being taken in Glace Bay, N.S., to cope with the distress which exists among the miners, owing to scarcity of work. The men employed at some of the collieries have only been earning a little more than enough to pay the rent and coal for the past couple of months.

After April next the masons of St. John will demand an eight-hour day.

The iron deposits of Gloucester, N.B., are said to be the richest in Canada, and the Provincial Government has practically agreed to enact legislation granting the concessions asked for by the company for a railway from the mines to Bathurst, and also for the right to cut timber. The bond guarantees will be given under condition that the company operates the railway continuously, and the mines at not less than one thousand tons of ore per day. The rate of royalty to be paid was fixed at five cents a ton, which is the same as exacted by the Government of Nova Scotia. The company will be required to give security for the payment of all interest charges on the bonds during the period of construction.

MONTREAL NEWS.

There has been a big rush for 'home.' The steamers which sailed for Great Britain on Friday were filled to their utmost capacity. On Wednesday over two thousand five hundred passengers left Montreal for St. John and Halifax, and the eastbound trains had to be run in sections in order to accommodate the business. The movement from the west was particularly noticeable, and the railway officials state that practically every one of the passengers carried return tickets, which will mean big traffic for the railways and steamship companies next spring.

Mr. J. L. Gauthier, ex-M.P.P. for L'Assomption County, has been selected as Liberal candidate for the vacancy in the St. Mary's division for the Quebec Legislature, caused by the appointment of Dr. Lacombe to the position of registrar. Ald. Seguin has already been announced as a Liberal candidate, and states that he is in the field against all comers.

A fire at the Verdun Asylum resulted in damages of about $30,000. The building destroyed was in course of construction and was planned to accommodate 150 patients. The staff of the hospital tried to cope with the fire, but it soon got beyond their control. Several of the patients in buildings close to the fire were removed to the main structure.

After a year's trial, the officials of the Grand Trunk are satisfied with the results of the voluntary pension scheme. Those who have been put on the pension roll during the year number 379, of whom one is a woman. Most of the pensioners are between 60 and 70, but there are a number still older, one of them being a man of 90. On the other hand, there are several under 60 years of age. These have been pensioned off by the company under the 'disability clause.' The cost of the scheme has been found to work out at about $100,000 per annum. Probably, in the course of two or three years, when the equilibrium has been definitely reached, the pensioners may number close upon five hundred, and the cost $125,000, but it is not expected that it will go beyond that.

After a very short deliberation, the coroner's jury, which inquired into the death of Andrew Fox, whose lifeless body was found in St. James street, brought in a verdict which amounts to a charge of manslaughter against Patrick Fernand, driver of a sleigh.

Brigadier-General Buchan has been re-elected chairman of the Council of the Province of Quebec Rifle Association. At the annual meeting it was decided to have a four days' prize meeting, beginning on a Wednesday, and continuing for the following three days.

Promoters of the winter carnival state that they have $10,000 subscribed. The Board of Trade has joined with the railway companies in objecting to the carnival, but the retail traders are strongly in favor of it. The project has a very strong backing. The objection against the proposal is that an ice palace will give a wrong impression to people abroad as to Canada's climate, and will thus materially harm the Dominion.

On Thursday the new stock yards of the C. P. R. were formally opened. The market buildings, which cover an area of sixteen arpents, and have accommodation for 10,000 head of stock, were inspected by a party.

Professor John Cox, of McGill, is to sever his connection with the university at the close of the session, having decided to accept the Carnegie pension fund and to reside in England. Professor Cox is director of the physics building.

A broken bolt caused the death on Wednesday of John Bennett, and serious injury to Frederick Sellers. They were working on a new tank at the gas works, when the scaffold collapsed, throwing them to the ground. Joseph Couldrew, a youth of about seventeen years of age, who was also on the scaffold when it gave way, had a marvellous escape. The moment he felt the scaffold give he clutched hold of the sheeting of the tank with both hands and thereby saved himself. Action of the frost is given as the cause of the bolt breaking.

There is a big row over the erection of a new police and fire station. It is now found that the building is twenty percent smaller than the original plans, and the Police Committee have been going for the architect for not informing the members of the alteration. The architect says he is strictly within his powers in taking the responsibility, and that he informed the chairman of the committee of the alteration.

As the outcome of further negotiations between the city and the Light, Heat and Power Company, the council has accepted the offer of the company to arbitrate the question of what is a fair price to pay for street lighting. There was an idea of having a municipal electric plant, but the city has no power to allocate money for that purpose. One arbitrator will be selected by the city, another by the company, the third by the Board of Trade and Chambre de Commerce. The arbitration is for a contract for two years.

A campaign against disorderly houses has been commenced in Montreal, and one keeper has been fined a large amount. Mr. Recorder Weir, in pronouncing sentence, declared that he was not surprised that there was such a long list of burglaries to the credit of Montreal criminals. Crimes of all kinds were so linked together that if they had drunkenness, gambling and vice they would have murders and wrecked homes and ruined lives.

A rather curious action has been commenced in the Montreal courts. Mrs. A. Rochon, of Vaudreuil, has obtained leave to sue in forma pauperis against Athanase Besner, hotelkeeper. On May 2 last, she alleges she served notice on Besner that he must not serve any liquor to her husband. This notice was in accordance with the statute, 63 Vict., chapter 12. Since the notice, however, she alleges, Besner has several times sold liquor to the husband of plaintiff, and now she claims $500 damages.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE.

A New York milk dealer has acknowledged getitng twenty cents a quart for his milk from the 'gilded rich,' and blushing as he took it, and in the next breath declared he was making only two percent on his investment.

Chas. E. Ekstromer, Swedish vice-consul in St. Louis, Mo., committed suicide at his home in St. Louis. He was short in his accounts as manager of the St. Louis office of the West Disinfectant Company, according to a statement made by Emil Ekstromer, president of the company.

The Crown Princess of Germany has delighted the people by selling a diamond tiara worth $25,000 at less than its cost to get money to help the widows and orphans of the men who perished in the Hamm disaster.

There has been a revolutionary outbreak in several of the Northern towns of the Haytian Republic, and it is feared that the movement will spread. The principal towns affected are Port de Paix, Hinche, and Jean Babel. Other points of minor importance also report outbreaks. General Robillard has left Plaisance for Gonaives for the purpose of suppressing the disorders.

A Long Island woman had her face badly bitten by an Irish setter on Tuesday. The dog is described as one of the best hunting dogs in the district, and no one seems to blame him. They say he merely thought he was doing his duty in trying to 'retrieve' the fine pheasant, which was the chief trimming on the woman's hat.

Mr. James Bryce, the British Ambassador at Washington, expressed on Tuesday his amazement at the signs of activity and progress everywhere throughout the Southern States.

A bomb thrown down the well of an Italian tenement house in New York early on Wednesday injured a score of persons. The outrage is believed to be the work of Black Hand confidence men.

Wreckage from the missing steamer 'Clemson' on Lake Superior was seen in large quantities by a tug off Whitefish Point on Tuesday, and there is no doubt felt that the 'Clemson' has gone down with her crew of 25 men.

The funeral train of the late Emperor of China on Wednesday contained 6,000 mourners and 4,000 soldiers, while 10,000 men knelt in the streets of the Imperial City as the procession went by. Many of the ancient funeral customs were abandoned and as another remarkable concession to modern ideas, the procession was witnessed by foreigners. During the past two days there have been burned large quantities of furs, and other costly clothing and personal effects, belonging to the late Emperor and Empress Dowager.

Pretoria, according to a Cape Town despatch, has been decided upon as the new capital of United South Africa.

An earthquake has severely shaken the town of Skidegate, in the Queen Charlotte Islands.

The next world's fair scheme afoot is one at Panama in 1915 to celebrate the opening of the Panama Canal which is promised for then.

Professor Lowell, of the Observatory at Flagstaff, Arizona, considers that he has convincing proof of the presence of water vapor on the planet Mars.

A story in a Japanese paper, which arrived at Victoria by mail on Thursday, says the Emperor of China was poisoned by two eunuchs of unsavory record, who feared that on the death of the Dowager Empress the wrath of the Emperor would descend upon them.

A lady in Munich is reported to have fainted on the street under the weight of a Merry Widow hat three feet in diameter.

Seventy-five theatres between Chicago and San Francisco are, it is said, to be merged into one company. The merger plans to control property valued at $50,000,000.

The Duma has passed a bill for a loan of $225,000,000. It will be floated in Paris. It will be issued at 92 and draw 4 1-2 percent interest.

A London despatch says the ladies who think it smart to smoke are becoming fewer and fewer, so few that the sign 'Ladies May Smoke,' in a popular hotel, has been taken down. Another hotel manager, who 'offended a lady the other day by sending a request that she dispense with her cigarette at tea,' but who did not at all object to either her or others smoking after either lunch or dinner, assured a correspondent that very few now take advantage of the permission.

Replying to a question in the Reichstag on Friday, Herr von Schoen, secretary for foreign affairs, declared that not a penny had been drawn from the imperial funds to secure the suppression of the Kaiser's interview which the 'Century Magazine,' of New York, proposed to publish.

The National Rivers and Harbors Congress, at its concluding session in Washington, by a unanimous vote and with an enthusiasm seldom witnessed in a similar organization, has placed itself on record in favor of the issuance of Government bonds for $500,000,000, for the improvement of the great waterway projects of the country. Mr. Fairbanks, the vice-president, expressed a favorable opinion of the proposition, but Mr. Cannon, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who had previously spoken strongly against it, merely assured the committee that the resolution would be referred to the proper committee for consideration.

A fanatic, proclaiming himself 'John the Baptist, come to save the world,' with a loaded revolver in his hand, terrorized the village of Edgewater, N. J., on Friday for an hour before he could be overcome by police and citizens.

A former Panaman minister to the United States, and once an engineer on the canal, predicts that the cost of the Panama Canal will be double what the estimates call for, or $280,000,000. He says: 'The plan that is now being carried out will result almost surely in the greatest disaster in the history of public undertaking. The existence of the canal depends upon the Gatun dam. He and all the French engineers who have studied the question are absolutely convinced that the nature of the ground makes certain the destruction of the dam that is being erected. The only remedy is to remove the Gatun dam 15 kilometres to Miraflores.

French fashion authorities are now decreeing that the female 'human form divine' shall show not only a straight front, but a straight back. The result is described as 'the tube woman.' Well—man's dress has long been described as a 'collection of cylinders.'

The British Government has sent a note to Belgium, declining to recognize the transfer to that country of the Congo Free State until His Majesty's Government shall be satisfied that Belgium will introduce a system of government which will fulfil the condition on which His Majesty's Government originally recognized the creation of the Congo State.

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LOST RELATIVES

The following inquiries are made (from Great Britain) for relatives of friends who were last heard of in Canada or the United States. Any reader who possesses information is desired to communicate with the editor, 'Witness.'

Cronin (George), went to Canada six years ago, and last wrote two years ago. Sister asks.

Dixon (Albert) left Middlesbrough 16 or 17 years ago, and was sent by Dr. Barnardo to Canada; last heard of ten years ago working in silver mines, Colorado. Brother asks.

Ham (Robert), last heard of at Orkney, Canada, 30 years ago. Sister Elizabeth asks.

Pattison (John G.), left Gateshead five and a half years ago; last heard of at Lakewood, Michigan, fourteen months ago. Sister Maggie asks.

Perry (William), boilermaker, left Cardiff twenty-five years ago; may be in San Francisco or Pennsylvania. Daughter asks.

A MURDEROUS CONVICT.

Kingston, Dec. 9.—In the County Court this morning, before Judge Price, James Young, a convict in the penitentiary, was charged with assaulting Guard McDonald. The prisoner pleaded 'not guilty,' and decided to defend himself. Guard McDonald told of the assault, which took place towards the end of October. The prisoner claimed that the officer had reported him to the warden for misconduct. The jury found the prisoner guilty, but put in a strong recommendation for mercy. Judge Price sentenced Young to six months' additional imprisonment. Young, despite his comparative youth, has a bad record, having served terms for wrecking a train and horse theft. His present term is the result of a murderous assault he made on an old man near Brockville last summer. Young told the jury that he was inhumanly treated at the prison and that he was confined in the dark cells and put on bread and water diet on the slightest offence.

MRS. NATION AND THE LIQUOR MAN.

Dundee, Scotland, Dec. 7.—One of the keepers of a public house whose bar was invaded by Carrie Nation last Saturday, has applied to the police to prosecute her for a breach of the peace. The authorities are investigating before taking action.

'WITNESS' LABRADOR FUND.

Received for the launch:—

Lower Truro S.S., per Mrs. Wm. Dunlop	$10.00
A Friend, from Manitoba	2.00
D. J. Meredith, Vernonville, Ont.	6.65
A Friend, Montreal	5.00
B. C. Marven, Midland, N.B.	1.65
Miss E. E. Doel, West Toronto	1.00
A. Douglas, Walton, Ont.	.60
Mrs. J. W. Murphy, Sutton, Que	1.00
Previously acknowledged	1,454.32
Total on hand, Dec. 8.	$1,482.22

We have also received the following sums for other special objects in connection with Dr. Grenfell's work:

T. H. P., Strathroy	$5.00
A Friend from Manitoba	3.00

Address all subscriptions for Dr. Grenfell's work to 'Witness' Labrador Fund, John Dougall & Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal.

The younger members of the household could easily secure a splendid collection of Tercentenary Stereographs through our very liberal offers on another page. Nothing else to surpass these views.

HIS FLESH IS HORRIBLY BURNT.

His druggist sold him a cheap, acid corn cure! What he should have bought was Putnam's Corn Extractor; it's purely vegetable, and acts in 24 hours. Insist on only 'Putnam's.'

THE WORLD'S WELFARE.

THANKSGIVING AT RAMAPATAM.

(Rev. W. B. Boggs, D.D., Ramapatam, South India, in the 'Baptist Missionary Magazine.')

Missionaries gladly observe Thanksgiving Day. We sometimes think that we have special cause for thankfulness in being permitted to be eye-witnesses of the2 wondrous transformation wrought by the gospel. There have usually been but two missionary families at Ramapatam at a time, and so we meet alternately for Thanksgiving at the two bungalows. And no reader will wonder that our thoughts and our conversation often turn to the absent children of the two families, far away in America. How our yearning hearts span the continents and the oceans! But we are happy, and we sing together:

Peace, perfect peace, with loved ones far away;
In Jesu's keeping we are safe, and they.

One special feature of Thanksgiving Day is the feast in the afternoon to those who need it most. The guests, both Christian and non-Christian, are selected for their poverty. The one credential which entitles them to a place at this feast is hunger, and their sunken stomachs show only too clearly that want is their chronic condition. Among the poorest are always the Yanadies. Many have scarcely any clothing, especially the children, but the weather is not cold.

The table is the smooth ground out in front of the seminary. On this are spread common palm-leaf mats. The plates are made of banyan leaves sewed together at the edges and are about a foot in diameter. They are commonly used by the people of India, and are sold in the bazaars everywhere. They are very cheap, and serve for one meal only. There are no spoons or knives and forks, for the universal custom in India, as generally in the East, is to put food in the mouth with the right hand. The food is boiled rice and mutton curry, a great treat for these poor people.

When the time to eat comes they all sit down on the ground in long rows, and the rice is brought and heaped upon their leaf plates; then the savory curry is added, and after the giving of thanks they fall to, and my! how the food fades away! Again the plates are heaped, and again the contents vanish. Many of those whose stomachs were concave when they came now present a remarkably convex and rotund appearance. Some of the little fellows can hardly see their knees when they stand up. Some of the people whose appetites exceed their capacity get up and walk around for a while, and then come back and sit down, and succeed in appropriating a little more. And then when they have eaten all they can, and we have sought to direct their thoughts to the great Giver, they get up and waddle away to their homes, as contented and thankful as many who have participated in the richest banquets.

THE KIND OF MISSIONARIES WANTED.

The Rev. S. M. Zwemer, D.D., candidate secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement, writes that there is a large number of calls for workers whom the missionary boards are ready to send out to the foreign field. In this call emphasis is placed on quality rather than on quantity. Most of the positions call for exceptional qualifications, and can be filled only by men who have a thorough education, natural gifts of leadership, spiritual power and the mind of Christ.

The number of native workers on the mission field who possess spiritual, intellectual, and administrative efficiency and power is increasing year by year. 'Many of these on the mission fields,' says Robert E. Speer, 'are the peers of the missionaries not only in spiritual devotion and intellectual ability, but in the ability to set work going and in the ability to manage and handle the work.' After mentioning men like Morales in Mexico, Reis in Rio Janeiro, Ibuka and Uemura in Japan, and Dr. Chatterjee in India, Mr. Speer goes on to say:

'The day is passing, if it is not already long past, when missionaries can stand any more on the strength of their racial superiority or on the strength of their administrative control of the funds of the home churches. They have got to stand now on their moral superiority, on their intellectual superiority, on their spiritual superiority, on their superiority as men, or they have no superiority on which to stand.'

There are men and women in our colleges who can with God's help measure up to the high standard of requirement thus set forth, and young men and young women should covet earnestly the best of these opportunities for leadership in the fields where their work will count for most.

Practically all of the boards are asking for trained men and women—ordained, medical, teachers, nurses, and zenana workers. Among the two hundred and eleven asked for are eighty-four ordained men, twenty-eight physicians (men), twenty-two teachers, (men), and four industrial and other superintendents; also of women seven nurses, eight physicians, forty-three teachers and fifteen evangelistic workers. These are wanted for missions in India, Ceylon, Burma, Assam, Siam, China, Corea, Japan, Turkey, Arabia, Africa, South America, Mexico, Alaska, Cuba and Porto Rico.

With such a variety of occupations, climate and conditions there is reason to believe that every volunteer who is prepared to go will quickly respond. 'Here am I, send me.' Candidates are invited to correspond with Dr. Zwemer, 125 East 27th street, New York.

THE ORPHANAGE FARM, HARPOOT, TURKEY.

(By the Rev. George P. Knapp, in the 'Missionary Herald.')

Will you not come with me to our farm, as did a friend from another mission station this morning? We started at 5.30. The place is less than three miles distant, but as we have to make a steep descent of 1,000 feet to the plain our saddle horses did not get along very fast; in fact, we preferred to lead them part of the way.

The place is in sight all the time on the outskirts of Mezereh, the seat of government for the province. There is a large, flat-roofed, two-story house built of adobe. A high wall of the same material encloses it and a square lot of about sixteen acres, containing an orchard, a large vineyard, and land for cultivation.

On entering a large gate we come into an outer court, in one corner of which silk is being wound from the cocoons. Under a rude awning four furnaces are erected, over each of which a caldron is set in which the cocoons are scalded. Four of our orphan boys are turning the large wheels, on each of which three skeins of silk are being reeled, while a man sits over each caldron and feeds out the silk from the cocoons. Four other boys tend the fires, bring water, and take their turn at the wheels, the first boys meanwhile doing their work. Each of these eight boys earns ten cents a day.

We next step into the inner courtyard. In a shady part of it nearly all of the fifty boys who are at the farm during the summer are seated about low, round tables, eating their breakfast of bread and soup. They have had to take their meals out of doors for several months, ever since the silk culture business crowded them out of the house. Near by a woman has just been churning a quantity of madzoon (artificially soured milk) in a large earthen vessel by rocking it sidewise on a cushion. She takes off the leather which has been tied over the wide opening, and we see the thousands of yellow globules floating on the white buttermilk.

Stepping out into the large enclosure we pass through the orchard of apricot, cherry, apple, pear, and mulberry trees to the garden. Two boys have opened the reservoir, and are irrigating the egg plants, peppers, corn, potatoes, etc. Under yonder tree is a heap of red tomatoes, some six bushels gathered before breakfast. The sweet potatoes which I planted are doing well. This is the third season that I have tried raising them, and this time I hope we shall succeed in preserving the seed over winter. Everything looks flourishing. In yonder field a good-sized stack of barley sheaves will soon be threshed by having the oxen tread them or having a 'stone boat,' with flint stones in the bottom, dragged over them. After the barley is removed the field will be sown to turnips.

As we walked along the three or four acres of grape vines we noticed that the yield would be good. In a shed at one corner of the vineyard are four cylindrical beehives made of mud. Two of them are occupied by bees that left the mother hives a few weeks before. When these swarm another season we expect to have some civilized hives for them.

On our way back to the courtyard we passed the chickens and turkeys. About thirty of the former and twenty of the latter have been raised this season, and a belated mother turkey was bringing out a new brood this very morning. Some day we will have an incubator and show that a fowl's time is valuable; still more, that of men. The chickens were greedily eating the grubs that are left after the silk of the cocoons is wound off. Quantities of these pupae were being dried for winter feed.

Passing through the courtyard again, we went upstairs and visited the large room in which tens of thousands of little paper bags, strung together, were hanging from the beams of the ceiling. Each bag contains a silk moth and the eggs that she has laid. In the basement we find a dozen of the boys preparing portions of each moth by pestle and mortar for the glass slides of the microscope. The young man in charge (one of our boys who has taken his diploma at the Sericultural School in Brousa) examines each slide carefully through the microscope for any traces of disease in the moth. When there is any unsoundness her eggs are discarded. The good eggs are graded, washed, and packed in ventilated, pasteboard boxes, each containing twenty-five grams of eggs. We are expecting to produce 2,000 of these boxes of eggs this year, to sell at prices ranging from thirty-five cents to a dollar each.

Now the good wife of the man in charge of the boys and the farm bids us come to breakfast. We go out beside the irrigation tank, and there to the sound of the water splashing in from the fountain, under the shade of an English walnut tree, my guest, the farmer, and I sit about a copper tray placed on a stool. All but the crisp, thin bread is produced on the place. There is hot milk, butter, madzoon, buttermilk, egg plant cooked in butter, eggs fried with tomatoes, cucumbers, and apricots. What more could we wish? The water is the life of the place, without which nothing could thrive. The concrete tank, twenty feet square and five feet deep, now (August) fills once in twenty-four hours, while earlier in the season it filled three or four times. After the day's work the boys delight to plunge in and have a swim.

The boys' beds (mattresses and quilts) are piled up in one corner of a building, open on the side of the reservoir, which encloses the fountain. Some of the boys sleep here, while others spread their beds on the roof. All seem to enjoy summer life at the farm hugely.

This is the third hired place and the fourth year that we have carried on this kind of work for the orphan boys. We hope to make at least $200 this year, besides the $200 we pay for rent. If we only had a farm of our own, where all the income would be ours and where all the improvements we made would be for our own good, what a great advantage! It would be a safe and increasing endowment. While it is often hard to dispose of the products of other industries, farm products are always in demand, and the silk culture is a growing industry which has no limit in sight.

There are no isolated, complete farms here as in America. The farmers collect in villages, and the surrounding land is a mixed patchwork of fields. It is seldom that one man owns two contiguous fields. We have in view, however, a little village, five miles away, and owned by one man, which we can probably buy for $15,000. We have $9,000 already available for the purpose, more than a third of which was contributed by the widow of a missionary who spent his life for Turkey.

If we could once secure such a place our orphans would not be limited to the raising of vegetables, as at present, but could also raise cotton and grains. Besides the vineyard, orchard, poplar and mulberry groves there is mountain pasturage enough to enable us to raise a goodly number of cattle, sheep and goats.

The opportunities for development with modern methods and machinery are almost unlimited. We could, in fact, have a model village, where not only orphans but other needy and worthy people could obtain work and find a home. In this way our Christian educational system would be getting a new grip and a broader influence on all elements of the community. We know something of what Tuskegee and Hampton and Mt. Vernon mean for America. What would not a missionary institution embodying similar principles accomplish in the heart of this great empire? It 'would be an excellent feeder for the colleges.'

THE FAITH THAT SAVES

(Wilfred T. Grenfell, M.D., in the 'Record of Christian Work.')

Schooner 'Vernie May,' at Sea, Oct. 20, 1908.

I had hired out the 'Strathcona' to collect the ballot boxes for the government at the election along this northernmost section of coast, for the hire money would mean a sadly needed extention to our hospital. This had compelled me to make my last visits along the Labrador and return to St. Anthony in a small motor boat. And now, Oct. 20, I was stranded with no way to get south in time for my first winter engagements. So at last I put together a few things and started out to either run a hundred miles south and then walk across country twenty miles to a railway, or turn north and try to catch a schooner that I heard was loading fish for St. John's. The weather settled the matter and north we went. To my great joy we found this schooner just ready to start and only waiting the turn of the tide to let go her lines. She was already off in the stream. She was carrying ostensibly a load of fish, but there were over fifty freighters on board, and we saw more women and children on deck than fish. To my request for a passage south on her, I was accorded a most genial invitation to 'come along,' and in half a minute my bags were slung aboard and I was left standing alone, with the launch puffing out of the harbor.

The captain proved to be a man of the name of Christian, a Norwegian whose great-grandfather had jumped overboard from a Norse man-of-war, as she passed along the coast. He had at last swum ashore at an island called Baccalbas, been received with the traditional hospitality of the coast, and had given rise since that day to enough Christians to form a respectable sect by themselves. The sailor instinct maintained in all, and my host proved to be as good a man at the sea as his inherited capacities would portend. Thus we carried away our main boom guy with a sudden north-east puff last night, and in only a very few minutes the skipper had it down and a new splice in the stout wire, which made it as strong as ever. The shaking up of the bilge water and the drainage from the wet fish we are carrying were against my principles last night, so I dragged up my sleeping bag and slept on deck by the after counter, near the wheel. Every time I opened my eyes during the night I was sure to see the skipper poking about in the dark, doing some little kindness to his vessel which he loves, as every sailor who is worth his salt should do. It is a matter of faith trusting to schooners, anyhow, on this coast in the fall of the year, there are so many 'liabilities' in the northern parts of this western ocean—by 'liabilities' I mean debts that men who do business in great waters are called upon to meet unexpectedly every year, and no one knows what follows the settling of their account. This suggested my subject yesterday afternoon as I gathered the crowd aft on deck for a word of prayer and praise.

We mustered only three hymn-books, and the deck was already filled with barrels and puncheons and boats and dogs and fires in open sand barrels for cooking, and every other conceivable object. The cabins and holds were full of women and children and fish and boxes and nets and supplies. But, on the whole, I don't know that I have ever gathered with a crowd in a place that one was more likely to realize the presence of God. This is only a statement of fact. I've been in the most ancient European cathedrals, I have inhaled the most odiferous incense. I have walked in procession with choristers in white and clergy in colors, I have attended evangelistic meetings in crowded auditoriums, where the very air seemed charged with an atmosphere calculated to stir up the emotions readily. But I repeat, Mr. Editor, I know of no place where the presence of God seems realer and nearer than it did in the midst of my blue-jerseyed, big-booted audience, sitting on or squatting among the débris of a Labrador fishery on the deck of the good schooner 'Vernie May,' 50 miles from Funk Islands, with a north-easter blowing and a heavy atmosphere so that you couldn't see in any direction more than a mile from the ship.

Faith being the subject, we talked of our need of help other than our own if we chanced in a little too near the Snap Rock in the night, for that dangerous rock lay right in our way and is neither lighted nor buoyed. The reasonableness of faith in a loving Father above as practical as that we placed in the schooner beneath our feet or her skipper, who was a stranger to us, seemed to appeal to my audience and I noticed that the old words of

'What a friend we have in Jesus'

seemed to ring out more clearly and more heartily than the hymn at first, which broke the spell of the novelty of a 'religious' meeting under the circumstances.

When the meeting was over and the men were once again boiling their kettles for the evening 'mug up' before retiring below, I got into conversation with some of the men as we stood on deck around the blazing open fire.

Suddenly a grizzled and white-haired skipper broke in: 'I thought you was speaking to me, Doctor, when you'se was speaking about it's faith what saves.'

'How was that, skipper? Has your life, then, been saved to be some use to God on earth?'

'I've been heading that way these many years,' he replied.

'Well, what makes you think that faith saves you more than any other man?'

'I don't think no such thing,' he answered, 'but I'll tell you how I knows it saved me, if you cares to hear it.'

'Go ahead, skipper, we all want to hear.'

'Well, Doctor, some twenty years ago I had a time just near here much like you had last winter. It was in the spring o' the year, and I and my chum were out on the White Islands, and we started at midday to sail in to the mainland. There were a strong northerly tide running agin a smart nor'easter, and it were knocking up a dirty lop. We wasn't more'n two hun'red yards from the shore before a tall sea caught our boat, under the counter, and over she went. The boat was a Nova Scotian gasher that we was in, and we went over all standing. She were clinker built, so we was able to climb up by the planks on to her keel. But it were impossible to hold on, for the loppin' seas kept washing us off. There were another boat passed close by us. But they didn't take no notice of us, and were soon out o' sight. Jim—that were my chum—could swim all right, but I couldn't swim a stroke. Yet if I hadn't a-kept putting Jim back on to the bottom of the boat, he'd a drowned several times over, and somehow I felt sure us was going to be saved, and kept a-telling Jim so. But he wouldn't believe it anyhow. He kept on a-saying: "I'm lost, Sam, body and soul, lost body and soul." I told him to keep believing, as I was sure us 'ud be saved somehow.

'Well, us drifted along wi' t' current till us met the easterly tide a-comin' out o' the straits, and then us turned to the south-east and drifted away to the south-ard again away outside t' White Islands and then down to the south about five miles off t' coast.

'Yes, it were cold, and us swallowed a tidy bit o' water, and then all of a sudden the old boat turned over on one side and righted herself. Well, in I gets over the side and pulls the masts and sails out o' her to steady her, and that's just where I did wrong, for over she goes again, and from that time she would neither stay up nor down. It were ever so much harder after that to hold on at all for there were nothing under water to steady her, so I had to keep putting Jim on, for he had no heart for hisself and were as good as drownded already. Three times, believe me, Doctor, that boat turned over and every time us got in over she went again.

'It was now coming on night and we was off St. Anthony, drifted south twelve miles as far as I could make out. I kept on a-trying to cheer Jim up and somehow that helped me. It always is a help to be trying to help someone else. I kept on at Jim telling him as I was plum' sure us'd be saved. Yes, I must say now I dunno why I b'lieved so strong. But there it was. I did believe un, and that's what sove us. For sure enough, just at dark up comes a schooner. She was a-beatin. down to the Labrador. But the cross sea took her ahead and she was a-running for St. Anthony for anchorage. She kept on a-running, till she was well by us and some would ha' thought our last chance was gone. But somehow I knowed better than that, and sure enough, before she'd gone very far, round she comes and drops a boat. It weren't long from that before us had Jim safe aboard. But he were never no good after, not to work. He just lived on a year or so, and then he pined away. No, Doctor, he had no faith, he hadn't.

'Did us save the boat? Well, no. You'se don't think much o' the value o' them kind o' things at such times, not but there were a gun fast in her, too. But them things don't seem o' no account when it comes to a point o' being saved.'

'I've noticed that myself, skipper,' I replied, 'I've looked old Father Death in the face, and it certainly did make a difference in the value one put on things one thought so much of at other times. Did you feel afraid when you were in the water all that time, skipper?'

'Not the smallest bit o' fear ever came in my mind. After we was ashore I was all torn to bits wi' fear at what us had gone thro'. It seemed a most wonderful good thing that we was saved when it were so easy to ha' been lost. But there weren't no fear in me, Doctor, not in the water. You see, I believed all the while that us'd be sove and it were just that as sove us. So when you was a-speakin' about faith there, I thought perhaps you meaned me. But it's just the same wi' every one o' us. There be so many dangers all around that it be easy enough to perish and only faith can save ere a one o' us.'

There was a bright twinkle in the old man's eyes reflecting the bright fire burning in the sand barrel, and as I looked round at the faces of the other men, with no little joy, I saw an assenting expression thrown back from every feature.

May God give us all that faith, my reader, that shall make us trust in Christ as simply as these my friends and so practically that we may at once set to work in that faith to save the many 'Jims' that have no faith around us.

THE QUEBEC TERCENTENARY.

Special Premium Offer

For three hundred years a continuous settlement in Canada—the oldest on the American continent! Such is the record of quaint Quebec City, the scene, the past summer, of the most remarkable celebrations which visitors from many nations have ever journeyed to see. 'An appreciation of its history and of the deeds of its heroes, ranks among the great features in the development of a nation.' And it was to instil this feeling in the hearts of all Canadians that the Tercentenary Celebrations at Quebec were undertaken by the Canadian people, with the support of their various governments.

No period in the world's history is fuller of thrilling romance, or of significant accomplishment against desperate odds, than the 374 years since Jacques Cartier first saw Quebec promontory. And in that period no story is quite so remarkable as that of the building of new and civilized nations upon the hunting grounds of the American Indian.

To re-live the stirring scenes of these by-gone days of daring enterprise and dark vicissitudes, of splendid pomp and humble loyalty to national causes; to re-live them so as to stir the blood of the two great races of Canada in fruitful reminiscence, was the successful achievement of the wonderful events of the Tercentenary.

The theatre in which was presented the programme of the Tercentenary—Quebec city, walled in only by the mist-crowned Laurentian hills; the stage, or stages upon which the by-gone scenes were re-enacted for us—the Plains of Abraham and the majestic St. Lawrence—were themselves the true original 'mise-en-scene' of most of the dramatic scenes of the Pageants. And there is no doubt that in no other part of the world could such a colossal undertaking be so peculiarly favored by nature, art and a nation's enthusiasm.

Were you one of those who, having seen the Tercentenary's events, returned to your home to think thenceforward more deeply of our national heritage of history? Whether or no, that history and its representation at Quebec are alike vitally important matters to you, and no means of making vivid and lasting the impression there created should be neglected.

We have always stood for the best in national and home life and thought. We have especially sought to spread and deepen the valuable lessons of history. For this reason we have sought to bring home to our readers the great value of understanding the Quebec Tercentenary, and all it has meant to every Canadian. And we have secured for our readers a truly unparalleled opportunity—the opportunity to see these scenes again, almost living, almost moving; to see them while sitting comfortably at home—to see them, not as in a photograph or painting, but apparently in life-size, life-form and solid-seeming reality and perspective. The Keystone View Co. have so perfected the stereographic method of teaching, so improved upon even the best quality of stereographs, that the Universities of McGill, Toronto, Harvard, etc., the Normal Schools in Canada and the United States, the great schools of Germany, and other notable educational institutions, have adopted their stereographs for educational purposes, and you may obtain these same stereoscopic views as a gift from the publishers of the 'Witness' on the conditions outlined below.

GROUPS OF STEREOGRAPHS OF QUEBEC TERCENTENARY

We have selected the following six dozen representative views, and have subdivided them into groups of six for the convenience of our subscribers. A study of the titles will at once show how wide the range is and how carefully the selections have been made.

GROUP A.

(1) Grand view of Quebec City and St. Lawrence.
(2) View of assembled warships in the St. Lawrence.
(3) H.M.S. 'Albermarle,' British Battleship.
(4) H.M.S. 'Russell,' British Warship.
(5) U.S. Battleship 'New Hampshire.'
(6) French Battleship, 'Leon Gambetta.'

GROUP B.

(7) Dufferin Terrace and Chateau Frontenac.
(8) Mediaeval Heralds announcing opening of Tercentenary.
(9) Salutation and Commemoration Ceremonies at Champlain's statue.
(10) Men of the Watch of Middle Ages.
(11) Sir James P. Whitney, with Vice-President Fairbanks of the United States.
(12) Lord Strathcona, one of the founders of Western Canada.

GROUP C.

(13) London (7th) Fusiliers in Military Parade.
(14) Royal N. W. Mounted Police in Military Parade.
(15) Ottawa (43rd) Regiment in Military Parade.
(16) 48th Highlanders, Toronto, in Military Parade.
(17) Hussars in Military Parade.
(18) Ontario Infantry Detachments in Military Parade.

GROUP D.

(19) Throngs watching arrival of H.M.S. 'Indomitable.'
(20) H.M.S. 'Indomitable' steaming up St. Lawrence.
(21) H.M.S. 'Indomitable' at anchor.
(22) Indian scout watching approach of Champlain, founder of Quebec.
(23) Champlain leaves ancient ship to land at Quebec.
(24) The 'Don de Dieu' of 1608, and modern warship.

GROUP E.

(25) The ancient palisaded home of Champlain.
(26) Jacques Cartier and his sailors in historical procession.
(27) King Francis I. of France and his Queen.
(28) Beautiful little fauns of the Forest of Fontainebleau (1535).
(29) Court of Henry IX. of France (1608).
(30) Champlain and his young wife.

GROUP F.

(31) Dollard or Daulac, Hero of Long Sault (1660).
(32) Duluth and his 'Coureurs-des-Bois.'
(33) Frontenac and his entourage (1690).
(34) Mademoiselle Vercheres (1690).
(35) Montcalm and his army (1759).
(36) Wolfe and his army (1759).

GROUP G.

(37) Lord Strathcona, Sir F. Borden, Sir Geo. Garneau, etc., etc., arrive at Military Review.
(38) Sir Wilfrid and Lady Laurier arrive at Military Review.
(39) Prince of Wales arrives at Military Review.
(40) Prince of Wales presents Title deeds of Plains of Abraham to the Governor-General.
(41) Prince of Wales rides out to review 10,000 troops.
(42) Prince of Wales reviews British sailors.
(43) Lord Roberts and General Pole-Carew march past the Prince of Wales.

GROUP H.

(44) The Prince and Lord Roberts review Canadian Highlanders.
(45) Ontario Infantry reviewed by Prince of Wales.
(46) Sir Sanford Fleming and Lord Strathcona at official tribune.
(47) Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Lady Violet Tillot and other notable people.
(48) Sir Louis Jette and Sir Wilfrid Laurier leaving the Review.

GROUP I.

(49) 15,000 people watching Historic pageant.
(50) Pageant players, a study of ancient costumes.
(51) Jacques Cartier raising the Cross on the shores of the St. Lawrence (1534).
(52) Court Cavalcade, gardens of Fontainebleau, France.
(53) Nymphs and Fauns in the Gardens of Fontainebleau.
(54) Champlain is presented to Henry IV. of France (1608).

GROUP J.

(55) Champlain receives Royal Commission to explore Canada.
(56) The Ancient Pavane, danced by 80 courtiers at the Louvre (1608).
(57) Henry IV. and Queen Marie with train of courtiers.
(58) Court pages, the Louvre (1608).
(59) Costumes of three centuries ago.
(60) Indian party meet Champlain on arrival at Quebec (1608).

GROUP K.

(61) Champlain received by Indian Chief.
(62) Champlain and his wife welcomed by the little colony at Quebec (1620).
(63) Girls at Quebec (1620).
(64) Iroquois Indians in attack on Dollard.
(65) The Indians who fought Dollard at Long Sault.
(66) Marquis de Tracy (1665).

GROUP L.

(67) Girls at Quebec (1690).
(68) French-Canadian Militia of 18th Century
(69) Solemn Mass, Plains of Abraham.
(70) Procession of Archbishop and Bishops, Plains of Abraham.
(71) Illuminations and fireworks in Quebec Harbor.
(72) Departure of the 'Indomitable.'

OUR OFFER.

We are prepared to give HALF A DOZEN of these fine stereographs, i.e., ONE GROUP you select out of the twelve groups of stereographs to any 'Witness' subscriber on any of the four following plans:—

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This is really a great opportunity. At present we make the offer open for the next two months, but we are not sure that we will be able to extend that time, so that we would strongly urge our subscribers to act at once. The premium will, we know, be a continual source of pleasure to the whole family.

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New High-Arm Drop Head, Ball Bearing Sewing Machine, given to 'Witness' subscribers for $40 worth of new subscriptions to the 'Witness' at full rates.
For Sale, including the 'Daily Witness,' one year, $29.00, or including 'Weekly Witness,' one year, $27.00.
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Bagster's Long Primer Bible for three subscriptions to 'Weekly Witness,' two of which must be new, or a list of six renewal subscriptions at $1.00 each, or ten subscriptions at 80 cents each. For sale to 'Witness' subscribers, $1.75.
None of the above premiums can be claimed solely on one's own subscription, new or renewal.

EXPIRING SUBSCRIPTIONS

Would each subscriber kindly look at the address tag on his paper? If the date thereon is

DECEMBER, 1908

it is time that the renewals were sent in so as to avoid losing a single copy. As renewals always date from the expiry of the old subscriptions, subscribers lose nothing by remitting a little in advance.

While the publishers of the 'Witness' exclude from its columns all financial and other advertisements which they consider calculated or intended to take advantage of or injure the reader, it must be understood that they in no way guarantee advertisements, and must leave their readers to exercise their own discretion in the way of putting faith in them. It is, of course, impossible to know much about mining advertising, which offers probably the most speculative and, therefore, the most risky of all investments. The great chances of gain are balanced by the great chances of loss, and no one should invest in a very speculative property more than he can afford to lose.

The Witness.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1908.

A remarkably astute move on the part of the Sikhs of British Columbia would seem to have taken the East Indian question out of the acute stage in which it was placed by the animosity of the white population, and the fact that a large number of the Orientals were out of employment. The Government thought it had found a solution by offering them a paradise in British Honduras. They sent a deputation to Honduras, which reported that it was anything but a paradise, and that British Columbia was far better. The Governor of British Honduras made it his business to go to British Columbia to convince them that they had made a great mistake in their judgment of that land of bananas and yams and guava and everything delightful. Meantime, however, the Sikhs have done something that puts an end to all that. They have become landowners, every man of them. They have formed themselves into a company, including all the unemployed, which has purchased a big cabbage garden on the outskirts of Northern Vancouver, a suburb which, being across the inlet, has not been growing very fast, and which will afford employment to every man who cannot get it otherwise. They have fastened themselves to the soil as the suffragettes fastened themselves to the benches, and now as landowners they are immune from pauperism as well as from deportation as paupers.

Whatever may be the fate of the Transcontinental Railway from Winnipeg to Moncton—and it may open up a country so rich in timber, minerals and water powers as amply to justify itself—, Mr. Hays speaks with the greatest confidence concerning the western portion of the line from Winnipeg to Prince Rupert. He has shown that the grades are so easy on that portion of the line, both east and west, that the drawing power of an engine in tons is 2,911, as compared with 572 tons on the Great Northern, 572 on the Northern Pacific, 572 Union Pacific, 376 on the Santa Fe, and 298 on the Canadian Pacific. So that the same engine could haul up the maximum grade of the Grand Trunk Pacific nearly four times more freight in a train than either the Great Northern, Northern Pacific or Union Pacific, over five times more than the Santa Fe, and about seven times more than can be hauled up grade on the Canadian Pacific. These, as Mr. Hays says, are truly remarkable figures, and it is easily to be seen that such a line will be in the highest degree economical in working. Mr. Hays expects these easy gradients to twist around in a few years a great portion of the wheat export trade of the North-West, and that with the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914 wheat will be sent to Europe by way of the Pacific. However, by that time there will be so much business to handle that all the lines will probably be busy, both east and west. At present the cultivated lands of the North-West are only about six million acres out of a total of three hundred million acres, and as the land is now more rapidly filling up the increase of business to be expected is enormous.

The musical world of Canada can set its mind at rest once and for all concerning the impression carried home to England by the members of the Sheffield choir regarding their treatment on the recent tour of this country. From copies of the Sheffield newspapers received we learn that whatever an odd discontented chorister may have thought about this or that episode or hotel, the feeling of the whole choir towards the Canadian people is—as we never doubted—one of unqualified friendliness, gratitude and respect. Resolutions passed unanimously at a meeting of the choir on board the 'Grampian' express this feeling in the heartiest terms, and the only 'fly in the ointment' it appears, was not the admitted defects of the catering, due to the hurried arrangements, but the jealousy of certain members of a rival musical association in Sheffield, which has attempted to belittle the tour in the guise of feeble cynicism. In the 'Sheffield Weekly Independent,' however, almost an entire page is devoted to laudation of the tour in its varying aspects by fifteen of the leading members of the chorus. Dr. Coward himself has set his seal to all this by remarking to an interviewer who asked where the next tour was likely to be: 'We must go quietly for a time, at 'least. Then, possibly the United States, 'with Canada to follow.' That does not look as if the choir was disgruntled with this country and its treatment here.

With its invariable egotistical exaggeration the United States press is glorying in the recent 'agreement' with Japan, which the government dare not call a treaty lest the Senate should maul it, as involving a joint control of the Pacific. In view of the fact that Great Britain has territory abutting on the Pacific, and a commerce thereon greater than theirs, that is a pretty cool assumption. This control, as the phrase is, is going to be exercised in friendly commercial rivalry. If that means anything it means rivalry for the carrying trade of the Pacific. In that competition the chances are all on one side. The United States has rendered an ocean business impossible by her own acts in her exclusive navigation laws, her high tariff, and the consequent high cost at which she must do things. These artificially high standards can be kept up on land, but on the sea there must be open competition, and all the odds in this case are in favor of Japan. Meantime Britain has a vastly greater maritime stake on the Pacific than both of them put together. As between the United States and Britain only one of two things can alter this disproportion—the introduction of protection into Britain, on which, if it were effective, her mercantile marine would collapse, as that of the United States did when the Morrill tariff became law, or the reduction of the United States tariff to a revenue basis, the result of which would be such an expansion of the maritime life of that country as might throw that of Great Britain into a second place. If the United States wants to rule any waves more than three miles from her shores this, and this only, is the way to do it.

President-elect Taft has declared that there is to be a genuine revision of the tariff downward. There is no doubt that he desires, and he is pledged to effect, so far as lies in his power, a genuine revision of the tariff, a thorough overhauling and equalizing of the tariff schedules, and it is said that Mr. 'Joe' Cannon has now come over to his side, in return for an unopposed re-election to the Speakership. Mr. Taft had an interview with Mr. Cannon on Wednesday and the former is said to have intimated very clearly how earnest were his wishes that the tariff schedules be thoroughly revised, and that he was prepared to use the influence of the administration to enforce the public pledges he made during the campaign. If Mr. Cannon has really given his pledge to Mr. Taft, it is supposable that the Ways and Means Committee may be got into line, although the members of it, with Mr. Cannon, have hitherto had the credit of being much too good friends of high protection to do anything which in their minds would injure it. But we shall see. It is easy, as we have seen, to make great slashes into the tariff without greatly affecting its protective qualities, and it is this sort of reform the standpatters are in search of.

When Mr. Taft was at Hot Springs, Virginia, he is reported as having turned down his wine glass. 'Yes,' he said, 'and it is going to stay down. I am 'not going to drink anything again.' A friend explains that this was done earnestly and quietly, and without any thought of pose and showy pretence. It was not even done, we are told, from the hygienic or calisthenic point of view—although Mr. Taft is fat and alcohol is said to hurt fat people more than lean people—but the position he took was moral and very serious. The 'World' comments that Mr. Taft has undertaken a tremendous job and he needs all his nerve and cool consciousness. 'An Atlas-'burden has been laid on his shoulders. 'He girds himself to his great task. 'Wine is for those who don't care—Dolce 'far niente and Vive la bagatelle are the 'words of wine songs—men drink to es-'cape from reality to a no-man's land of 'fancy and fooling.' But Mr. Taft intends to come to close grapple with realities. Life to him is real and earnest. So he turns down his glass. His example cannot fail to be inspiring to thousands of others.

The United States Congress, which has just assembled, is to be called upon for appropriations aggregating a round billion of dollars, while for the six months of the fiscal year ending with December there is a deficit of sixty million, with the certain prospect of it reaching a hundred million by the end of June. The country is rich and can stand a good deal in the way of taxation, but a billion dollars means an imposition of sixty dollars per family, or ten per cent on average income. But this does not by any means include all the burdens they have to bear. They have, in addition, to pay state and municipal taxes, all wastefully excessive. On top of all, and more expensive than all, they have to pay the extra prices that do not go into the treasury at all, and to support the impositions of trusts, which tax them to the full extent allowed by the protective tariff. Old King George and his ministers, with their little stamp and tea taxes, were examples of modesty itself compared with the tyrant taxers to whom the people of the Republic have submitted themselves. Economy in expenditure is always distasteful to legislators. Congressmen are openly appreciated in proportion as they can get things for their districts. Such has been the working of this occult taxing system that the people, for the most part, know no better public morals than to count politics a scramble for lavish largesse. Demands are clamorous from every quarter. No department of the government is willing to lessen its requisitions, and the military and naval authorities insist that their programmes must be carried out. But signs of popular discontent are accumulating. The people can see that by lowering the tariff the revenue would increase while the trusts would get less. This session, however, being the last of this Congress, is hardly likely to heed the popular demand, but will rather make the most of its final opportunity, leaving to the new Congress the task of retrenchment. The bigger the burdens it imposes the more difficult will be the task; the same party being in power will have have to bear all the odium of both extravagant expenditure and enforced economy.

Mr. Charles Marcil, who is reported to be the ministerial choice for Speaker of the House of Commons in the new parliament, is an old Montreal journalist. His elevation to the position of first commoner in the Dominion will be hailed with gratification by his former confreres of the press, both English and French, with whom he was always personally popular, and who remember his invariable courtesy and his brilliant work as a reporter and editor. His ability as a public speaker, as well as a writer, was recognized by Sir Wilfrid Laurier when he selected him for a seat in parliament. He was as popular in the House of Commons as he was among the newspaper fraternity, and as Deputy Speaker gave satisfaction to both parties. His advancement to the chair while still a young man, as age is reckoned in these days, is a promotion earned by his high standing as a parliamentarian. Those who take a kindly interest in his career and know the difficulties he had to contend with in his efforts to come to the front in political life, and who long ago recognized his qualities for public service, will be gratified at his promotion, and predict for him still greater success.

It did not take Germany long to see the advantages of ocean penny postage. With the object lesson of enormously increased mails, following the conclusion of the agreement between Great Britain and the United States, she quickly hastened to make a like arrangement. It is obvious that the reduction of letter postage from five to two cents draws the people of the nations closer together, makes communication more easy and frequent, and increases both business and social cordiality. The Germanic strain in the population of the United States is considerable. A German writer claims it is fifty percent, an exaggeration no doubt, but it is large enough to be a strong encouragement to the Kaiser's desire to cultivate American friendship—a desire shown by his presents to libraries and museums, his less appreciated gift of a statue of Frederick the Great, and his many diplomatic advances. It must be admitted that the German element has been of immense value in the industrial, political, military and social development of the Republic, and when one thinks of the many German names of distinction in its history, the regret felt by the Emperor that so many of his people should have gone to build up a foreign power, instead of forming German colonies, will be understood. But Germans, while valuable accessions to a country having established institutions, have not at home the free, independent life which fits the average man for such adventure as is demanded of pioneers and founders of colonies, while German colonies are so officially managed as to repel the man who has those qualities by nature. The British have shown a special aptitude for colonization, and other peoples have done so, Spaniards, Portuguese and Hollanders very much in proportion, as they have allowed their colonists to shift for themselves. It is rather curious that, while Great Britain and Germany enjoy penny postage with the United States on the other side of the Atlantic, they have not the same low rate with each other, or their next-door neighbor, France. It will come, however, as the reasons are as strong in one case as in another.

It is natural in the presence of the wide-spread disaffection in India for those who do not know the country to apprehend that there might be another mutiny of the native troops. It is remembered that similar signs preceded the former mutiny and that the officers persisted each in full belief in the loyalty of his own regiment. In this case, however, the turbulent consist of civilians who have had the advantage of the government schools, training in which is valued as opening the way to government employment. There is, however, no other sequence between schools and the civil service but that of fitness. It is natural the supply should exceed that particular demand, and that there should be a residuum of scholars full of the ebullient ideas of western independence and self-government, and dissatisfied by finding no place for themselves in the new order of things, and none in the old, being, moreover, treated as inferiors by the foreign occupiers of the country. It is these among whom the trouble is. The Indian villager could hardly be got to take serious interest in any question of government. His own family and his own village are the boundaries of his interest in life. Even if he was induced to take part in some national movement his fervor would probably be short-lived. Once removed by time and space from his home he would pine to return. He would plead illness and nothing but force would keep him from going home, regardles of what need a great cause had for his services. As for the soldiers of to-day, they are the conservatives of the country, having a pension in the shape of a plot of land to look forward to at the close of their service. The overthrow of British power would mean the forfeiture of the reward for which years of service had been given, and when it is remembered on how very little a native can live, the acquisition of the small plot, granted for service, will be seen to make all the difference between comfort and penury, and give the possessor the social standing of a land owner.

CHURCH UNION.

There is a more triumphant and hopeful note from the joint committee of the churches on union which sat last week in Toronto than has emanated from previous gatherings. There would seem to be a general sense that, as between the three religious bodies in negotiation, results are in sight. Even with regard to the approaches from the Church of England the attitude of the committee was not hopeless. From what has been made public it would appear that of the four cardinal points on which the Church had insisted, the historic episcopate, was the only one which was in its present form an insurmountable obstacle to union, and it was even declared that that demand might possibly be so reinterpreted by the Church in Canada as to make negotiations possible. The chief difficulty that confronted the parties to the existing negotiations was naturally and rightly that of a statement of faith. As between the two larger bodies which had definite standards, more or less contradictory, this was triumphantly overcome by the simple process of eliminating all things that were contentions between them. These involved matters of election and free will, once so much dwelt on as essential to salvation, but now seen by both parties from both sides. Questions which now divide the Church, but not the churches, were left comparatively untouched.

The difficulty left was with the Congregationalists, who have scruples against all confessions of faith. They do not object to a declaration that such and such is common belief, but they do object to any requirement of personal adhesion to any such symbol as the one which has been agreed on. Their contention is that none of the creeds of the past is adopted by all without reservation—and that as a matter of fact there is with a proportion of those who are required to adhere to any such creed more or less misgiving and more or less mental reservation, which does not tend to frankness or to any real unity of belief. Such phrases as that the candidate is in 'substantial' or 'essential' agreement with such and such a statement of doctrine afford a way by which examining committees can agree to let such men pass. But when we know that there are men in the pulpits, of all the churches unconvinced as to some of the utterances in the confessions of those churches, even distinctly at issue with what was meant by some of them when they were formulated, and what they still mean to the ordinary mind, such words as substantial and essential agreement are more like disingenuous bypaths than like an honest declaration either of what one believes or of what one has failed to find adequate ground for believing. It may not be necessary to require a man to trumpet all his doubts; yet, the only ways to save him from doing so would seem to be, either to eliminate disputed matter from the declaration or not to ask him to accept the declaration except as setting forth the precipitate of common belief.

It is easy to see the different points from which this question is viewed by those who have always lived under such historic limitations, and see in the proposed change only a widening of these, and by those who would be binding themselves for the first time, and to whom every expression in the proposed symbol offers a personal question, and this at a time in the church's history when almost every proposition is brought into question. The fact that some diversities of statement, once regarded by either side as involving deadly error on the part of the other, have been swept, or rather have crumbled, away, makes it reasonable to suppose that some things in the present creeds will also come to be considered as non-essential, if indeed some of them have not already reached that point. It is understood that the wish that unnecessary burdens be not laid on the consciences of men who do their own thinking, and that nothing be done in the process of initiation to the ministry that may involve any mental reserve or obliquity, was strongly manifested among the more thoughtful members of the committee, and that concessions were made to it, not all that was sought, but as much as could be looked for; and some of those who have been urgent in this demand think that so great is the good to be obtained from union, and so excellent the spirit in which they are made that they ought to be accepted.

MILLIONS FOR FARMERS.

A correspondent of one of the newspapers in the Eastern Townships makes the statement, in apparent good faith, that the farmer who would try to run a farm on scientific principles would go to the wall in less than three years. There are several practical ways of regarding such a statement; and one of the most helpful, perhaps, is to point out that the countries which pay most attention to scientific agriculture are those which are making the greatest progress in agricultural wealth. The example of Denmark and her great Royal Agricultural College is the outstanding example of this fact. Nowhere is there such widespread attention to agricultural science, and nowhere is the whole body of farmers as well-to-do. Then the statement can be regarded from the point of view of what is really meant by 'scientific principles' in agriculture or, indeed, in anything else. Professor Huxley used to insist that science was simply common sense well organized. The definition was not a complete one, and it was not intended to be, but it emphasized the fact that science and scientific method are not the exclusive privileges of men poked away in laboratories, but the common possession of all who will use their brains. The men who work in the laboratories, the scientists proper, are always needed, if scientific knowledge is to make progress; but every educated man and woman may not only acquire a very considerable knowledge of the results of science, but be imbued with the scientific spirit. The popularizing of science received a great impetus at the hands of Huxley and Tyndall, as well as of their immediate predecessor, Michael Faraday. A statement like that which we have quoted, however, that the farmer who would try to run his farm on scientific principles would go to the wall in less than three years, would seem to indicate that there is still need of more teaching as to what is really meant by scientific agriculture, and possibly the fundamental notion or prejudice to be got rid of is the idea that scientific farming is something apart from, or opposed to, the best practice. Doubtless in the past there have been some failures in the name of science, but we think that it will be generally found that these failures could be readily traced to the individual rather than to science and scientific method. They were not cases of common sense well organized.

But there are other definitions of science than Huxley's. One is that science is measurement. This also is true, and it is the basis of the principle of the cow testing associations now being formed all over the Dominion,

under the leadership of the dairy commissioner of the Department of Agriculture. The work being done by these associations is as important for the welfare of the country as any railway or canal undertaking that may be attracting public attention. The purpose of the associations is to enable the farmers in each district to know from month to month exactly what each cow is giving in quantity and quality of milk, and therefore what profit she is yielding. Three times a month the farmer weighs the morning's and evening's milk and preserves a sample to be tested for butter fat. These samples are tested once a month at the nearest butter or cheese factory. The results coming in from the different provinces are already showing the vast importance of this measurement. Frequently cows which the farmer thought were his poorest are his best, and those which he thought his best are his poorest. The information obtained in this way not only enables him to weed out the inferior animals, and thus to raise the average profit in his herd, but it also points the way to feeding for increase of flow or richness of milk, or both. Some of the associations have doubled the profits from the cows in three years. All that is done is to replace guess-work by actual measurement, and this actual measurement only costs a very little extra work three times a month.

In views of the many remarkable results already attained, a statement by the dairy commissioner in a bulletin recently issued would seem to be moderate in its estimate rather than otherwise. He says:—

'The dairy farmers of Canada are beginning to realize the importance of the question of the improvement of dairy herds, and the possibilities there are in this line of work for increasing the profits of milk production. According to the results which have followed intelligent breeding and selection, combined with good care and feeding, in other lands, as well as the experiences of progressive farmers in this country, it would seem to be possible to increase the average production of Canadian herds by at least 2,000 pounds of milk per cow per year, by applying the same rational methods. Such an increase in production would mean an additional revenue from dairying to the farmers of Canada of at least $30,000,000 a year, without increasing the number of cows kept.'

Scientific method that will add thirty millions of dollars a year to the national wealth is certainly worth considering, and taken in conjunction with the other facts the figures are very reasonable. The bulletin should be studied by every farmer. It is sent free to every applicant, by the Dairy Commissioner, Ottawa. For right and just and intelligent conceptions of what is really meant by scientific agriculture, we must still look to improved country schools. When they are brought up to the right standard, by the generosity of provincial governments and of taxpayers, the currents of scientific knowledge will flow more readily and carry rich harvests of material and other wealth.

ROTTEN APPLES.

It takes a long time to build up a reputation and a very little time to destroy it. Successively the Department of Agriculture has assisted our farmers and merchants to popularize Canadian butter, cheese bacon, ham, apples, and what not, in the markets of Great Britain by educating the agriculturists to produce what is best and to pack it intelligently and honestly, and by providing facilities or inducing others to provide them—such as cold storage freight cars and cold storage compartments in ships—so that Canadian produce should reach the British markets in the pink of condition. To the credit of their common sense—leaving morality out of the question—our farmers and shippers with few exceptions have learned their lesson well, and Canadian foodstuffs have won a high reputation wherever they have been introduced. But there is still found to be an occasional backslider trying to palm off poor or bad goods, and that is why it is necessary for the country to pay for an army of inspectors. A report to hand from Ottawa states that the Trade Commissioner of the Trade and Commerce Department in Birmingham came across a shipment of five hundred barrels of apples from a prominent Ontario shipper, all of which were rotten or half-decayed. In each case, however, the barrels were marked, 'Not to be shipped,' or 'Falsely marked,' but the commissioner says, 'It seems that 'the consignors collected in advance, 'and that the apples were thus sent 'forward.' Here is a case that demands thorough investigation, the placing of the blame, and exemplary punishment. It is stated at the Fruit Branch of the Department of Agriculture that while the inspectors at Montreal have authority to stamp on barrels, 'Falsely marked,' they have no right to add, 'Not to be shipped,' and it will be interesting to learn who affixed that mark and how they came to be shipped after these brands of shame had been stamped upon them. Here is a chance for the Department of Agriculture to do some effective reformatory work.

LET ALL THE ASSURED ASSIST.

The question of the taxation of life insurance is now everywhere receiving attention. The mischievous nature of a tax upon provision for widows and orphans and old age is obvious to all. The Province of Quebec is one of the worst of sinners in this respect, as it exacts one and three-quarters percent on the total gross premiums collected in this province, besides giving various municipalities the power to harass the insurance companies in various ways. In justice, however, to the present Prime Minister, Sir Lomer Gouin, and his cabinet, it may be said that they now fully realize that the provincial tax is excessive, and have promised to reduce the same. Some of the municipalities, however, act in the most arbitrary fashion. Their charters give them the power to tax life insurance companies doing business within their bounds peremptorily, and they have been known to arrest an insurance man in the street and hold him in custody until the tax, varying from ten to two hundred dollars, has been paid. One would think only extreme ignorance, or the spirit of the highwayman could lead to such holding up of a beneficent business. In addition to taxing the solicitor, business taxes are exacted from the companies wherever there is the slightest pretext to claim that they have an office or agent. In Ontario, it is somewhat better, as there the provincial tax is one and a half percent on the gross premium income, but the municipalities are not allowed to tax the companies. Quebec and Ontario are the two worst offenders, as in the other provinces the taxation is not nearly so onerous. In Nova Scotia, for instance, there is a fixed tax of two hundred and fifty dollars, but Halifax itself imposes a tax of a hundred dollars.

The latest authority to deal with this matter is the Hon. John Dryden, president of the Prudential Insurance Company of America, who spoke of its importance in an address at the second annual meeting of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents, at New York. He urged that the question is one of the utmost importance at this time, and that all concerned should assist in practical suggestions as to the best methods and means by which, if possible, to obtain reductions of taxation, and, at least, effectually to resist any attempt at further increases. As Mr. Dryden says, whatever opinion may be held as to where the burden of taxation falls in other matters, there can be no question of doubt as regards life insurance, for there the policyholder and the policyholder only, pays the tax and carries the burden. And it should require no argument to establish the principle, economically and morally, that life insurance, which makes so decidedly for human betterment, should not be taxed at all. That is, however, more or less an academic position, as there is little doubt that governments will continue to demand more or less of the policyholders' accumulations for general purposes of public taxation. Mr. Dryden does not object so much to the taxation of the real property owned by life insurance companies, so long as it is taxed at the same rate as the property of other commercial institutions, nor does he raise any serious objections to reasonable license fees, nor to the expenses of an effective system of state supervision, since these, he considers, in the aggregate, do not impose a very heavy burden upon the policyholders.

The most crying and intolerable evil is the excessive taxes on premiums or on reserves. These are readily apparent evidences of existing wealth, and for that reason are most convenient sources of taxation. Nevertheless, those taking advantage of this are either ignorant of the fact that one great result achieved by life insurance is the relieving of the state from the possible burden of supporting dependent survivors and dependent poor in old age, or they wilfully ignore it. No other institution, not even savings banks, or building and loan associations, serves so unselfish and laudable a purpose as life insurance, and in return for this service to the state life insurance ought not to have to bear special taxation just because its accumulations of wealth are a matter of record and easily reached by the tax assessor. Mr. Dryden suggests that it is an important duty on the part of all administrative officers of life insurance companies to enlist public opinion generally and the co-operation of the policyholders in particular in a determined effort to oppose any further increase in this taxation, and so far as possible to secure a material reduction of the same. Legislators and politicians should be educated up to the fact that insurance itself is a tax, self-imposed by prudent and self-sacrificing men and women, primarily for the benefit of others. That so enormous a burden at present imposed practically to penalize thrift in its most desirable form is more than heavy enough and should be relieved, will be the opinion of all serious men who will give the matter a moment's attention. Legislators should surely not have to be told that those who voluntarily burden themselves either to provide for others after their own death, or to provide for their own old age, deserve the greatest encouragement. Providing for old age in this country is of paramount importance, as here there is no system of poor relief as in the old country, no eleemosynary old age pensions, and only the jail to be sent to in an indigent old age if one is bereft of friends. If all policyholders would work along the lines suggested reform would be wrought within the next few months.

THE APOTHEOSIS OF SHODDY.

Some months ago 'Industrial Canada,' the organ of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, published an article entitled 'Death in the shoddy,' which, if it had been true, was a terrible indictment of the cheaper Yorkshire clothes. It charged that the rags out of which shoddy is made are reeking with disease, and that those who handle them in any way expose themselves to danger. This article aroused ridicule here and much excited criticism in England. Among the papers which defended shoddy from the hygienic point of view was the 'Canadian Textile Journal.' The 'Textile Journal' showed that in the process of manufacture the shoddy was cleansed of all impurities and was perfectly wholesome, but it deprecated the use of it extensively by Canadian woollen manufacturers, preferring the 'all-wool' goods. It will be remembered also that Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the annual banquet of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association recommended the woollen manufacturers to make what the people wanted. If they want shoddy, why in the name of common sense cannot you manufacture it, he asked. Whereupon he was assailed by those who charged that he had counselled the degradation of the Canadian woollen manufacturing trade.

In the light of these events it is interesting and refreshing to read an article in the December number of the 'Canadian Textile Journal,' which postulates that 'Whether we are conscious of it or 'not there is a good deal of hypocrisy 'in the attitude of the average man to-'wards shoddy.' There is,' it says, 'more or less shoddy in nearly every-'thing the average man uses or wears, 'if we take the expression in its broad 'sense and real meaning.' Thus the veneered piece of furniture is shoddy, plated silverware and rolled or washed gold articles are shoddy, not five percent of so-called linen paper is made from real linen rags, sausage is but meat in a shoddy form, and 'so we might range 'through the whole realm of art and in-'dustry and find shoddy at every stage 'and in every process':

And yet, such is the lack of penetration and discernment in the average human mind, there is probably no word in our language so much misused and misunderstood, and no article of all the products we use in life so much abused as the 'shoddy' of textile fabrics. It is true of manufactured materials in general that if none but the true, pure and solid materials alone were permitted to be used in the industrial processes the ordinary man would be suddenly deprived of nearly all the comforts of life, which he is now able to get at a modest price. And, above all, if the re-manufacture of wool could be prohibited, the ordinary man would soon go naked, or have to revert to the habits of the ancient Britons, and clothe himself in the skins of sheep and goats. This might do much to restore the declining sheep industry of Canada, and would, no doubt, stimulate the tanning business, but it would be hard on the merchant tailor, who assures you he never uses anything but pure wool imported goods in the suits he makes up. The hypocrisy at the base of the talk about shoddy would then be laid bare with cruel suddenness and certainty, seeing that the sheep of the whole world do not produce wool for one-twentieth part of the goods sold as fabrics of pure, full-length wool.

Mr. Edward Stanwood and other authorities tell us that there is perhaps no article used in manufacture and no article in common use that bears a reputation more undeserved than shoddy. Its very name is a synonym for pretence and fraud. Many people have an idea that goods containing shoddy are not only destitute of wearing quality, but suggest the unwholesome second-hand clothing shop, and inspire apprehension lest the fabric should communicate loathsome disease. All this, however, is unwarranted by the facts, and the 'Canadian Textile Journal' has now come to the conclusion that shoddy is necessary in the modern woollen industry, and that it ought to be made in Canada from Canadian wool and Canadian rags. 'It is true,' says this Canadian organ of the trade, 'that the 'process of carbonizing woollen rags is 'of itself a disinfectant, as we have ex-'plained, but in handling raw rags there 'will be less danger of disease from 'Canadian rags than from materials 'that come from some quarters of Eur-'ope. Hence, we should have a duty on 'foreign rags as well as shoddy, if only 'as a preventive measure.'

Thus all roads lead to protection from whatever direction they may start. Canadian protectionists now have a new and inspiring cry: 'Canadian rags for Canadians!' The whole question reduces itself to one of moral and economic law. We were not prepared for the information that not over one-twentieth part of the woollen clothing in the world is original sheep's wool, and that all the rest is shoddy or adulteration. We presume that he that can buy the real article or something like the real article will get full value for his money in good wear, and possibly has his clothing more cheaply than he who buys a more mixed stuff. On the other hand, if the same wool can be with profit used over and over again for human clothing it would be a moral wrong to mankind to waste the enormous values that can be so used. It is, moreover, an economic necessity that it should be so used. Until it can be proved that it is dangerous to life, which is absurd, it will be impossible to forbid it. It may safely be assumed that Canadian rags, like all other rags, are used for shoddy making. But this loyalty of our manufacturing friends that we should at any expense to ourselves limit ourselves to Canadian rags goes beyond ours.

A CHASTENED WILLIAM.

The Emperor of Germany has probably more of the sympathy of the world and of his own people in the mental suffering attendant on humiliating experiences than ever he had in the days when he was attitudinizing and strutting before mankind, and we are sure that the general wish is that he should emerge from this crisis a benign and greatly loved sovereign. This he will, no doubt, do if his present self-effacement means that he accepts the rebuke which the national outburst has given him and is resolving that there shall not again be cause for it. How that may be time will tell. Reports that His Majesty is passing through a series of soul-storms of a most violent nature may be mere gossip. Yet they are not of a sort to surprise any one who remembers how, as a boy, he was headstrong, self-willed, impatient of control, and had an immense opinion of his own genius and importance. When his grandfather died he displayed an unfilial desire to have his father set aside, for the reason that he was suffering from an incurable disease, and that the constitution provided for the passing over of the direct heir in favor of the heir presumptive under such circumstances. But Frederick, 'unser Fritz,' as he was popularly called by the army, had too strong a hold on the affection of the nation to permit the close of his brilliant career to be thus eclipsed by one whose wisdom was not to be counted on. It will be remembered that when the objection was raised Sir Morell Mackenzie, a famous English physician, was called into consultation by the German medical attendants on the Prince, and it was, in accordance with the opinion given by that expert that the objection was overruled and Frederick proclaimed Emperor. His reign was short, and William leaped upon the throne like one whose right to it has been unjustly withheld. In all his early utterances he glorified his grandfather as a demi-god and ignored his own very noble father.

His behaviour at that time and subsequently towards his mother was of a piece with the course he had pursued towards his father. She had, of course, been a strong defender of the Emperor Frederick's claim. There was an attempt to deprive her of the full income to which she was entitled, as Dowager Empress. What share the young Emperor or Bismarck, who had no love for the Englishwoman, had in this matter has never been made clear. At all events it failed, and her rights, both to rank and fortune, were conceded. These facts, however, had the effect of lowering British estimation of the young Kaiser's character. As the eldest daughter of Queen Victoria, and Princess Royal of Great Britain, and for her personal virtues and amiability, she held a warm place in the hearts of the British people, who resented the attempt that had been made to deprive her of her rights. If her son had no part in that attempt, he showed no particular care to support her claims, a fact which lies at the bottom of British distrust of the Kaiser, for there is no people more deeply impressed with the sentiment of filial duty than the British.

In his career as Emperor, William has proved the truth of the proverb, that the boy is father to the man. His overbearing nature shown in the way he dismissed Bismarck, his erratic excursions in foreign affairs, his fondness for making startling utterances, theatrical displays of himself in public and his efforts to appear before an admiring world as a universal genius, master of all the arts and sciences, supreme arbiter in everything, from the set of a button on a coat to the command of an army, and the settlement of theological disputes, all went to prove that, while he was a man of undoubtedly great and versatile ability, he was devoured by vanity, that he lacked ballast and that his habit of acting on impulse was a constant cause of irritation to foreign governments, and of apprehension to his own people. Now he has retired, like Achilles to his tent, to emerge, perhaps, some day, a chastened, better-balanced man. All men make mistakes, some of which are reparable and others irreparable. William's great mistake, which has brought him the deep displeasure of his people, was not ill-meant. The way, indeed, in which the badly-balanced short story of his English proclivities got abroad reads like burlesque. Anyway, there is no doubt that the humiliation he has suffered has been an exquisite torture to a man of his highly-strung, sensitive nature. It is now for him to trust his people more, and for his people to forgive if not forget.

HOPE OF LONG LIFE.

Statistics carefully kept for business purposes by life insurance companies show that the span of human life is lengthening, owing, no doubt, to improved sanitary conditions, including more scientific oversight, a higher standard of comfort, a more cultivated intelligence, and a better practice of the self-regarding virtues. In these strenuous days all who would escape disease, and keep their powers at the high point of efficiency needed, so as not to fail or be cast aside in the struggle of competition, must study and practice the science of life. It is common to believe and there are teachings which imply that the consequences of wrong conduct can be averted by cures of a material or moral kind, but nature morally and physically knows no forgiveness. A wound either way may be healed, but the scar remains, and the person is never again the same as before the wound was inflicted. Bad conduct, even involuntary errors, however made, are wounds the depth of which can only be measured by their far-off consequences. How careful, then, should everyone be to know himself, to reverence his own body and preserve the purity of his mind. This is the most important branch of education, and it is hopeful that it has been taken up scientifically with a view to public instruction. Professor Metchnikoff, the Russion sub-director of the Pasteur Institute, who is to receive half the Nobel prize this year for medico-physiological research, has announced that he will devote the money to further the means to prolong human life. He will, he said, follow the example of Frederick Passy, Theodore Roosevelt and other recipients of Nobel prizes in other fields of human endeavor, and use the ninety-five thousand francs (819,000), in continuing his efforts to discover how the body can be saved from being needlessly sacrificed before its time.

Professor Metchnikoff is hopeful. Comparatively speaking, he calls seventy or eighty years 'early youth,' and declares that a hundred and fifty years at least should be the ordinary limit of human life. Confining himself to the physical aspect of the problem, he believes that the next generation will succeed in this truly dramatic undertaking, for a war is going on in the intestines quite as remarkable as any which imaginary writers describe as taking place at some future time between the inhabitants of Mars and the earth. No one who realizes the multiplicity of preventible injurious and deteriorating conditions that are shortening life will regard this as altogether the wild dream of an enthusiast. It should be an inspiration to everyone to take part in the hopeful war. The fight which each individual has to wage with vicious tendencies is often a hopeless one, and, in that case, is a losing one. There is an old and true motto that hope maketh not ashamed. A realization of what can be accomplished by virtue is a better aid to virtue than warnings as to what will be the result of vice. On the other hand, the established fact that the sins of the fathers are visited upon the children to the third and fourth generation, should make sensible men heed the monition of what they owe to those who will come after them, and so order their lives that they may leave a legacy of right conduct which, we are bound to believe, will be as good for their posterity as the consequences of sin are evil? Such an attitude towards life as that which Professor Metchnikoff exemplifies gives the lie to Voltaire's cynical saying in 'Candide': 'My son, 'this was a bad old world when you 'came into it, and it will be no better 'when you leave it.'

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords is evidently of the opinion of the tariff stand-patters of the United States. The slogan of the stand-patters is that the tariff must be reformed by its friends, the Republicans, and not by its enemies, the Democrats. Reforming of the tariff by its friends means, of course, that it will be a bogus reform that shall not really curtail any privilege, although it may appear to do so; while the reforming of the House of Lords by its friends will inevitably have for its object the strengthening and not the weakening of that body. Yet the programme of the Committee of the House of Lords, which has been considering a plan for its mending, certainly has attractive features. It is not desirable, says the committee, that all peers shall sit and vote in the Upper House, and it actually recommends that superior qualifications should be the main test of admission. Its idea is to have all the hereditary peers formed into an electoral body for the purpose of electing two hundred of their number as the Lords of Parliament, not for life, however, but only for a single parliament. The clerical or 'spiritual' vote would be reduced, too, and made elective, while representatives of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa would sit, presumably as peers of the realm. Besides this, it is recommended that a hundred and thirty hereditary peers should sit without the necessity of election, these to include men who have held the post of cabinet ministers, viceroys, governors-general of the self-governing colonies, governors-general of the larger crown colonies, naval and military officers of high rank, and those who have served twenty years in the House of Commons. The committee is also persuaded that the party in power should be able to count on a substantial following in the House of Lords, but could not make up its mind as to how this could be done. An obvious way, of course, would be to give any government powers to appoint a substantial proportion of the House.

The plan is no doubt well meant, and has a most attractive appearance, but in that lies a certain danger. It subtly recommends the removal of many of the objections that have been offered against the House of Lords for generations. Why should birth of itself give a right to legislate? asks the reformer. Is it not a disgrace that the libertine, the blackguard and the fool should sit in authority over a great nation because their fathers, who may have been worthy, did it before them? Well, it is proposed to remove all this, to elect only the most honorable, or distinguished, or most capable of the body, and in other ways to make it one of the most brilliant, intellectual, and powerful bodies in the world. But will that be better for democracy, for needed reforms, for a growing freedom? Scarcely. The House of Lords would no longer be a tottering fiction, afraid of its own shadow, but a newly-fortified and strongly entrenched stronghold of privilege well-nigh impregnable. The House of Lords, as at present constituted, has so many weaknesses that it has always winced under the fire of the country's criticism, and in the end has had to give way to the demands of the House of Commons. But the new body would have had many of those weaknesses eliminated, and would challenge any opinion but its own as disorganized, ill-considered, inferior, even contemptible. It is proverbial, however, that the House of Lords must be either mended or ended, and to any criticism the committee which has faced the question in an open-minded spirit can well answer, can you improve upon our suggestions?

'WORLD WIDE.'

The following are the contents of last week's issue of 'World Wide.':

ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Mr. Balfour on Tariff Reform—English Papers.
Lord Cromer on Free Trade—English Papers.
High Licences—The 'Nation,' London.
Summary of the New Education Bill—English Papers.
The Education Bill—Allocation of Time for Religious Instruction—The 'Daily Chronicle,' London.
Is the German Language to Blame for the Kaiser's Uttered Indiscretions? — The 'Evening Post,' New York.
First Steps in Constitutionalism—The 'Nation,' London.
Democracy in Finland—From a Finnish Correspondent in the Manchester 'Guardian.'
On Being Inadequate—The 'Independent,' New York.
Some Experiences of Englishwomen Political Offenders in the Twentieth Century—Louisa Phillips, in the 'Commonwealth,' London.
Lord Mayor's Day—By the Author of 'Collections and Recollections' in the Manchester 'Guardian.'

SOMETHING ABOUT THE ARTS.

John of Scorel—By C. Lewis Hind, in the 'Daily Chronicle,' London.
A Memory of Edwin Booth—The 'Tribune,' New York.

CONCERNING THINGS LITERARY.

The Twilight Way—By A.W., in the 'Daily Chronicle,' London.
Dante's Intuition of the Infinite—By S. Udny, in the 'Contemporary Review,' London.
Lady Priestley's Reminiscences—The 'Scottish Review,' Edinburgh.
'A Poor Man's House'—John Buchan, in the 'Westminster Gazette.'

HINTS OF THE PROGRESS OF KNOWLEDGE.

Science Correcting Science—The 'Evening Post,' New York.
Spelling: Old and New—'T.P.'s Weekly,' London.
An Old Custom Vindicated—Draught-Inducing Properties of the Poker—Manchester 'Guardian.'

PASSING EVENTS.

THINGS NEW AND OLD.

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'Enclosed please find money order for which please send me 'World Wide' and 'Canadian Pictorial' for 12 months each from date of expiry. I have taken 'World Wide' four years and I consider it indispensable.'

(Rev.) Edward M. Bland,
Hamilton, Bermuda.

LETTERS FROM READERS.

Correspondents are urged to keep in mind the fact that, in the fag of to-day, their letters are likely to gain attention in proportion to their brevity rather than by their length, and that it is far more within our powers to print short letters than long ones.

THE WORK OF THE SALOON.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—I have been in practice in Montreal exactly thirty years, the first twenty of which were spent almost entirely among the poor. I can truly say that of all the poverty and misery I have come in contact with during the whole of this long experience, at least ninety percent was due to drink. I have known an expert workman who could earn three dollars a day when he was sober enough to work, spend the whole of his wages in the saloons, so that the home was supported by the toil of the unhappy wife and children. This poor man often told me that it was impossible for him to get home without passing twenty saloons; he claimed that he could have passed five without going in. Another woman lost her husband through the saloons at an early age, and as each of her five sons grew up they died or became outcasts through drink. You may imagine how bitter her feelings against the saloons must be. I have seen a great many saloonkeepers die themselves at an early age from drink, but everyone knows that their occupation is classed by the insurance companies as being so dangerous that they will not insure them at all on ordinary terms. If the license fee were raised to the one thousand dollars, to be paid to the city, and one thousand to the province every year, it would have the effect of reducing by at least a half the awful poverty and misery at present inflicted on the wives and children of the workingmen. Although two thousand dollars may seem a large amount for a license, no one conversant with the amount of poverty and crime directly due to the saloons would say that that sum would pay even a fifth of what it costs to take care of the criminals and the poor made so by each of them. Why do not all the women in Montreal bind themselves into a league to persuade their husbands and brothers and lovers to vote for a high license of two thousand dollars a year? And as the man who attends the saloons will not attend church even for the sake of the example to his children, why do the clergy of all denominations not organize these high license leagues, by which the misery caused by the saloons could be so greatly reduced. I have been told that the money spent in saloons in ten years would build a comfortable stone front house for every workingman in Montreal.

A FRIEND OF THE DRUNKARD AND HIS FAMILY.

THE REV. DR. PATERSON-SMYTH AND THE HEREAFTER.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Permit me the use of a little space in your columns to express my sincere regret and deepest apprehension at the continual attacks made against the Christian Faith and the teaching of the Anglican Communion by the Rev. Dr. Paterson-Smyth, rector of the parish of St. George in this city.

It would be folly on the part of the laity to continue in silence, while the very fundamental principles of the Christian Creed are being constantly tampered with and boldly denied by ministers of the Church of England, and from the very pulpits of their respective churches the beliefs of ages past are condemned as worn-out garments and cast aside as worthless relics of the past.

The esteemed rector of St. George's, speaking from the pulpit made famous by the late Bishop Carmichael, has repeatedly made assertions which I consider contrary to the teachings of the Church of England.

In his discourse of the 6th inst., and published in part, the Rev. Doctor Smyth has again denied the doctrine of eternal punishment, and declared that no soul had yet reached its final destiny—none had ever gone to heaven, neither had any been cast into eternal ruin.

Now, Mr. Editor, had the Church of England been an offshoot of the Eastern or Greek Church, had we been of Eastern civilization instead of owing our Christianity and civilization to the Church of the West, less note might be taken of Dr. Smyth's assertions. But, springing as we do from the Latin church of the Western world, it has always been part of my belief that we inherit much that the oriental denies. Such, for instance, the Holy Trinity and the Beatific Vision after death as taught by the Church of Rome, both in east and west, north and south.

From my youth have I been taught that when on the day of Christ's descent into hell, He preached to the spirits the glad tidings of their redemption from the prison and the near approach of their entry into heaven.

However, according to the Rev. Dr. Smyth, my fond mother erred when she instilled such a belief into my youthful mind, and my Sunday School teacher also was astray when she confirmed that belief.

The Rev. Rector of St. George's enters into the subject matter of his sermon of denial by leaving the blame of our present belief in the existence of hell and the reward or punishment of the soul immediately after death upon our misconception of the true meaning of the word 'hell' as found in St. Luke, Chap. xvi., verses 22-23, where, according to him, the word 'Hades' should appear instead of 'Hell.'

Now, I do not wish to lay claim upon any advanced knowledge of Latin or Greek, neither do I profess to be a theologian of either the ancient or modern school, but I hope the Rev. Dr. Smyth will not think it amiss, if I advance a few observations in defence of the older belief of the doctrine of hell and of judgment after death.

When in the days of the Reformation, and for one hundred years following, the ruling authorities of the Church of England by law established, were assorting, as it were, the doctrines of the Church and were casting aside some they considered savored too much of Romanism, one of the greatest bugbears they encountered was the Roman Catholic doctrine of Purgatory, or that intermediate state of souls where some spirits suffered a temporal punishment for lesser sins or for the expiation of the punishment, which, according to the Roman Church, remains after the guilt of sin has been forgiven.

Now, there was to be no purgatory or intermediate state tolerated in the Creed of the Church of England; therefore, the Roman doctrine was condemned in no uncertain language, and all the adherents of the Church were taught that there existed but two places in the life beyond the grave, i.e., heaven and hell.

The principal difficulty encountered by our forefathers in getting rid of this place of temporal punishment lay in the glaring fact that the doctrine was found at every turn in the Bible, both in the Old and New Testaments. Found where it was least expected, and the methods employed by our forefathers to get over the difficulty are enough to bring the blush of shame to the cheek of every honest Anglican of our day. Wherever the interpreters of the Scriptures, whose task was the making of the Protestant version, came across the word 'hell,' which left any doubt as to whether it meant a place of temporal punishment or the eternal fires of the damned, they had a very artful way of bridging the difficulty which, I presume, satisfied their consciences, but which has never satisfied mine, and I am sure there are many of our church members who agree with me.

That there existed a place in which souls, who would ultimately reach heaven when the seals of the New Jerusalem were opened by the blood of the Saviour, and who had died before the coming of the Lord, who will deny! That this was an intermediate place and not the hell of the damned, few will question, and now comes our first difficulty, and evidently proves the shoal on which the Rev. Dr. Smyth has, like many another, found much distress, and it is also the rock upon which I hope to shatter to pieces his vain denial of an eternal place of punishment in the land beyond the grave and immediate judgment after death.

In dealing with a question of such vast importance, before which all others sink into insignificance, we must strive to be candid and humble. Candid in our acceptance of plain facts and humble in our prayer to God for enlightenment.

What, therefore, is meant by the word 'Hell' as we find it in St. Luke xvi., 22-23. Let us first go back to the Book of Psalms, and in Ps. lxxxvi., 13; lxxxix., 48, etc., we will find the word appearing.

In Psalm lxxxvi., verse 13, I find in the Latin Vulgate the following: 'Et eruisti animam meam ex inferno inferiori,' which would give us in true English, according to the Rhemish translation: 'Thou hast delivered my soul from the "lower hell."' not as in the Protestant version (Ed. Lon., au 1683), 'lowest hell.' Here we see at once that a great distinction is made in the Old Testament between the lower and lowest hell.

Before Christ's ascension Abraham was in hell, and when Lazarus died he also went into hell, but into a place of rest and peace, and not into the hell of the damned, wherein was cast the rich glutton that lay in torments. The lower hell, therefore, as St. Augustine declares, is the place wherein the damned are tormented; the higher hell is that where the souls of the just awaited the coming of the Redeemer. Christ descended into this hell and preached to the spirits detained there.

To get over this distinction between the lower hell and the lowest hell, our translators constantly omitted the term 'lower hell,' using 'lowest hell' instead—meaning the place of the damned. And again, when we come across the word 'hell,' signifying a place of temporal wait and not eternal ruin, it is sure to be translated by Protestant translators 'grave,' as in Psalm lxxxvi., 13, where we have in the Latin Vulgate the word 'infernus,' and in the Greek 'hades,' signifying 'hell,' the Protestant translators get over, or think they get over the difficulty by translating such words into the English 'grave,' yet every schoolboy who has studied the Latin or Greek languages for a few years would know that the Latin for 'grave' is 'sepulchrum,' and the Greek would be 'taphos.'

And again, as a reward of a too zealous following of the interpretation of Beza, we find in Hebrews v., 7, the following: 'Which' in days of his flesh, etc., 'and was heard in that he feared.' The Latin Vulgate renders 'pro sua reverentia,' 'apo tes eulabelas.' This, you will readily see, follows the invention of Calvin's doctrine, 'that Jesus, upon the cross, was horribly afraid of damnation: and that he was in the very sorrows and torments of the damned: and that this was his descending into hell: and otherwise he descended not.

The Rev. Dr. Smyth would use the 'open' word 'Hades' as his interpretation, instead of 'Hell,' as found in Luke xvi., 22, 23, in an endeavor to prove first that no soul was yet in hell and, consequently, none was yet judged, and, secondly, that there was no eternal punishment, but only an intermediate place of waiting. Is this not something new to Anglicanism? Has not the Church made itself look weak in the eyes of all enlightened Christians by the way she denied the doctrine of an intermediate state, and here, in the twentieth century, hell is no more, purgatory reigns in its stead.

Roman Catholics hold the belief of a purgatory, and not without reason, as I showed above, but they also accept the doctrines of a hell and heaven. They believe that with Jesus went many of the souls of the just, who died in ages past, and such a belief is, to my mind, what the Anglicans always held until new lights appeared in the firmament.

If the rich glutton was not judged after death, how comes it he was in great suffering in the flames and longed for water for his burning tongue?

In my humble opinion Dr. Smyth's teaching will not stand an honest test, the word 'Hades' meaning the hereafter certainly cannot be applied in the texts quoted. I am convinced that the majority of Anglicans will reject Dr. Smyth's interpretation in favor of the more logical and ancient one of the Church of the Western world.

HARRY L. SANDERS.

Dec. 7, 1908.

Note.—The above writer makes the plea that as the preacher has the pulpit to himself, the layman must look to the press for his opportunity of public expression. The minister has certainly an equal right to the press that the layman has, but may or may not think it well to make his preaching the subject of public controversy. In the letter above, most readers of to-day will meet with ideas entirely new to them in its Dantesque topography of spiritual 'places' derived from the mediaeval materialization of shadowy phrases of oriental emotion. When the devout, seeking to peer behind the veil, explored the Latin ossification of these tropes, metaphors and allegories, each of them became a cosmographic revelation. For instance, out of the expression lower hell, meaning probably a condition of discouragement or despondency is constructed a whole series of hells, the upper, the lower and the lowest. The writer seems inclined to correct the Hebrew of the Old Testament by the Latin and Greek. His accusation of Protestant misrepresentation not only on the part of the King James, but also of the Victorian translators, is going a little far.

LITERARY REVIEW.

A GREAT NOVEL.

One of the notable new books is 'The Cliff End,' by E. C. Booth (The Macmillan Co. of Canada, $1.25). The work of a new writer, this story is by many adjudged a place with the novels of Hardy and De Morgan, in the front rank of English fiction of to-day. The scene is laid in a Yorkshire village by the sea, affording opportunity for the delineation of village life and character. Of all the characters the greatest is the high church vicar, Father Mostyn, who marches majestic through village and story with terrific 'Ha!' and accusing forefinger for the guilty, but help and comfort for the needy, and especially fatherly advice and guardianship for the gentle heroine, Pam. From the day that her mother's death left the little girl a friendless stranger in Ullbrig, Pam's sweet nature and intense power of loving had won her the devotion of all the simple country people from the postmaster and his family, who gave her a home, to the roughest village swain, who felt her gentle influence and did homage to her worth. Her fine instincts, clear mind and love of music have convinced the vicar that she comes of gentle blood, and he takes her education in hand. Under his care Pam grows up a clever housewife, a good scholar, a fair musician, and, above all, a slave of conscience. Then she is given the position of mail-carrier, 'post-girl,' as she calls it, and braves all weathers in the discharge of her duty. The arrival of a summer visitor, locally described as a 'Spawer,' with a piano and other wonderful luggage, causes great excitement in Ullbrig, and brings into the even tenor of Pam's life the disturbing rapture of music and love. The vicar aids and abets Providence, holds musical evenings for three, where the 'Spawer's music and Pam's cookery combine to produce unmixed delight. At last Maurice Wynne awakens from his pleasant dream to a memory of another girl to whom he is in honour bound. He resolves on fleeing from temptation and tells Pam he is about to go home. Pam's whole world is thrown into confusion. Then comes temptation—a letter, the letter of summons, as Pam supposes, arrives, and Pam fails to deliver it. This first deception of her innocent life brings upon her the tortures of a tender conscience. In her endeavor to hide the letter till she may deliver it on her next round, Pam awakens the jealous suspicion of the schoolmaster, who boards in the house, and who is consumed by a burning hopeless love for her. He finds the letter, abstracts it and by threatening exposure, succeeds, after long torture, in extracting from Pam a promise to be his wife. The horror of the situation, is however, too much for the girl, and she resolves to run away. She leaves a letter of confession and the stolen letter on Maurice's window, and makes her way over the downs towards the sea. Her flight is discovered by the schoolmaster, and, in a frenzy, he follows her, finds Maurice out on the downs, and in a mad struggle pushes him over the sea cliff. His wild scream, as his victim disappears, summons Pam to the rescue. She discovers her lover on a ledge of rock below, and climbs down to him, but he is too much injured to ascend. They face death together before the rising tide. A last call from Pam brings help from a passing farmer and they are drawn up to safety. The letter turns out to be a release from Maurice's former engagement, and they are free to love each other, which they do ecstatically. In the last chapter Pam's lineage turns out to be as distinguished as the vicar had divined. The analysis of character and motive lends fascination to a very long story which never halts, though parts of the plot are somewhat hackneyed.

A MILTON STORY.

John Milton's romance is the subject of a charming tale, 'The Binding of the Strong,' by Caroline Atwater Mason (Hodder & Sloughton, 6s.). The keynote of the story is found in its motto, 'Who best can suffer, best can do.' It is through much tribulation that the poet enters into his Kingdom. The opening scene is in Milton's quiet study in Aldersgate street, where several boys and a girl are busy at their Latin. The girl, Delme Davies, is of Huguenot descent, belonging to one of the families of 'Undercrofters, who worship in the Crypt or Undercroft of Canterbury Cathedral. She is a vivacious, clever girl, of strong feelings and fine character, though fond of mischief, and is absolutely devoted to her master, who is quite unconscious either of the devotion or of the budding womanhood of his pupil. Unconscious of the treasure so close to him, Milton is fascinated by the charms of Mistress Mary Powell, pink and white and seventeen, who comes up with her mother from the country to ask Milton's clemency in the matter of a mortgage. After a short courtship of a few weeks Milton brings his wife to his quiet, scholarly home. All too late the demure prettiness proves to cover an entirely shallow and selfish nature and after six weeks of pouting, Mary Milton leaves her husband to a dreary sense of loss and disappointment, and returns to the rollicking hospitality of her father's house. Delme then proves what she has told Milton in answer to his rebuke for her mischievous pranks, that she is as true a woman or truer than Mary Powell. She is his constant friend and greatest comfort. The poet's passion for her ecomes so great that he meditates the then almost unheard-of step of securing a divorce. His pamphlet 'On Divorce,' is published and causes widespread discussion, and disapproval. Just as he is on the point of asking Delme to be his wife, Mary Milton appears on the scene, saddened and humbled, and pleads to be taken back. Delme decides, though it almost breaks her heart, that this is the only right course. She is almost exhausted by the struggle to uproot her love for Milton when she is saved from herself by her cousin, and constant lover, Prosper Unwin, who takes wise advice, carries her off to his estate of Waleheren and wins her for his wife. The closing scene is once more between master and pupil, when Milton tells her of his coming blindness, and at the same time of his hope, 'though I must sing darkling, I yet shall sing of things invisible to mortal sight.' The story is finely written, with passion and free movement, with descriptive passages of considerable power. Perhaps the finest piece of description is that of a midnight service on Christmas eve in the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral, where the 'Undercrofters are worshipping by the light of torches fastened to the pillars.

At a height little above the heads of the people when standing, along the ranks of pillars ran the mystic phantasmagoria of the carved capitals—knights speeding their steeds to combat with diabolical monsters, cowled heads of monks, coursing hounds, hideous grotesques, alternating with luxuriant intricacy of flower and leaf. To all this weird medley of images a heightened effect was given by the red and shifting lights from the cressets, throwing them into startling relief or leaving them lurking in impenetrable darkness, like creatures of the night, hovering near, but felt rather than seen. Below on every side stretched the endless, desolate vistas of the crypt, broken here and there by crumbling tombs, with their decaying heraldry and rust-eaten devices. And bright in the embrace of the stony and haunted gloom, was this mass of impassioned humanity, self-dedicated to the Invisible Divine, pledged in high devotion to suffer, and if need be, to die, for the sake of faith. The love of beauty, of joy, and of life, so vivid in these Strangers was manifest in the faces of youths and maidens, in the delicate purity and beauty of costume, in the grace of form and bearing. But no less palpable was the stern loyalty to conviction, the courage to die for an ideal, which could be discerned on the strong faces of the mature men and women.

MORE GOOD FICTION.

That vigorous exponent of the historical romance, Morice Gerard, has made his latest venture in a new field. Instead of the picturesque days of the Stuart or early Hanoverian Sovereigns, he has chosen the present time for his story, with automobiles and swift cruisers and destroyers for his machinery, instead of mail coaches and swash-buckling swordsmen. 'The Pursuer,' by Morice Gerard, (Hodder and Stoughton), is a tale of intrigue concerning a native state in Africa. The headquarters of the plotters is an old castle on the south coast of England. The government obtains information that such a plot is on foot and sets on the track a British officer, Colonel Fenner, who is 'The Pursuer.' His carefully laid plan of exposure is seriously disarranged by the intervention of the little blind god. On board ship the Colonel meets and falls in love with a splendid English girl. The attraction is mutual but the course of true love is not allowed to run smooth. A Greek girl whose father is deeply concerned in the intrigue, also appears on board. She has long been infatuated with Colonel Fenner and seeks to prevent the intercourse between him and Constance. The absent-mindedness of a lover puts the Colonel off his guard when he lands in Portsmouth. His report is stolen from the mail and he is abducted and imprisoned in the castle of the plotters. His liberation is, of course, secured through Constance and her father, just in time to frustrate the plot on the eve of its success. The young detective who aids in the rescue, is attracted by the pretty Greek maiden and the story closes to the tune of a double peal of wedding bells.

One of the most popular volumes of the handy little Nelson Library Series is the brave tale, 'Sir John Constantine,' by 'Q.,' who is A. T. Quiller Couch. (Thos. Nelson & Sons, 7d.) So great was the demand that the first edition was exhausted before the issue was completed. It is a romantic tale of the adventures of a fine old English gentleman, descended from Constantine the Great, who, stirred by the desire to place his son on a throne, buys the succession to the iron crown of Corsica from its bankrupt and exiled owner. He and six others, including his son, sail for Corsica and participate in the struggle between the Corsican patriots and Austria. The son wins, in the end, not his kingdom, but the fair young Amazon who shares with her twin-brother the true rights of inheritance. The terrible adventures and privations which she has undergone, however, prove too much for the Princess and she is won only to be lost again. The would-be king returns to Cornwall a sadder and a wiser man. The gallant old Sir John Constantine lays down his life in the carrying out of his ideas of loyalty and patriotism. The modes of speech and reasoning belonging to the England of the eighteenth century, give a quaint flavor to the story.

Of quite a different tenor from the tales of adventure is 'Cousin Cinderella,' a Canadian girl in London,' by Mrs. Everard Cotes, (The Macmillan Co., of Canada, $1.25.) This suggests by its sub-title that it is a companion volume to the 'American Girl,' who made such a hit some years ago. The Canadian girl, Mary Trent, is by no means so piquant a figure as Miss Mamie Wick, of Chicago. There is too much family relationship between the parts of the empire to allow of any such contrast as that between the Chicago-bred damsel and the stately daughters of an English country house. Miss Trent, daughter of a Canadian lumber king, is accompanied by her brother on a trip to England as 'samples of the Canadian product.' They assist each other in their study of English customs and English society. An American acquaintance is instrumental in introducing them to the latter and she becomes entangled with them in the little romance which forms a secondary interest in the story. Though not so sprightly as the earlier book this contains much keener analysis of English idiosyncracies and shows more intimate acquaintance with the ways of thought and action of the English aristocrats. A people who will not let a woman vote yet will elect her to the proud eminence of master of fox hounds, in the most famous hunt in the country; who will leave no stone unturned, no 'influence' unused to secure for a kinsman the appointment as colonial governor-general, and then weep with him over his banishment to alien shores, form a curious study to one unaccustomed to the conventions and traditions of a historic past. Mrs. Cotes has produced a very entertaining book with some imperialistic ideas at its foundation.

Two volumes of short stories of considerable merit come from the pens of American writers. The 'commuter's wife' has published another volume of the light-hearted, always fascinating, sketches that have made her a familiar friend in many homes. This volume

CURES LUMBAGO, LAME BACK.

It is the very worst sort of pains that give Nerviline a chance to prove how many times stronger is it than any ordinary remedies. Lumbago is dead easy for Nerviline—breaks down the pain right away, soothes away the soreness, makes you limber and sprightly in no time.

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Mr. S. KING, Stratford, Ont., writes:—"My wife has used Dr. Chase's Nerve Food to such good advantage that people are asking her what she has taken to make her so well and healthy looking. Her nervous system was all run down and she had the resulting symptoms of headache, sleeplessness and indigestion. By forming new, rich blood Dr. Chase's Nerve Food has built up her health wonderfully and made her strong and well."

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Is different from any medicine you ever used. While most medicines tear down the tissues of the body this great restorative treatment cures thoroughly by building up the system and thereby overcoming in nature's way the many ills and weaknesses which accompany low vitality. 50 cents a box, 6 for $2.50, at all dealers, or Edmanson Bates & Co., Toronto. The genuine bears the portrait and signature of A. W. Chase, M. D., the famous Receipt Book author.

s lees of the garden and more of the man than most of her work, but it does not lose the wide sympathy that characterizes her stories of birds and flowers. 'The Open Window,' by Barbara, (The Macmillan Co. of Canada, $1.50), is further defined as 'Tales of the Months,' but neither title gives much indication as to the nature of the contents. The only visible connection between the months and the stories is in their number. They are delightful tales for any month, rich in humor and pathos. Several deal with the arrival of foreigners in the United States and present a gentler view of their reception than that generally given in American fiction. The poor Pole and the inexperienced Dane find friendly help and a fair chance in life among the quiet Oakland people. One of the most amusing tales is of the adoption of twin babies by the grim but emotional 'Martha Saunders, née Corkle.' After a month of strenuous mothering her maternal ambitions suffer somewhat from exhaustion, and when a Polish mother arrives to claim 'Victoria and Albert.' her claim is allowed without much protest from Martha, and with recognizable glee on the part of 'Saunders.' Like Thomas Nelson Page and other American short story writers, Barbara has the faculty of making the gentler feelings as artistic and subtle sources of interest as the darker passions which formed the material of such stories a generation ago.

Distinctly in gift book style is the collection of short Indian stories, character sketches and verses entitled 'Weiga of Temagami,' by Cy Warman, (McLeod and Allen). The finely reproduced photographs and drawings and the Indian token design of the page borders, form a harmonious setting for the quaint, weird, sometimes humorous, sometimes tragic, always sympathetic, stories and poems of Indian life and character. Mr. Warman is the wholehearted champion of the simple red man, his gentle daughter and 'the little brown-skinned baby.' He arouses in his readers the sympathy he himself feels with the race which has constantly suffered in its relations with the white man. Beautiful Temagami is the scene of many other tales besides that which lends its title to the volume. Weiga is a fair Ojibway maiden in whom filial devotion strives with a woman's love, but love wins. She finds her hunter alone and ill by Temagami's shores, helps him encamp and tends him in his illness, daring her old father's anger at the invasion of a stranger into his hunting ground, and his still greater rage at his winning the affections of the daughter. The old man works himself into a frenzy and seeks to kill the intruder, but is hindered by a tame bull moose, who guards him. In the battle between the moose and the old man, the latter receives fatal injuries. His reason returns and he is nursed devotedly by Weiga and her lover till death comes to him in the bed of the man he had intended to kill.

'The Sovereign Good,' by Helen Huntingdon (G. P. Putnam's Sons: New York), is a novel of New York society life, showing a happier side of that society than the one made prominent in several recent novels. The heroine, Fidelia, is an intelligent and delicate-minded woman over thirty, who falls in love with a genius much younger than herself. She decides at first to discourage his intermittent admiration, at whatever cost to herself, on account of the unfortunate difference in age. But circumstances lead her to think later that he will be quite as well with her as apart from her, so she makes up her mind to be happy. At this very juncture, he falls in love with a younger girl. Fidelia, being one of the rare characters in whom natural constancy is strong, comes to feel in the course of time that unselfish love apart from any recognition is the sovereign good.

RAPHAEL TUCK'S CALENDARS AND CARDS.

The variety of Raphael Tuck's Christmas cards ranges from the simple postcard with a greeting in gilt across its every-day picture, to the elaborate and artistic kind that adorns any room. The taste for tinsel and the taste for parchment may alike be gratified. In several little landscapes purple and green are used together with very good effect. A most interesting innovation this year is the publication for general use, of cards designed for royalties. Queen Alexandra and Queen Victoria of Spain have given permission for two cards used by them in other years, to be thus published, and a handsome one originally designed for the late Queen Victoria also appears. The latter has a brown cover and heavy brown silk cord, with a sepia reproduction of a picture called the Prince of Peace. It shows the Child in the manger lifting one little arm confidently toward the cherubs bending above. The picture is by H. M. Bennett, as are the pictures on the other cards, two different ideas of the Madonne and Child; the Queen of Spain's choice being the more traditional, Queen Alexandra's the more original. The artist's style is singularly delicate and effective.

Of calendars specially interesting from the artistic point of view, the Dickens calendar of twelve leaves must be mentioned. For each month there are two pictures, the smaller representing a comic figure or scene from Dickens's works; the larger, always an interior, or a landscape with a house in it, associated either with the author or one of his stories. These landscapes and interiors have an atmosphere quite suggestive of romance, and it would have been interesting to know the artist's name. 'Father Tuck's Animal Book' has untearable pages, simple rhymes and quite a menagerie of colored pictures of animals.

ALSO RECEIVED.

'Francois Le Champi,' by George Sand, (London: George Bell & Sons); 'Laoidhean Agus Dain Speoradail,' le Murachadh Macleoid, (Edinburgh: Norman McLeod); 'The Dominion Cook Book,' by Anne Clarke; 'The New Galt Cook Book,' compiled and edited by Margaret Taylor and Frances McNaught, (Toronto: McLeod & Allen); 'Gabrielle Amethyst,' by F. W. Musgrave; 'The Genius of Shakespeare,' and other essays,' by W. F. Osborne, M.A., (Toronto: William Briggs); 'The Battle of the Microbes,' (New York: The Merchants Association); 'Wayside Wells.' 'Thoughts for Sabbath Evenings, Selected from the Writings and Sermons of the Rev. Andrew Bonar, D.D., by his daughter, Marjory Bonar, (London: Hodder & Stoughton); 'The Boy's Own Paper,' 'The Girl's Own Paper,' 'Sunday at Home,' 'The Bohemian,' 'Canadian Magazine.'

LITERARY NOTES.

FOR THE COOK.

At this season of the year when so many dainties are in requisition, when hospitality broadens out its borders in almost every home, the puzzled housewife should have a ready welcome for such an assistant as 'The Dominion Cook Book,' edited by Anne Clarke, and published by McLeod and Allen, Toronto. 'One thousand practical recipes,' says the announcement, but with them is included much of practical advice on the choosing of meats, the various means of preparing it, and how to know good poultry, fish and vegetables. Something of what can be done with these last is evidenced in one hundred recipes for their preparation. Home-made bread is provided for in twenty simple recipes, and three ways are given of producing that prime favorite of the year, the Christmas pudding. It is good to see that a book calling itself by the name of our country is also characterisitically temperate, even the invalid cookery, which is so fully dealt with, being free from the objectionable insistence on the use of stimulants. 'The Dominion Cook Book' will be a sturdy friend and acceptable in the most strictly teetotal homes of our temperate Dominion.

From the same publishers we receive a new edition of 'The Galt Cook Book,' compiled and edited by Margaret Taylor and Frances McNaught. Many of the recipes here included, indeed most, are credited to the cooks who will vouch for their reliability and, as in the former book, there is a section reserved at the end for the inclusion of other favorite recipes of the individual housewife or her friends. It is to be regretted that there are many directions for the brewing of fermented drinks at home, and that the glass of wine or brandy is by no means an unusual ingredient in suggested delicacies, even the Christmas pudding in all its hearty richness not being allowed to escape it.

DECEMBER NUMBERS.

It is rather to be expected that the 'Book News Monthly' should make a feature this December of the Milton Tercentenary. There are several articles and a large collection of pictures in honor of the great poet, but their number is not alone the cause of this magazine's extra bulk this month. The book section is unusually large, as is fitting, since it offers suggestions to the Christmas buyer, and what is so universally acceptable as a book or what other line of goods shows anything like the variety? This guide to the latest books is amply illustrated, and there is a large number of reviews of new books, both fiction and general works.

One of the grim tales of winter and distress which the great trapping districts of our continent have afforded is John G. Neihardt's short sketch of 'The Epic-Minded Scot' in December 'Outing.' The frontispiece is a colored picture in connection with this story. The number is rather rich in illustrations; colored and not, full page and sketch, they are certainly to the fore this month. Bird life has its fair share of attention in three articles, 'Birds with a Handicap,' by Herbert K. Job; 'Liveliest of the Birds,' by T. S. Van Dyke, and 'When the Ducks Begin to Fly,' by H. D. Treeper, jr. Among the other contributions, Agnes C. Laut has an article on 'Holing Up for Winter,' the fifth paper in her series.

The December number of 'Rod and Gun and Motor Sports in Canada,' published by W. J. Taylor, Woodstock, Ont., has a specially written and well illustrated account of the trip recently taken in the woods by the Premier and Surveyor-General of New Brunswick, at the invitation of the organized guides of the province. Sportsmen of all classes will find desirable information in the article on the 'Importance of Taxidermy,' 'Ancient Indian Customs,' 'Physical Culture at Home,' the first of a proposed series of articles on this subject, and 'The Spirit of the North,' a poem for all sportsmen, are samples of the many articles dealing with every phase of sport in Canada, to be found in this holiday issue, while the illustrations are especially numerous.

'Bird-Lore' for Christmas (The Macmillan Company, New York), covering the months of November and December, completes the tenth year of this fascinating periodical, unique in the great amount of good it has done in its chosen field. In addition to two splendid four-color plates made from Bruce Horsfall's drawings, there is an interesting article on the sea birds which do their housekeeping and raise their families on Bird Rock, 'way up in the middle of the stormy, fog-bound Gulf of St. Lawrence.' Mr. E. J. Sawyer tells a story of 'The Drumming of the Ruffed Grouse,' and illustrates it with some remarkable photographs of the bird going through its peculiar performance. There is a sketch and photograph of a 'blind' used in the study of Bird life, by the editor, and a comprehensive report of the 1908 meeting of the National Association of Audubon Societies.

The current number of the 'University Magazine,' which is edited for a committee from McGill, Toronto and Dalhousie universities, by Dr. Andrew Macphail, contains sixteen articles and completes a volume of nearly seven hundred pages. The contents are: Plato's Watch Dog, Principal Hutton; Why the Conservatives Failed, Andrew Macphail; Fiscal Fair Play, Archibald McGoun; The Plaint of all Lovers, Max Heinrich; British Diplomacy and Canada; Brant and the Butlers, Blanche Lucille Macdonnell; Evening, Marjorie L. C. Pickthall; The Search for the Ultimate, Arnold Houltain; Lake Memphremagog, Robert Stanley Weir; Realism, E. M. Hardinge; Roman Law, A. H. F. Lefroy; The Treatment of Criminals, William Trant; Play for the People, Mrs. John Cox; The University Mosque of El-Azhar, Gerhard Richard Lomer; Some Aspects of Grammar, the Rev. J. A. Dewe; The Place of the Church in Modern Life, W. Caldwell.

FOR YOUNGER READERS.

Little folk will find a very real treat in 'Mr. Wind and Mme. Rain,' (Harper's), translated by Emily Makepeace from the French of Paul de Musset. The little book contains a combination of two old Breton folk tales, giving in a simple style for children the story of how John Peter and Claudine entertained their kind friends, Mr. Wind and Mme. Rain, and the play of 'The Chevalier Jessamine and the Princess Eglantine.' The story is intended for the very little folk, but the grown-up who reads it to them will not find the reading in any way a task.

The Rev. Alfred J. Church, who has put innumerable boys and girls in his debt by retelling for them the stories of the Iliad and the Odyssey,, has now done them a similar service in 'The Aeneid for Boys and Girls.' Thanks to his thorough scholarship and infinite patience, Mr. Church has been able to retell these old stories so that a child may enjoy them, while at the same time following so accurately his originals and preserving so much of their spirit that his books are entitled to rank with the great translations of Homer and Virgil. As Mr. Church tells these stories they are, as they should be, genuinely exciting tales of adventure.

It is likely that the vacant niche in many a boy's temple of hero worship will be filled by the figure of William the Silent, after he reads 'The Netherlands,' one of the 'Romance of History Series' just published by Stokes. The book recounts real history as it was made by real people, in a period of history truly romantic—with its plots and counterplots, its Inquisition, and its inspiring fight of a small people against a great king for liberty of person and conscience.

For opening chapter of 'The Flying Death' see another page.

THE SHRINE OF ST. GUIREC.

('Wide World Magazine.')

Near Ploumanach, in Brittany, there is one of the most curious shrines in Europe. This is the chapel of St. Guirec, a tiny, picturesque building of the twelfth century. It stands on a rock in the bay, and at high tide is surrounded by the waves. Inside is a wooden statue of St. Guirec in a deplorable state, for it is riddled with tiny holes. The reason for this sad state of things is that the fishermen's daughters have a strong superstition that if they come to pray at the shrine and stick a pin into poor St. Guirec they are certain to get married within the year. Should the pin drop out it is an infallible sign that everything will go well.

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B. A subscription claiming to be new must mean an actual increase in our subscription list—a subscription transferred from one person to another can not be counted as new.

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No. 1: A fine two-bladed knife, made by Joseph Rogers, Sheffield, England. Knife closed is four inches long. A useful tool for the adult, while every boy says 'It's a dandy.' Free for only ONE RENEWAL and ONE NEW subscription to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homstead,' at $1.00 each.

No. 2: Only one blade, but extra large and strong, of fine tempered Sheffield steel. Polished hard wood handle with hole for chain or cord. A man's practical knife. Given for only ONE RENEWAL and ONE NEW subscribtion to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00 each.

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Very dainty—2 1-2 inches long, slender nickel handle, no pearl to break off, two blades. Free for only ONE NEW subscription to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00.

A FINE SET OF CARVERS FREE.

No better gift to any housewife. Sheffield make; blade 8 inches long; fine tempered steel, buckhorn handles. Free for only ONE RENEWAL and TWO NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homstead,' at $1.00 each.

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A splendid combination article, strong buckhorn handle, seven useful tools in one, besides two fine blades—Sheffield make. A knife for every practical man. Free for only TWO NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00 each.

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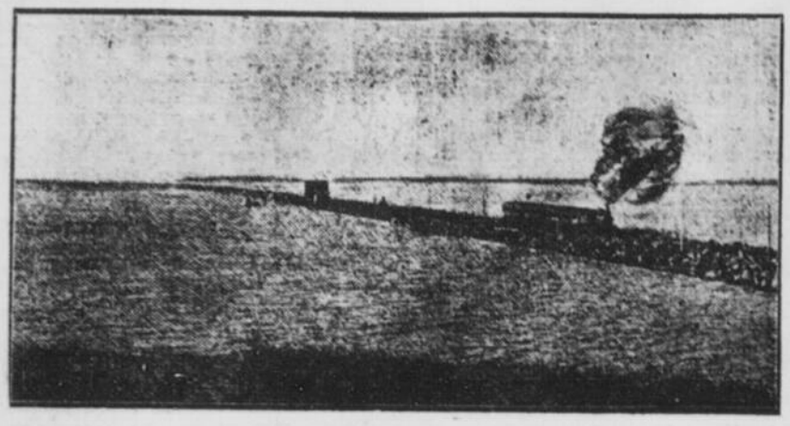
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MORE TERCENTENARY PAGEANTS ON SHORES OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN NEXT YEAR.



THE RUTLAND RAILWAY ACROSS THE ISLANDS OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN

AFTER the striking success which attended the celebration of the Tercentenary of Quebec, it seems only in the natural order of things that a somewhat similar celebration should now be planned to take place in the United States. Indeed, so delighted were the many thousands of American visitors with the Quebec pageants, that proposals were made to transfer the whole thing, lock, stock and barrel, to some centre on the other side of the border—a project which was found quite impracticable.

Now our friends over the border are to have tercentenary pageants all their own, but commemorative, nevertheless, of personalities and events quite as interesting to Canadians as to anybody. It is to be a Champlain Tercentenary, and is to be celebrated on the 7th of next July and following days, by the States of Vermont and New York, upon the beautiful lake that bears the name of Champlain.

The site is interesting for many reasons. The circumstances attending the discovery of the lake stand out in a clear-etched picture, for it was there that Champlain came into bloody conflict with the terrible Iroquois Indians, and with his arquebuse fired the first shots which helped in some degree to decide great destinies.

Then on the shores of Lake Champlain is Ticonderoga—that fort so closely associated first with the conflict between England and France, with all that it meant in shaping world history, and then with the struggle of the colonies for their independence. There are battlefields which figured more importantly in the latter contest, and the plains of Abraham are synonymous with the final decision whether it was to be New France or New England, but nowhere else is there a single stretch of ground so related to both struggles as is Ticonderoga. Added to these associations, the interest of the place is enhanced by the commanding beauty with which the spot is endowed. From Ticonderoga there is to be seen an extended landscape remarkable for its revelation of Nature's charms and splendors, as well as for its rich historic associations. Lake Champlain and the outlet of Lake George circle and defend the promontory on every side save one. In the woods on the fourth side to the north are the old French lines. Close at hand rise Mt. Independence and Mt. Defiance, while in the eastern distance rise the Green mountains in Vermont. The vision of sunlit lake and channel, of green forests near at hand, of mountains clothed in distant blue, is one for the eye to feast upon. 'Call up now all the history connected with the spot, all the fierce struggles of the past for the possession of these gray walls and their grim quiet and desolation. Over the grounds, instead of gleaming steel or cannon ball, the soft thistledown floats in the rising wind. Instead of the cross of St. George, the tricolor, or the stripes, the ivy leaves rustle on the ramparts, and in and out of the broken windows go undisturbed singing birds, with nests within the walls.'

Taking all these facts into consideration, it is little wonder that in addition to the historic pageants which are to be the feature of the Tercentenary, there should also be a proposal still further to follow Canada's example, and to make the occassion the means of securing something larger and more enduring. There is a growing feeling that the splendid Ticonderoga promontory ought to be acquired by the State, or better, by the nation, and set apart as a park and the ruins of the old fort preserved as a nation relic.

The story of Champlain's discovery of Lake Champlain, which is to be the central feature of the celebrations, takes us back to the year 1609. In June of that year Champlain, with two white companions and a number of friendly Indians, started up the St. Lawrence from Quebec on his explorations. In all there were twenty-four canoes and sixty warriors. The light canoes were shouldered through the forest around the rapids of the Richelieu and launched again in the outlet of what is now Lake Champlain. Paddling by day and drawing up the canoes upon the shore at night, where they were quickly protected on the inland side by a light barricade, the party proceeded on its historic voyage, the river widening as it advanced.

'Great islands appeared,' said Parkman, in describing this journey, 'leagues in extent—Isle la Motte, Long Island, Grand Isle! channels where ships might float and broad reaches of water stretched between them, and Champlain entered the lake which preserves his name to posterity. Cumberland Head was passed and from the opening of the great channel between Grande Isle and the main he could look forth on the wilderness sea. Edged with woods, the tranquil flood spread southward beyond the sight. Far on the left rose the forest ridges of the Green Mountains, and on the right the Adirondacks—haunts in these later years of amateur sportsmen from counting-rooms or college halls. Then the Iroquois made them their hunting ground; and beyond in the valleys of the Mohawk, the Onondaga, and the Genesee, stretched the long line of their five cantons and palisaded towns.'

The party was now in dangerous territory and the order of travel was reversed, advance being made only by night. On the evening of the 29th of July, when near a projecting point of land which was probably Ticonderoga, they descried dark objects in motion on the lake before them. These were a flotilla of Iroquois canoes, heavier and slower than theirs, for they were made of oak bark. Each party saw the other and the mingled war cries pealed over the darkened water.'

The Iroquois landed and began to barricade themselves.

Champlain and his allies, with their canoes made fast together by poles lashed across, maintained their position on the water. But all night long there was an exchange of abuse, sarcasm, menace and boast. Finally after daybreak the canoes of the allies made from the shore, each of the three Frenchmen being hid in the bottom of a separate craft. The landing was made at some distance from the Iroquois, who presently filed out from their barricade—'tall, strong men, some two hundred in number, the boldest and fiercest warriors of North America.'

As the Iroquois approached the allies grew fearful and loudly called upon Champlain to advance to the front, opening their ranks that he might do so. Wearing the light armor of the time, and with his arquebuse in his hand he went forward.

The Iroquois for a moment stood staring in mute amazement at the apparition before them.

But when they prepared to let fly their arrows Champlain fired his arquebuse, which he had loaded with four balls, and brought down two chiefs and wounded a third. Another shot from one of the other Frenchmen and the Iroquois broke and fled in terror. Some were killed and more were taken—to suffer savage torture.

'Thus did New France rush into collision with the redoubted warriors of the Five Nations. Here was the beginning, and in some measure doubtless the cause of a long suite of murderous conflicts, bearing havoc and flame to generations yet unborn. Champlain had invaded the tiger's den, and now, in smothered fury, the patient savage, would lie biding his day of blood.'

The long struggle for the possession of the continent was beginning.

The Hurons and the Algonquins dwelling along the St. Lawrence, whom Champlain accompanied on their forays, had become the allies of France; the Iroquois and Mohawks, upon whom Champlain had fired his arquebuse, became her bitter enemies and the allies of England. As the struggle went on the possession of Lake Champlain was more and more coveted by each of the warring nations.

Violating the obligations of a temporary peace, the French in 1731 seized a promontory opposite Crown Point, and soon afterwards seized Crown Point itself and erected on it a fortification called Fort St. Frederic. This was within the lands of the Iroquois, which by the Treaty of Utrecht were guaranteed to remain 'inviolate by any occupation or encroachment of France.' At the moment the government of New York was in timid and nerveless hands and no effort was made to repel the invasion.

But Governor Shirley, of Massachusetts, was made of other stuff, and indignantly appealed to the governor of New York to make a stand. Governor Shirley's offer of aid was accepted and Massachusetts and New York joined in raising an army which, under the command of Generals Johnson and Lyman, proceeded against the French on Lake Champlain, erecting Fort Edward on the way. At the head of Lake George they met General Dieskau, in June, 1755, and after one repulse routed his army, took him prisoner, cut off the retreating, and threw their dead bodies into 'Bloody Pond.'

If Johnson had only followed up this victory he might have captured Fort Frederic, then dilapidated, and the new Fort Carillon, as the French called the works which they had just begun on the New York shore at the foot of the lake, on the bold promontory of Ticonderoga, destined to be the scene of so many dramatic and tragic events.

'Slowly ambitious France,' wrote Joseph Cook, the preacher and lecturer, in his sketches of Ticonderoga, 'was encircling their feeble outposts, and connecting two of the largest rivers of North America with a cordon of fortresses, continually pouring the horrors of savage warfare upon their extended and unprotected settlements.

'Schenectady blazing at midnight, the valley of the Connecticut ravaged, the whole country north of the Mohawk depopulated by torch and tomahawk and terror, were scenes consummated by the enemy now at Crown Point and Ticonderoga, which exasperated to the intensest pitch the care and solicitude of New England and excited all the enthusiasm of the colonies for vengeance.'

But England supported the colonists weakly and inefficiently.

Taking boldness from the English lethargy, Montcalm in 1757 collected an army of 9,000, penetrated to and captured Fort William Henry, where there ensued a terrible massacre. At last England was aroused and under William Pitt as Prime Minister, moved to take her vengeance. Yet the first effort failed. The armament of Abercrombie and Lord Howe—immense for those days—was defeated under tragic circumstances in 1758, and it was not until 1759 that Amherst succeeded, that Fort Carillon passed into English hands and into history as Fort Ticonderoga.

It was in July, 1758, that the ill-fated expedition of Abercrombie passed up Lake George. Pressing on through the forest almost abreast of Israel Putnam and his rangers, Lord Howe was deaf to entreaties that he safeguard himself, and as a result he was shot dead in the first skirmish. It was largely because of his death that the army lost heart and that the expedition failed under such tragic circumstances.

Next day, however, the advance was made, but Montcalm had had time to strengthen his defences on the Ticonderoga promontory by every device known to an astute leader, and had resolved to make his stand there.

The British and provincial troops moved boldly to the attack, but nothing could withstand the storm that poured from rifle and cannon behind the French walls. At length the attack was abandoned, panic seized the defeated troops and an utter rout took the place of the brave advance.

This was the battle of Ticonderoga July 8, 1758.

But next year there was a different story to tell under Lord Amherst, whom England sent out to succeed Abercrombie. On July 26, 1759, Amherst appeared before Ticonderoga.

Montcalm, fearing the descent of Wolfe on Quebec, had hastened there with the greater part of his force. Yet the French garrison of Fort Carillon were confident of success until they found that in Amherst they had a different leader from Abercrombie to cope with. Amherst prepared patiently for a siege. Then, recognizing the inevitable, the French commander abandoned Ticonderoga, leaving Fort Carillon on fire.

England was now in command of Lake Champlain, and there scarce less than on the plains of Abraham the knell of New France was sounded.

Lord Amherst immediately enlarged and improved the works at Ticonderoga on a scale of imposing strength. Crown Point, also evacuated and dismantled by the French, was soon occupied by Amherst and a new fort erected there at an expense extravagantly claimed to have been $10,000,000.

'But from 1759 to 1775, during which time Ticonderoga remained nearly unused in the hands of the British, time was slowly forcing it out of warlike repair. In 1773, Gen. Haldibrand, commander at Crown Point and Ticonderoga, announced to the government that the fort at Crown Point was 'entirely destroyed' and that at Ticonderoga in a 'ruinous condition,' and that both could 'not cover 50 men in winter.'

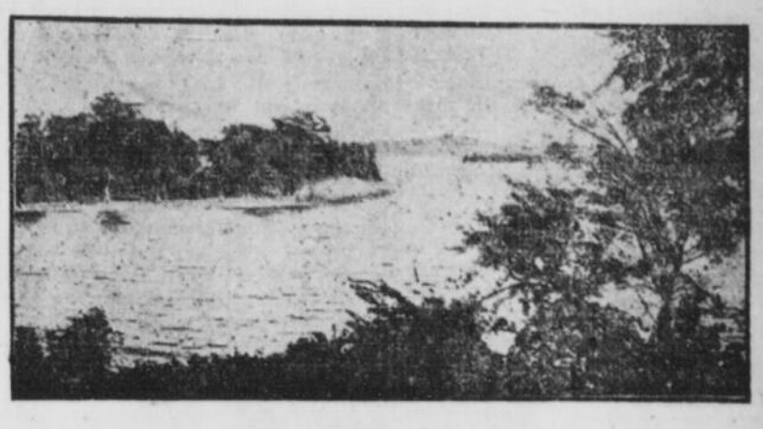
But no lapse of time could change the natural features of the country which gave importance to these fortresses a military posts. Ethan Allen, on May 10, 1775, achieved his famous exploit of capturing the fortresses, calling upon the rudely-awakened garrison to surrender 'in the name of the great Jehovah and the Continental Congress.' The actual bravery of the performance has doubtless been exaggerated,—Allen's band of 80 had opposed to it but 49 men, most of whom were asleep; the fort was dilapidated, the sentinels were inefficient, and discipline was lax. Yet the capture, in moral effect at least, meant much to the colonists just beginning their long struggle for freedom.

But Ticonderoga was destined to change hands once, twice or even thrice more.

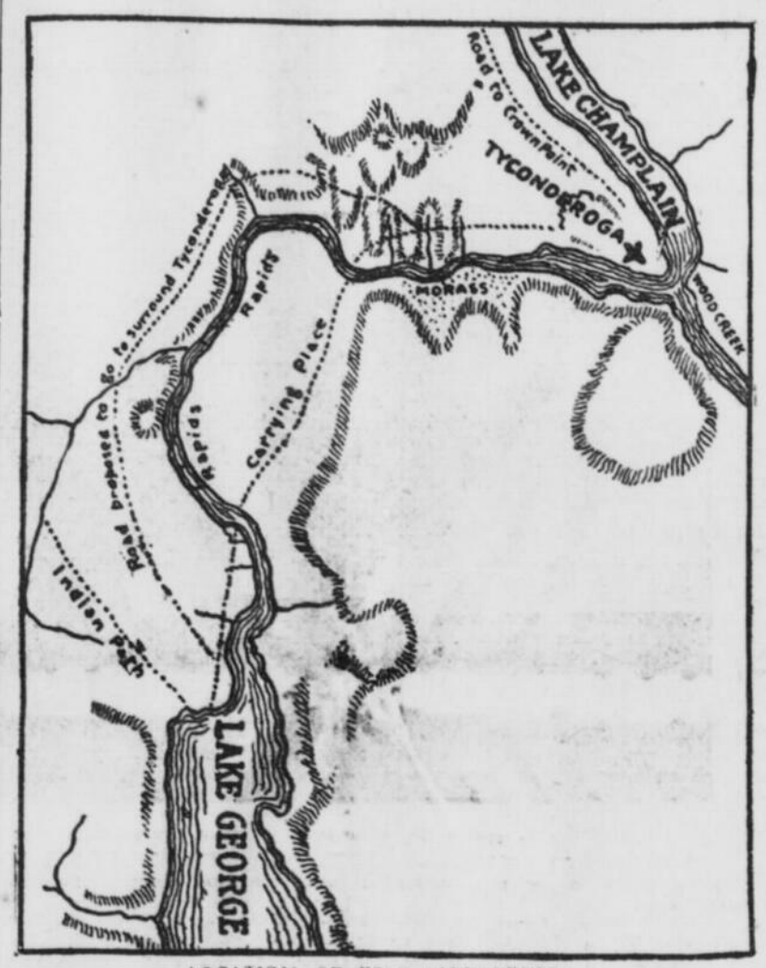
In 1777 came Gen. Burgoyne sweeping downward from Canada, with the army which was to split the revolting colonies in twain and render easy their subjection. The British were able to reach and fortify Mt. Defiance, a height that looked down on Fort Ticonderoga and thus made it literally untenable. As a result St. Clair had no choice but to evacuate and save his men, which he did on the night of July 5, 1777, after spiking his guns. Next day the British flag again waved above the fort, where the flags of the colonies and of France had waved before it.

After the defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga the British garrison left in the fort retreated to Canada. But the fort was again occupied in 1780 by Gen. Haldibrand, and was made the scene of those diplomatic negotiations between Vermont and England, which have been the cause of charges of bad faith against Allen.

Finally came peace, the withdrawal of the British, and slowly the historic walls of the old fort have crumbled away. Yet even to-day the ruins, roofless and windowless though they be, are not so far gone that one cannot accurately trace the scenes that once were enacted about them.

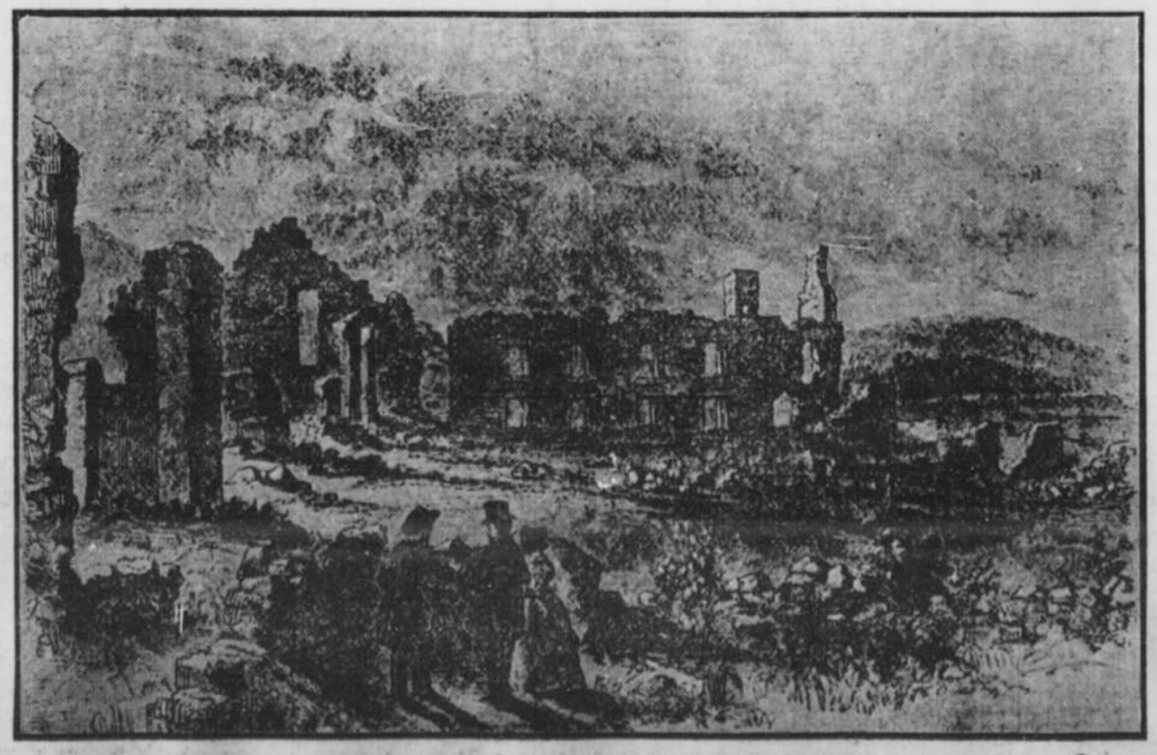


AN ISLAND SCENE FROM THE RAILWAY ACROSS LAKE CHAMPLAIN.



LOCATION OF FORT TICONDEROGA.

[With relation to Lake Champlain and Lake George, showing the southern part of Lake Champlain and the northern end of Lake George. Reproduced after an old map drawn during the French and Indian wars.]



RUINS OF FORT TICONDEROGA, AS THEY APPEARED IN 1848.

Agricultural.

COMING EVENTS.

Ontario Horse-breeders' Exhibition, West Toronto Stock Yards.—Jan. 13 to 15.

Eastern Ontario Livestock and Poultry Show, at Ottawa.—Jan. 18 to 22.

CURRENT COMMENTS

In the opinion of the majority of correspondents of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, the past season has been the best in their recollection. The following shows the yield:—

Crop.	Acreage.	Yield per Acre	Total
	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.
Hay	640,000	1.6	1,024,000
	Acres.	Bus.	Bus.
Oats	135,000	30	4,050,000
Wheat	20,600	20	412,000
Barley	9,700	23	223,100
Buckwheat	18,000	31	558,000
Beans	3,100	18	55,800
Peas	1,500	19	28,500
Potatoes	44,000	200	8,800,000
Turnips, Mangels and carrots	18,000	475	8,550,000
	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.
Forage crops and fodder corn ...	3,000	10	30,000

Apples for home and foreign consumption, 600,000 barrels.

* * *

The potato crop has proved an unusually satisfactory one throughout the greater part of the province. Throughout the whole province the quality is about ten percent above last year. There is a 5 percent increase in acreage of potatoes. The 1908 fruit crop was the best that has been gathered for a number of years. The average of all correspondents places the quantity, in comparison with the yield of last year, at 97 percent. The quality, however, is so much superior that it is estimated the number of barrels to be shipped will considerably exceed the past year's shipment. Live stock of all kinds went into winter quarters in better condition than for some years past. The pasturage continued later than usual, so that the plentiful supply of feed which was stored in the barns during the summer will be considerably economized. Owing to better pastures milch cows produced considerable more milk than during the past five years.

* * *

It is satisfactory to find that there have been fewer infractions of the Fruit Act this year. It would appear, from the reports of the Dominion inspectors, that the packing and marking of apples is being done more generally according to law than ever before. Some apples have reached the markets in Great Britain in very poor condition on account of the warm weather which prevailed during the time of harvest and shipment, causing the fruit to overripen. When large quantities of apples are loaded in the ships at a high temperature they ripen rapidly and develop so much heat that it is impossible to keep the temperature as low as it should be, even with good ventilation. More Canadian fruit was carried in cold storage on the ocean this year than ever before, but there is no doubt it would have paid the owners well to have carried a great deal more of it in that way.

* * *

The contentment of the cows is very noticeable where some of the milking machines that have come the nearest to perfection are being used. I have seen a whole line of cows that were being machine-milked chewing their cuds as if nothing was going on. Where the teat cups are carefully adjusted to each cow to her satisfaction and comfort and the same size used on the same teats attached to the same machine, with the same degree of vacuum produced by the same power, you practically have the same milker and a good milker at every milking every day. If this is not conducive to good results I do not know what is.—Prof. C. B. Lane.

* * *

One hundred million acres would be an adequate estimate of Canada's timberland, in the opinion of Dr. Judson F. Clark, of Vancouver, B.C. This estimate, it must be explained, includes only lands on which are found 'forests of commercial value, as measured by present day logging standards' (to quote Dr. Clark's own words), and including those areas bearing pulpwood or sawtimber. The above estimate is considerably lower than that of two hundred million acres given by Dr. B. E. Fernow, of the University of Toronto faculty of forestry, when speaking of the same class of land. Be the difference what it may, both estimates go to show the shrinkage of the estimated timbered area of Canada which has followed on close examination, from the eight hundred million acres (or even twice that area) formerly put forth, and until lately accepted without question.

* * *

The Canadian people may well draw from these estimates the warning that their timber wealth is far from being the 'inexhaustible' supply that it was once supposed to be, and that what they have requires careful husbanding, both in the way of adequate protection of the forests that now exist, from fire and other enemies, and the introduction of further forestry measures with a view to getting increased supplies from areas already forested or to be forested in future. Within the last thirty years, exclusive of 1908, 1,956 persons are known to have perished on this continent in forest fires or fires caused by burning forests. The list of deaths for 1903 numbers at least 296, and may be larger. The average loss of life per year from this cause has thus been about seventy-two.

A VISIT TO MACDONALD COLLEGE

I lately paid a visit to that marvellous collection of costly buildings known as Macdonald College, situated at Ste. Annes, Que., and as the day turned out wet I confined my investigations to the interior of the various buildings.

One of the students, who seemed to be considerably interested in athletic sports, offered to conduct me through the subway to the 'Boys' Building,' which stands nearly one hundred yards from the main building. The subway has two pipes, four and eight inches in diameter, and covered with asbestos, for conveying hot water and steam from one building to the other. It is also lighted by overhead skylights, at intervals along its whole course. We landed into a large room, where the temperature seemed to be over seventy degrees, although the outside air was near to the freezing point. There was a swimming bath nearly thirty feet long by sixteen feet wide, and in several small closets adjoining there were shower baths. In a room adjoining there were iron lockers in which the bather could keep his wearing apparel safely locked up while he was going through his ablutions. There were also several ordinary baths in adjoining apartments.

We then went upstairs to a large hall used as a gymnasium, where there were the usual apparatus used for developing the muscles of the students. We returned through the subway to the main building, where my guide left me as he had to attend lectures. I then went to the extensive greenhouses. Here I had the good fortune to find Prof. Blair instructing a class of young ladies in the art of gooseberry culture in its phases of planting, transplanting, propagating, pruning, etc. He used various shaped natural plants, which he planted in a bed of fine soil, and then 'layered' some of the branches, showing the way to propagate the English gooseberry, which will not grow from cuttings, as is the case with the Canadian varieties. He also mounded up one of the plants so that only the tops of the branches protruded above the soil; each of these branches were supposed to take root for itself; then they are transplanted out in the ordinary way. I may state that I learned more about gooseberry culture during the few minutes spent here than I had previously learned during the forty years that I had spent on the farm.

There are to be short courses of free lectures and practical instruction in live stock and general husbandry from Jan. 19 to Jan. 29. After this, there are free courses in horticulture and poultry-keeping beginning on Feb. 2 and continuing to Feb. 12. These courses are intended for farmers' sons who wish to gain more correct practical knowledge in these branches of farming operations. The whole cost to the student is one dollar registration fee, and if he boards at the college he will be charged eight dollars for board and lodging during each course.

On returning to the main building, I went into a class-room where there was a class of some fifteen or sixteen young ladies listening to a lecture on the practical value of veneering. I had previously thought that veneering was only done for appearance sake, but I soon and will neither warp nor crack. Durlearned that it is also done to secure strength in rounded surfaces, as a piece of veneered board will retain its shape ing the lecture the professor dissected a piece of board which was less than half an inch in thickness, and which yet was constructed of five thicknesses of veneering. After the lecture the girls arose and each of them began to do general carpentering work, at separate workbenches. It was really amazing to see how deftly the young ladies could handle chisels, planes, etc. and their completed work was finished in first-class style. I asked the professor if these ladies were student teachers, but he replied that they belonged to the students of household work, and the articles they were making were such as are generally in use in the kitchen and dining-room.

After this I went to a well-equipped and well-lighted library where I rested my old bones looking over magazines, until the time for the Montreal train came.

RUSTICUS.

Salt is an essential part of diet for all animals. If it is kept before them constantly there is no danger of them eating so much as to injure the system.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK SHOW.

Canadian Exhibitors Win Many Prizes.

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP GOES TO MR. J. LEASK, OF ONTARIO.

(By the 'Witness' Special Representative.)

Chicago, Dec. 8.—On the whole the display of choice animals at the International Live Stock Exposition here is the finest in the history of the exhibition. The horses and cattle are especially choice. It is the opinion of some in regular attendance at the fair from year to year that the sheep and hogs are not of as high a quality as in some former years.

The outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey resulted in stringent quarantine regulations, which prevented Canadian and Eastern States exhibitors from sending their stock to Chicago in very considerable numbers, and this accounts for the falling off in the entries in sheep.

CANADIAN EXHIBITORS OF SHEEP.

In Lincolns J. T. Gibson, of Dinfield, Ont., had things pretty much his own way. The following are the prizes won by this exhibitor:—1st for two-year-old ram; 1st, 2nd and 3rd for ram one year old; 2nd and 3rd for ram lamb (the winner in this class being Cooper and Nephews, Birmingham, Eng.); 1st, 2nd and 4th for ewe lamb under one year; 1st and 2nd for flock; 1st for four lambs of either sex, the get of one ram. Mr. Gibson won the championship prize for ram, also for ewe; and two special prizes limited to first prize winners in all classes.

In the Dorsets James Robertson & Sons, of Milton West, Ont., won second for two-year-old rams, for lamb and for flock. R. H. Harding, Thorndale, was second in the yearling class, and in the class for pen of four lambs.

In Shropshires Mr. J. Lloyd-Jones, Burford, Ont., was an exhibitor, winning several prizes, but no firsts.

John Rawlings, of Forest, Ont., and George Allen, of Paris, Ont., were prize winners in Cotswolds. The yearling owned by Mr. Rawlings carried off the breed championship.

James Bowman, of Guelph, Ont., was the principal exhibitor in Suffolks, and won the majority of the prizes.

Southdowns were remarkably strong, both in numbers, quality and finish of the animals. Sir George Drummond, Beaconsfield, Que., won first and third in the yearling class, and first and second in the wether lamb class.

CATTLE.

To Mr. James Leask, of Greenbank, Ont., fell the duty of again upholding the honor of Ontario cattle-feeders. With three head he succeeded in winning seven firsts and four seconds, besides the championship for the best yearling, which was also the Reserve Grand Champion. The winning of the Grand Championship by Mr. Leask would have meant much to him, as in addition to the other prizes the Shorthorn Breeders' Association give a prize of $500 if the Grand Championship is won by a Shorthorn.

The Grand Championship was won by a two-year-old Angus, Fyvie Knight, which was owned and fed by Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. A feature of the international this year was the number of good animals fed and exhibited by colleges.

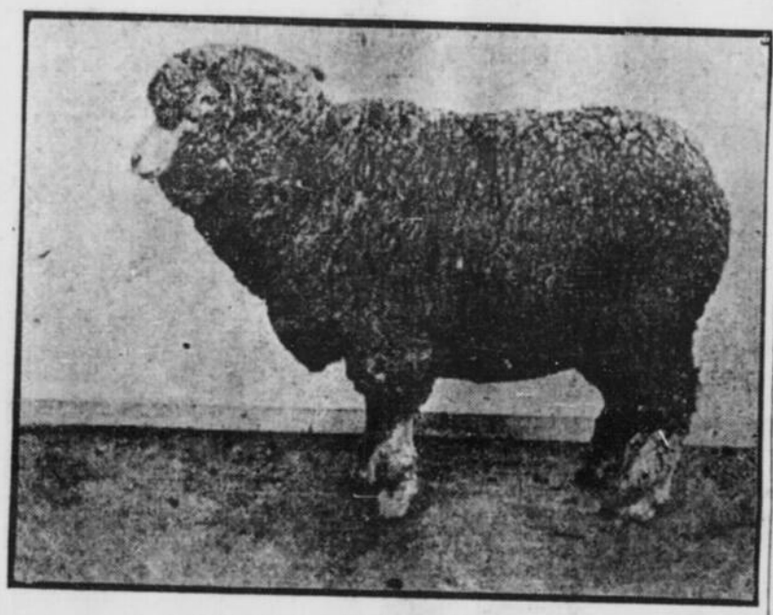
An event of extreme interest was the annual international sale of carload lots. The preliminary event was the disposal of the single grand champion steer, Fyvie Knight, which was sold for $26.50 per cwt. Last year the grand champion single steer, Roan King, was sold to a Buffalo butcher at $24 per cwt. Fyvie Knight weighed 1,500 lbs. and realized $421.35.

HORSES.

The exhibit of Belgians and Percherons surpasses that of other years. Owing to the quarantine regulations, Graham Bros., of Claremont, Ont., do not exhibit, and the result is that the Clydesdales are not so good as those of other years. The championship went to Galbraith Brothers.

A foreign expert, in the person of Mr. Sinclair, a Scotchman, gave great satisfaction. He declared 'the stock on show at this exhibition cannot be beaten in any country in the world. I am surprised at the great showing that is being made, and the exhibition is elaborate in every detail.'

Some of the other judges were:—Prof. G. E. Day, Prof. James Atkinson, Prof. W. L. Carlyle, Prof. W. J. Kennedy, and Prof. W. B. Richards.



CHAMPION FINE WOOL MERINO EWE

PROTECTING CANADIAN LIVE STOCK

In view of the stringent and special laws now being enforced both in Canada and the United States to prevent the spread of foot and mouth disease, an account of the ordinary measures taken by the Dominion Government in order to keep out disease will be of interest. It is written by Mr. George Hilton, by authority of the veterinary director-general.

Canada does not permit the indiscriminate importation of animals, and in order to prevent the possibility of the enforcement of stringent measures against valuable animals which might be shipped in good faith, contrary to the regulations, intending importers of stock other than the equine species from any part of the world except the United States and Newfoundland must first forward an application to the Minister stating the number and species of animals it is desired to import, together with full particulars regarding the country and point of origin, port of embarkation, date of shipment, and point of landing, with probable date. Such applications are considered, and if it is found that the district from which the animals originate is free from contagious diseases and that effective measures are enforced by the authorities thereof, a permit is granted. It is further directed that such a permit is presented to the officer in charge of the vessel before the stock are allowed to be placed aboard, the responsibility resting upon that officer should a consignment be accepted and presented for entry at a Canadian port unaccompanied by the necessary permit. While a permit is essential, it is also necessary that animals be accompanied by certificates from the authority of the district whence they came, to the effect that no contagious diseases have existed therein for six months previous to the date of intended removal, as also a certificate from a qualified veterinarian stating that the animals are free from any infectious or contagious diseases and are in a healthy condition.

For reasons which are quite obvious, importations are only allowed to land at specified ports. These have been specially selected for their convenience and isolation advantages. At ports where animals subject to quarantine are landed, suitable buildings are provided and equipped with all necessary facilities for the housing and comfort of stock during the prescribed quarantine period. While such measures materially assist in guarding against the introduction of disease, it is further necessary, owing to the lengthy incubative periods of some undesirable maladies, to keep susceptible animals isolated under supervision after landing for intervals varying from thirty to ninety days.

By far the most important quarantine station is situated at Quebec, the majority of animals entering at this port from Europe during summer navigation. This quarantine station accommodates nearly five hundred head of cattle and about three hundred sheep, and is laid out so as to admit of the absolute isolation of the stock of each importer.

While the detention for lengthy periods in quarantine of cattle, sheep and swine is essential, owing to the peculiarities of their maladies, the equine species are detained only for short periods. Horses, mules and asses are therefore permitted to be landed at Montreal, where they are subjected to a rigid inspection, and if found healthy, and accompanied by the necessary certificates, are allowed to proceed to destination.

In view of the existing conditions along the international boundary, as also the relation of the American live stock trade to that of Canada, consignments of stock are allowed under certain conditions to pass in transit or in bond through their respective territories. Special attention is, however, directed toward the inspection of stock cars at the boundary, and any which are not found in a sanitary condition are immediately returned for disinfection. With the exception of swine, which are not admitted under any circumstances until they have been first detained in quarantine for thirty days at the boundary, lengthy detention periods are not now enforced upon animals presented for entry from the United States and Newfoundland.

There are 28 quarantine stations and 39 inspection ports along the international boundary, through one of which consignments of animals must be presented for entry, as at no other point are they admitted under any circumstances. All such animals, however, are subjected to a careful inspection, and if any suspicious symptoms are detected are immediately returned. They must also be accompanied by a statutory declaration or affidavit made by the owner or importer, stating clearly the purposes for which they are imported, viz.: whether for breeding purposes, for milk production, for work, for grazing, feeding or slaughter, or whether they form part of settlers' effects, or whether they are entered for temporary stay, as provided by the regulations. The said declaration or affidavit must be presented to the collector of customs at the port of entry, who decides whether the animals are entitled to entry under the regulations, whose duty it is also to notify the veterinary inspector of this branch in order that the necessary inspection may be carried out.

In view of the difficulty and frequent impossibility of making a rigid inspection of range horses, mules or asses, their importation is forbidden unless they are gentle and broken to harness or saddle. They must nevertheless be accompanied by a satisfactory mallein test chart, dated not more than thirty days prior to the date of entry, signed or endorsed by a Bureau Inspector, in default of which they are detained at the boundary and submitted to mallein by the veterinarian in charge of the station, and if any are found diseased the whole consignment is immediately returned to the United States, and the authorities of that country promptly notified.

Owing to the large influx of settlers' horses at certain periods of the year it is impracticable at times to detain them for the mallein test at the boundary. Under such circumstances they are carefully inspected, and if no suspicious symptoms are detected, are allowed to proceed to destination to be there tested. If any reactors are found they are destroyed without compensation. A provision is also made for the testing of other horses at destination when undue hardship would result by their detention at the boundary. In such cases, however, the terms of the special license served upon the owner prohibit him from bringing his horses in contact with others or disposing of them until they have been tested by an officer of this branch and released by him. Such procedure, however, is only considered in cases where the greatest possible hardship would otherwise result.

Cattle for breeding purposes and milk production six months old or over, if unaccompanied by a satisfactory tuberculin test chart signed by a veterinarian of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, are detained in quarantine for one week, or such further period as may be deemed necessary and subjected to the tuberculin test; any animals reacting thereto are returned immediately to the United States or slaughtered without compensation. All range cattle, however, entering Canada, except those for transit in bond, are detained at the port of entry and dipped or otherwise treated to the satisfaction of the veterinary inspector, unless such cattle are accompanied by a certificate from the United States Bureau stating that they are not affected with and have not been exposed to the contagion of mange, or that they have within the thirty days preceding the date of their arrival at the Canadian boundary been dipped or otherwise treated in a manner satisfactory to the officers of the said Bureau.

All other ruminants undergo rigid inspection at port of entry, and if the officer has reason to suspect the animals have been exposed to contagion, they are detained, isolated, dipped, or returned to the United States. All swine entering Canada must be accompanied by a certificate signed by a veterinarian of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, stating that neither swine plague nor hog cholera has existed within a radius of five miles of the premises on which they have been kept for a period of six months immediately preceding the date of shipment. Such swine are nevertheless inspected and subjected to a quarantine of thirty days before being allowed to come in contact with Canadian animals.

WHEAT GROWING AND CATTLE FEEDING

At Moosomin there is a farmer engaged extensively in cattle feeding and the growing of western Canada's special cereal—wheat. Every winter this man feeds from one to two hundred head which run loose outside all the time, the feed troughs being located on the leeward (south and south-east) sides of the farm buildings and steading, says A. G. Hopkins in 'Wallaces' Farmer.' The feed used is straw (wheat and oats), cut for roughage, and chopped wheat, barley, or oats, whichever may be obtained the cheapest, for concentrates. Mr. Phin finds that the big steers (long two's) do not mind the cold so long as they are kept out of the wind and are dry. He does not raise, but buys his steers, and if any are not fit for market he holds them over. His practice is to grow two crops of wheat, then one of oats, then treat the land as a summer fallow until July 1st, when the land is sown to rape, two pounds of seed per acre being used, the rape being sown in rows far enough apart to permit the use of a cultivator. After rape sowing, manure is applied about seven to ten tons per acre with manure spreaders. As soon as the rape is well up, cultivation starts again and is continued until about September 15th, when the forage crop is ready and the cattle are turned on it and allowed to run until freeze up. Mr. Phin finds that the wheat crop following rape is free of weeds, with a straight bright straw and well filled grain. The tramping of the cattle has firmed the soil, which consequently does not dry out, hence the grain matures properly; and further, the rape has reduced the rankness of growth to an infinitesimal point, so that the crop stands up well until cut. If it is desired to market any of the cattle in the fall, grain is added to their green ration. Wheat is sown on the rape ground the following spring, the only treatment previous to drilling being by the use of the duck-foot cultivator. To my mind the plan could be improved if a grass crop were included in the rotation. The owner has this year over sixty-five acres in rape, some years as much as 150 acres being thus treated. One section is farmed altogether.

STRAINING MILK

Straining milk does not purify it. Milking should be done with such attention given to cleanliness that it would be unnecessary to use the strainer. The utensil is of value chiefly because it removes the visible indications of impurity from milk, not because it really has any purifying effects. Small particles of manure, hairs, pieces of dead cuticle from the cow's udder and body, and dirt from the milker's hands find their way into the milk pail during the first manipulations of the udder, these impurities are churned around in the pail by the force of the streams as the milk is drawn, and by the time the pail is full this filth is all but dissolved, and no strainer yet produced can remove anything but the coarser and more insoluble substances which settle to the bottom of the bucket.

The millions of bacteria carried into the receptable by these impurities are untouched by the strainer and go on their way rejoicing to carry ill health and disease, maybe, to all who drink the milk or use the butter made from it. We use the milk-strainer because we do not like the looks of small particles of dirt and refuse in the bottoms of the milk can, or perhaps in the drinking cup. It does no harm to remove these, but gives us a sense of relief in thinking that the milk is clean because it looks clean. We seem to have discharged a moral obligation in using the strainer, forgetting that the real harm comes from the dissolved materials, the filth that goes into solution and carries its nauseating effect concealed in the pure white fluid.

EASTERN ONTARIO DAIRYMEN

The following is the programme of the 32nd annual convention of the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association, to be held at Prescott from January 6 to 8 next.

Wednesday, January 6th.—President's address, J. R. Dargavel, M.P.P.; address, Senator D. Derbyshire, honorary president.

Afternoon session.—Address of welcome, by Mayor; address, 'Problems of the Dairyman,' Geo. A. Putnam, director of dairying, Toronto; address, 'The Work of Cow Testing Associations,' C. F. Whitley, Dairy Com. Staff, Ottawa; address, 'Winter Dairying,' Henry Glendinning, Manilla.

Wednesday evening.—Addresses by C. C. James, M.A., Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Toronto; the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa; G. C. Creelman, Pres. O. A. C., Guelph; address, 'The Making of a Modern Dairy Farmer,' ex-Governor Hoard, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin.

Thursday, January 7th.—Addresses by Geo. A. Barr, Dairy Com. Staff, Ottawa; G. G. Publow, Chief Instructor and Sanitary Inspector, Kingston; Dr. W. T. Connell, Bacteriologist, Dairy School, Kingston; F. Hearns, Chief Instructor, Western Ontario.

Afternoon session.—Address, 'Creamery Work in Eastern Ontario with Suggestions for Improvement,' James Stonehouse, Instructor in Butter Making, Dairy School, Kingston; addresses by merchants of Montreal; ex-Governor Hoard, J. A. Ruddick, Dairy Commissioner, Ottawa; G. C. Creelman.

Thursday evening.—Address by the Hon. James Duff; address, 'Dairying Abroad,' illustrated with lantern slides, J. A. Ruddick; address by Dr. Robertson, Principal Macdonald Agr. College, St. Anne de Bellevue, Que.

Friday, January 8th.—Address by Prof. J. H. Grisdale, Experimental Farm, Ottawa and J. A. Ruddick; address, 'Some Notes on the Work of the Official Referee for 1908,' Joseph Burgess, Official Referee, Montreal.

After this session the election of officers will take place.

Here is a useful way of packing butter. Wash the butter when churned, and salt to taste; the next day work out all the brine. Have clean glass fruit jars ready; roll them in hot water; when cool pack the butter firmly with pestle, up to the necks, spread a thin muslin cloth over the butter and sprinkle salt on it. Screw on top, but do not put on the rubber band, as that will ruin the butter. Moisten firm paper with the beaten white of an egg, and cover the tops of jars well down on to the glass. Stand in a cool, dark place. As only one quart has to be opened at a time, the last ounce of the butter is as good as the first.

POULTRY



Conducted by Mr. F. C. ELFORD.

POULTRY IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES

Persons who think there is no good poultry in the Maritime Provinces should visit the Maritime Winter Fair, held annually at Amherst, Nova Scotia. This fair was held last week, and was the best exhibit of pure bred poultry ever held in the Maritime Provinces. They have there two main divisions—one containing the open classes of standard poultry, the other division taking in the utility classes.

Mr. L. G. Jarvis, of Grimsby, Ont., judged the fancy classes and his work was no easy matter. Probably the best class was the Barred Plymouth Rocks. Many of the birds left out of the honors were a credit to their owners. The White Wyandotte was, as usual, a strong class, and some of the birds shown in this section were almost perfect. The Buff Orpington was also a strong class, as was the White Leghorn.

The utility classes are shown—first in pairs of cockerels and pullets, and in breeding pens, also a number of specials. The strongest class in the cockerels was the Barred Plymouth Rock, which showed some ideal birds—birds that were utility, that is they had the strong constitution and fairly blocky frame; they also had coloring which would qualify them for the open class.

There seems to be one fault, or two probably, creeping into the utility classes. First, the endeavor to get an exceedingly blocky bird is taking us away from the breed type. Some exhibitors are under the impression that a utility bird must be large and coarse. I think these two faults will be easily remedied. The exhibition makes a strong point of their utility class and they had an exhibit which was certainly a credit.

The dressed poultry was not as large as on some former years, but the quality was good. There was one feature in the dressed poultry exhibition which added a great deal of local interest—that is 'the Ladies Judging Competition.' A valuable prize is offered each year for competition, and all members of the Amherst Hospital Society are eligible to compete. Their task this year was to place the first, second and third award on three birds, each of chicks, turkeys, geese and ducks, giving reasons for their placings. The prize was a $75.00 silver service, and was won by Mrs. Bell, of Amherst.

The people of Amherst seem to enter so wholly into the Winter Fair that it cannot help but be a success, and I know of no place where men can be beaten and take their defeat like men as well as they do at Amherst. It is a good thing to say, for nothing tends to hurt a show as much as the disgruntled man, who fails to get the prize.

SILVER PENCILLED PLYMOUTH ROCKS

So far as the color scheme is concerned, this late addition to the Plymouth Rock family, and to the pure-bred varieties of the American class, is hard to excel, and any future ambitious efforts to please the fancy for exquisite beauty in feathers, are not likely to produce anything more substantially elegant.

Here is something entirely out of the ordinary, says Mr. G. D. Black, of Yellow Springs, Ohio. It is attractive, striking, and yet it is a color plan that grows on one the more he studies it, and so it has the merit of being something more than a mere novelty. These colors are pretty in their combination; but they are also nature's most serviceable colors. They wear well. They are good for country and town. They have this pleasing quality, too, that they look well in a flock.

Now, there are colors that are pretty at close range, as, for instance, the partridge colors, but at a little distance they do not show their beauty at all. The Silver Rocks make an attractive flock, and, after all, it is the beauty of the flock, and not the beauty of single birds at close range, that tells most. The town dweller who keeps a few fowls in his yard or the farmer who is a chicken enthusiast, takes most pleasure in showing you his birds together.

The Silver Rock male is a bird of perfectly unique appearance. The black body, with the silvery white top color making a complete and pleasing contrast, gives us a specimen that is attractive whenever seen. Last winter I was walking through a poultry show where the various birds were out in all their glory. The centre of the building had many large open rooms exhibiting pens of the different kinds. At the further end of the room from where I stood, I saw an elegant Silver-Gray Dorking male in one of these coops, and so conspicuous was his coloring that as I looked down that way all the other colors seemed commonplace in comparison. I had never had an opportunity before to notice the remarkable difference, and I was not then seeking such an opportunity. That one bird stood out from all the rest in a way to hold the entire field of vision. It was a fine specimen, and the top color was a pure, clean, silver white.

In the Silver Rock we have the same color scheme, with slight variations, that is found in the Silver-Gray Dorking. The thing to be worked for, and maintained when it is secured, is the clean, unsullied silvery white color, and I believe that it is going to be comparatively easy to have it in the Silver Rock male. I am not having any serious difficulty in this direction. A few will get brassy, but I find that the majority are free of this troublesome fault. I have a cock bird, the third prize cockerel at Madison Square Garden last winter, that has been in the sun all summer, and he is just as clean in color now, as he was last winter. There is not even a trace of brassiness.

The Silver Rock female is just as attractive in her way. Nothing in feathers can exceed the exquisite beauty of this triple penciling laid on in white and gray and brown. It makes a study for an artist, and it always will offer an enticing field of investigation and improvement to the enthusiastic fancier.

To have the hackle just right, with a nice, clear lacing and a distinct and pretty centre; to improve the penciling in every section, so that it will be definitely marked from the throat to the tail and down the thighs; to have with all this, the right Rock form, bay eyes and yellow skin—here is a chance for the greatest lover of chickens.

A point that is distinctly in favor of the penciled breeds is that they improve by molting. This is true of Partridge Cochins and Partridge Wyandottes. A Partridge Wyandote female will nearly always have a better penciled cushion the second season, than she had the first. I have just been looking at some of my Silver Penciled Rock hens that were pullets last winter, and have their new coat for the coming winter, and I have found improvement in the penciling in most sections, but especially in the cushion. I had observed this in breeding the partridge Cochins, and if it holds good throughout in the Silver Rocks, it will prove to be a point of exceeding value, for molting is a serious handicap to several varieties, in that it often lowers the score several points.

It is to be hoped this variety will not be spoiled by resorting to the double mating system. Long ago, one of the originators of the Silver Penciled Wyandottes raised a warning voice against the mischief double mating would work in that variety. He insisted that the thing to do is to follow single mating, and make improvement in that way, and not attempt to force progress by carrying two lines of breeders that must inevitably bring confusion, and that would surely bring disappointment to the beginner with that variety.

This warning applies equally forcibly to the Silver Rock fanciers. By double mating we may produce a few superior birds, but the confusion that this method will introduce, is too costly to justify it.

Most strains of Barred Plymouth Rocks, in the hands of the ordinary poultryman or the farmer, produce nothing but mongrels in plumage. When once the double-mating plan is adopted it must be continued, and continued by an expert to be successful. It is useless for the farmer, who wants to improve his flock of Barred Rocks, to buy stock or eggs of the Barred Rock fancier who has his birds divided into pullet breeders and cockerel breeders, for unless he knows how to practise that way of breeding he will get no satisfactory results from the experiment. As a fancier's scheme to produce a few exhibition specimens, double mating is commendable; but, as a general method of breed improvement and as a way to get uniform and attractive flocks, it is a failure. Flock improvement, we should always bear in mind, is much more important than the production of a few exhibition birds.

The Silver Rocks are especially beautiful in flocks, and it is flock beauty and flock excellence that we should strive for, above all else. This beauty and this excellence can never be secured by keeping two lines of breeders, unless one is ready to discard half or more of his product as mongrels.

In the Silver Rocks we have a reproduction of the markings of the Dark Brahma, and these markings with the Rock form give us a fowl of remarkable utility and beauty qualities. We have it on good authority that the variety was made by crossing the Dark Brahma, the Mottled Java and the Silver-Gray Dorking. This combination should give us a fowl of large size, quick growth and great hardiness. In my experience with this variety, I have found that it feathers out at an early age and plumps up nicely like the other Rock varieties, and for these reasons it is sure to prove to be a good market chicken.

I am not expecting the Silver Rocks to have a great boom; indeed, I am hoping they will not have, for it is easy to overdo the booming business. Several breeds have had the tom-toms beaten for them—they have suddenly flashed into notoriety, and then passed into obscurity. A liberal use of printer's ink and a general hurrah are getting some varieties into the limelight, but I should not be surprised to see them rapidly wane in popular favor.

I expect the Silver Rocks will have a steady growth in the esteem of poultrymen. I can see no reason why they should not have, and I can see a number of things distinctly in their favor. I think they will prove to be a fascinating study for the expert breeder, and extra good specimens are pretty certain to command interesting prices.

I have been delighted this summer in watching the development of my Silvers, and just now when they are approaching maturity, and their adult feathers are beginning to show what I may expect in their score cards, I find it a great pleasure to watch them and note every mark of progress.

POULTRY DISEASES AT A GLANCE

The following hints will, perhaps, help in the prompt detection of the difficulty or disease which may be troubling a fowl:—

Administering Medicine.—Too often is a profitless expense. Avoid the necessity for it by maintaining the healthiness of the flock.

Abdominal Dropsy.—Abdomen distended with liquid, hangs down. Fowl loses appetite, becomes weak and pale.

Anaemia.—Poor blood or poverty of blood from lack of proper nourishment, pure air, and sunshine.

Apoplexy.—Bursting of blood-vessel in the brain prostrates the bird; comb purple.

Asthenia.—'Going light,' due to starving, digestive disorder, vermin, blood poison.

Atrophy of liver.—Stupor and possibly convulsions, may indicate wasting of the liver, induced by lack of exercise, over-feeding, and unbalanced rations.

Breakdown.—Abdomen hangs down at rear from excess of fat, fatty degeneration, or disorder of the oviduct.

Broken Bones.—Unless the fowl is very valuable treatment is avoided by killing for the table.

Bronchitis.—Cold or catarrh may lead to inflammation of the throat, whistling or rattling breath due to exposure to cold, foul air, draughts, irritating dust.

Bumble-foot.—Cushion of the foot has a corn with abscess. Joints of leg may also be affected. Usual cause, narrow perches, alighting on hard floor from high perches, embedding of pebble in sole of foot.

Canker.—Painful attempts at swallowing, white, grey, or yellow patches develop on the membrane lining the mouth or throat. Due to colds, catarrh, roup, exposure to cold dampness, draughts, foulness.

Catarrh.—A common cold may continue until breathing is hindered by inflammation and mucous secretions collected in nostrils and mouth. There is drowsiness, loss of appetite, ruffled feathers, wheezing.

Chicken Pox.—Yellowish pimples on the head and underside of wings, loss of sight, weakness, paleness.

Choking.—Shaking of the head, straining and jerking of the neck in trying to swallow.

Cholera.—Diarrhoea, with yellow discharges, rough plumage, drooping wings, contracted neck, great thirst, pale comb, exhaustion; contagious.

Colds.—Inflammation of the nostrils and throat from catching cold is shown by sneezing and running at the nostrils, done to exposure to chilling temperature, dampness, draughts.

Congestion of the Liver.—Over-fatness and sluggishness sometimes accompany congestion of the liver, due to over-feeding, starchy rations, lack of exercise, and digestive disorders.

Congestion of the Lungs.—Overcharging the blood vessels of the lungs, following a sudden or severe chilling, may occur in young chicks or moulting fowls. There is rapid, laboured respiration, stupor, and purple color of comb and wattles.

Constipation.—Stoppage of the bowels or clogging of the vent may result from digestive disorders, due oftentimes to lack of green food and failure to exercise.

Consumption.—Wasting and weakening of the body may be accompanied by foetid diarrhoea. The breathing may be somewhat rasping, and there is paleness of the comb and wattles.

Corns.—Hardened and thickened cuticle of the sole of the foot, due to narrow perches, alighting from high perches on hard floor, pressure of embedded pebble.

Crop-bound.—Impaction and enlargement of the crop from gorging or stoppage.

Depraved Appetite.—Gorging with food, or swallowing substance unsuitable to the digestive tract, causing indigestion or stoppage. May result from lack of grit.

Diarrhoea.—Looseness of the bowels, caused by sudden chilling or digestive disorders.

Diphtheria.—See roup.

Dysentery.—Excessive and persistent diarrhoea, due usually to filthy food or drink or foul conditions.

Eczema.—White pimples show on wattles, increase in size, run together, discharge, and become crusted.

Enteritis.—Inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the stomach and intestines, resulting from acute diarrhoea, and caused by poison, internal parasites, over-eating, fermented food, condiments, filthy drinking water, especially liable to attack growing chickens and moulting fowls.

Eversion.—Protrusion of the inflamed oviduct from the vent may result from straining in laying an egg which is malformed, extra large, or broken within the oviduct of cloaca.—Feathered Life.

A QUEBEC POULTRY HOUSE.



POULTRY HOUSE BUILT THIS FALL BY GEO. R. TYLEE, 'FAIRFIELDS,' ROSEMERE, P.Q.

Mr. Geo. R. Tylee sends us a letter describing a poultry house built this fall, and also saying something about his work. Mr. Tylee states:—

The house is 64 x 16, divided into five pens, and a small feed room, it has cement floors, and seems to be all right so far. I think of putting cotton over the wire dividing the pens so as to stop any draught on a windy day, when the windows are open. The old hens have been laying very well, and some of the early pullets are laying, but they have not been doing so well since the snow came. Perhaps I am not feeding quite right. To 100 old hens I feed in the morning 4 quarts of wheat or barley and oats, and in the evening 4 quarts of corn and 4 of wheat, making 12 quarts of grain a day. In addition they have all the bran, grit and oyster shell and beef bone they want as well as mangolds. The grain is all fed in the litter. Now, am I feeding enough, and how much ought I feed?

I fattened some cockerels in the crates, fed on milk, barley and oats, and they made a gain of a little over two pounds in the 24 days, and gave me a nice profit after the price of grain and milk was taken off.

Poultry Ed.—I do not think Mr. Tylee is feeding too heavy, but the best way to tell is to see what grain is left in the litter, as the next feed is given. If there is practically nothing left they are not getting enough. If considerable, do not feed so much.

WINTER ADVICE

I have visited a good many small plants, as well as a few large ones this past year. It is easy to tell which one is a success and which one is not; all you have to do is to look around and notice if the poultry houses are kept clean, the yards well cared for, dead hens taken care of, and not left just where you throw them. I speak of this because I have seen it happen. Instead of burying the hen when it was found, it was left for a few days until it began to decay; then it was buried. The best run poultry farm will lose a hen once in a while.

When one goes into the hen business they must 'get on to their job,' and do things when they see that they should be done, not wait until to-morrow.

I will tell what I think should be done to make a success on a poultry farm. I may not live up to everything I say, but have always been able to clear up $1.50 or more per hen each year, so have no fault to find with my method.

First get rid of those old scrub hens you have, and get some full blood Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, or any breed that suits your fancy and conditions.

If you are going in for eggs, don't get them from some breeder who makes a specialty of broilers, but buy from some one who breeds for eggs, and be sure that he gets them. You want eggs in November, December and January to make money. Any one can get eggs in April. How are we going to know who is reliable and who is not? I know of two men who have large advertisements in poultry papers that read like this: 'Eggs and stock for sale from two hundred egg strain, all trap nested.' Now I know that on one of these farms there is only one trap nest, and that is not in use. The other man is never at home when you call to see his stock, and his wife says he does not allow any strangers to look the stock over unless he is there. If they get orders by mail they fill them, but they don't like nearby trade. This is a raw deal if I ever knew of one. You must get your eggs and stock from some one you know is reliable. I think a good share of them try to do the square thing.

Do clean up that hen house; take out all the old dirt, and fill in with new, fix up the roosts; put in new glass if need be; wash the windows; give the whole inside a good coat of whitewash; fill in each pen with a good lot of litter, no less than six inches; oat straw is the best; don't be stingy, you must keep your hens well exercised or you will fail right here. Now give your hens enough to eat; get a good ration for laying stock, and use judgment, but good grain; don't buy damaged grain because you can get it cheap. Think of yourself eating damaged food. The hen is just as good as you, and wants good food, and will do her best if she has it. Have plenty of shells, grit, and good fresh water before them all the time. Don't fill up the water dish without rinsing it out. I have seen it done, but you have more common sense than that.

When fall comes and the pullets are beginning to sing about that nice clean nest you have ready for them, you must be careful about selecting out all those that are undersized, way off color, or in any other way unfit to breed from. Last fall I threw out a good many, and sent them to market, they were what some would say were good ones; but don't be satisfied with just good ones; work to have them better each year.

I am in it for eggs, and I get them when the price is high. I never breed from a pullet unless she laid before Jan. 1. I think my success is due to rigid selection, good feed, and well ventilated houses—and I have tried to give them good care.—F. W. Perry.

POULTRY SHIPMENTS

WILL NOT COME UNDER MEAT INSPECTION LAW.

Ottawa, Dec. 10.—The law requiring the inspection of meats intended for interprovincial trade in the Dominion has been rescinded for the time being as far as poultry is concerned. Until yesterday the railways refused to accept poultry for shipment to points outside the province of consignment unless it had been inspected according to the law which requires that all meats shipped must bear the stamp of a government inspector. It has been found impracticable to apply this rule to poultry, so a notice has been issued from the live stock department to all Canadian railways permitting them to accept such consignments without inspection.

Many merchants, not thinking the law applied to poultry, in anticipation of Christmas trade, had laid in large stocks of turkeys, geese, ducks, fowl, etc., but when they commenced to ship they found that the railways refused to carry their goods on account of the law. Had they been compelled to dispose of their stocks within their respective provinces many of them would have been at a great loss. The shipments of dressed poultry are so large and so numerous that it was found impossible to apply the law to them. The removal of the rule will greatly facilitate the Christmas poultry trade.

THE AMERICAN DOMINIQUE

There seems to be an attempt to revive the popularity of the American Dominique. This fowl was once very popular with the farmer, and justly so, because it united in an excellent degree the qualities of a good table fowl and those of a good layer. As one of the foundation breeds out of which the barred Plymouth Rock arose, it deserves a passing notice; as a really excellent general purpose fowl it deserves something more than this. As its larger descendant increased in favor, the American Dominique diminished in popularity, and in a nearly equal ratio. Still a few breeders have clung to it, and they may possibly recall it to some of its pristine glory.

It is about a pound lighter in weight than the barred Plymouth Rock, and has a rose instead of a single comb. Its body in proportion to its weight is longer than that of the Plymouth Rock, and the appearance of length is emphasized by the longer and fuller tail. Indeed, in appearance, it has a touch of the Hamburg, both in comb and shape, and the Hamburg is a beautiful fowl. If one can imagine a fowl midway in shape between the Plymouth Rock and the Hamburg, with a rose comb and with plumage like the barred Plymouth Rock, with good yellow legs and considerable pertness and vivacity of movement, he will get a very good idea of the American Dominique.

But he must not expect the perfection in plumage that the best strains of the barred Plymouth Rock show—at least not yet. The cockerels, as a rule, are lighter than the show specimens of the barred Plymouth Rock, and the pullets darker and less clear in their contrasting colors. If ever the Dominique is to rival the barred Plymouth Rock in plumage, the same principles of breeding must be applied to it as have been applied so successfully to the latter. The breed must be separated into pullet breeding and cockerel breeding strains, and these strains must be kept separate and distinct. If this is done, and enough breeders become interested in the fowl, it may in time be brought to an equal degree of perfection in plumage.

The hens are admirable layers of dark eggs, and, being smaller than the Plymouth Rocks, are good foragers. If the Plymouth Rock surpasses the Dominique in size, the latter may surpass the former in laying. Both are good layers, but I believe the Dominique rather the better of the two. When dressed for market the quality of one is about on a par with the quality of the other, but the Plymouth Rock is a pound heavier, which counts to its advantage.

While I do not own a Dominique, and do not expect to, I still am rather interested in this attempted revival of so good an old breed. I hope the attempt will succeed, but am not at all sanguine that it will. Indeed, I think that the chances are that it will fail, and that those who wish to breed a fowl with a barred plumage will continue to breed the barred Plymouth Rock. Its greater size and its more perfect plumage will probably keep it in the ascendant. Still, the effort in favor of the Dominique may not entirely fail and it may acquire enough popularity to cause its perpetuation and perfection, and it may shine in the planetary poultry system as a moon, while the barred Plymouth Rock shines as a sun. And as we do not despise the moon because it is not the sun, as we need both in our system, so, perhaps, we shall come to find the American Dominique as necessary among fowls as the moon is among planets.

HOW TO MAKE A LIVING FROM POULTRY

E. W. Philo, in the 'Poultry Review, writing on this subject, says:

The one in charge of the poultry plant is the greatest factor in making the business a success. If determined to win and work along some definite line, success will be sure.

I have always been considered visionary, and the longer I live the more need there seems for one to be visionary, if there is to be anything gained in life more than a living. We must set our stakes high, then drive hard to the mark until the goal for which we are aiming has been reached.

There is a good living in poultry by just keeping ordinary thoroughbred stock. Still greater success may be had when the best quality is kept, and they should be improved each year. The demand for poultry of the finest quality is always in excess of the supply, and when one has some extra good ones to sell the profits are greatly increased and there is an incentive for one to aim still higher. As a basis for estimating profits for the production of market eggs we will take it for granted that the average hen with the average care will produce a hundred and fifty eggs in a year, and that it will cost as much to raise the hen as she will bring after completing the year's work of producing eggs. The difference, then, between the cost of feed consumed and the amount the eggs will bring would be all profit (or pay for labor when the owner is doing the work).

The average market price for eggs is twenty-four cents a dozen, making the net proceeds from the hen during the year three dollars. At the present high prices for feed and grain it will cost $1.50 to supply a 150-egg hen 365 days, leaving a net profit of $1.50 a year. One good, active person can care for a thousand laying hens, which would yield a profit of $1,500, when the care given the entire lot would be equal to the care given a single flock of six hens in a pen.

It now costs $1.85 a year to keep a 200-egg hen, making the percent of profit greater than when the 150-egg hen is kept, at a cost of $1.50 a year, and the difference between the 150-egg hen and the 200-egg hen is largely in the breeding, although the care given them has as about as much to do with a large egg yield as the breeding. Fifteen hundred dollars a year would be considered quite a snug little income by the average person and is more than the average person would make, for the simple reason that they do not think it possible to get such returns and are afraid to set their stakes for fear of failure, which only comes to those who are looking for it, just as the greatest success comes to one who dreams and sees visions and then uses the talents given to carry on the work as planned in the most practical and business-like manner.

The greatest cause of failure in the poultry business is, without doubt, from inattention and its being handled as a side issue, the fowls getting but a remnant of thought and attention after one is exhausted by close attention to other business and has nothing left for the sadly neglected poultry. Give the poultry the same careful study and care it is necessary to give any other renumerative business, and there will not be any question as to which will pay best.'

POULTRY QUERIES

MACDONALD COLLEGE.

J.S., Quebec.—1. Does Macdonald College Poultry Department issue any bulletins or literature? 2. Do they sell eggs for incubators? 3. Do they sell baby chicks? Ans.—1. Nothing has been issued in the way of bulletins. 2 and 3. Yes, in the breeding season.

ANDALUSIANS.

With reference to a recent inquiry from a correspondent for these birds, we have received a letter from Mr. F. H. Taylor, Keene, Ont., stating that he has some for sale.

RURAL INQUIRIES

COWS IN HARNESS.

A Beginner—1. Would it be any detriment to a young cow, which is giving a small amount of milk, to be put to work? 2. Would steers work in ordinary horse harness; or is the yoke the only means of draught for steers? Ans.—1. It would be no detriment, providing the work is light. 2. You can use ordinary horse harness. This is done in the North-West.

The standard views for your stereoscopic collection. Beautiful reproductions of the Quebec Tercentenary. No matter how many others you have, you should get these. As a premium, this is one of the best lines we have ever offered. Very liberal terms. See another page.

FARMERS' SALES AND WANTS.

ADVERTISING RATES.—Under this heading advertisements will be inserted without display at a cash-with-the-order rate of one cent a word per insertion, twenty-five cents being the minimum amount of an order for a single insertion, and forty cents the minimum amount for orders of more than one insertion. SIX consecutive prepaid insertions will be given for the price of FOUR. a number or single letter to be counted as one word. When replies are to be addressed in care o the 'Witness' Office, an additional charge of twenty-five cents is made.

Agents Wanted.

AGENTS WANTED — WOULD YOU LIKE to have a route of regular customers and employ sub-agents. If so, don't wait until the territory you want is allotted to someone else. ALFRED TYLER, Teas, London, Ont.

SALESMEN WANTED FOR OUR NEW and Choice Varieties of Seed Potatoes. Liberal terms. Write for particulars. CAVERS BROS., Galt, Ont.

MEN WANTED — RELIABLE MEN IN every locality throughout Canada to advertise our goods, tack up show-cards on trees, fences, bridges, and all conspicuous places; also distribute small advertising matter; commission or salary, $3 per month, and expenses $4 per day; steady employment to good, reliable men; no experience necessary; write for particulars. EMPIRE MEDICINE CO., London, Ont.

AGENTS WANTED, TO PUSH 'WORLD Wide' on special trial rate offer. Nothing nicer to canvass for. Generous commissions; it is just what intelligent people are looking for. Write for terms, samples, etc. JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

MEN WANTED AT ONCE on salary and expenses. One good man in each locality with rig or capable of handling horses to advertise and introduce our guaranteed Royal Purple Stock and Poultry Specifics. No experience necessary; we lay out your work for you. $25 a week and expenses. Position permanent. Write W. A. JENKINS MANF'G CO., London, Ontario.

Books, Post Cards, &c.

100 ENVELOPES PRINTED WITH YOUR name and address on corner, postpaid, 35c; 250 for 75c. Samples free. W. HOWIE, Printer, Beebe Plain, Que.

CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR POSTALS, sold retail at wholesale prices; 20 beautifully embossed, colored, silver ground, etc., only 25c; order early. G. Le GRAND, New Carlisle, Que.

TWENTY BEAUTIFUL ENGLISH COLored Post-Cards of London, Manchester, Sheffield and other towns for 25c. A. G. BROWN, Creighton, Ont.

Miscellaneous.

WANTED, AT THE DELHI TANNERY, Hides, Skins and Furs to tan for Robes, Coats and Gauntlet Mitts, etc. Tanned soft and pliable. Never get hard. B. F. BELL, Delhi, Ontario.

A.O.U.W. — MEMBERS OF THIS ORDER in Ontario, fearing disaster, send address. Death rate dangerous, membership decreasing. Investigate! J. C. SHEPHERD, Kirkfield, Ont.

YOU HAVE GOT CATARRH

If you have that continual dropping in the throat. Catarrh, or cold in the head, is the most common disease to which the human body is subject, more particularly in varied climates like our own. CHRONIC CATARRH is usually the result of common catarrh, and is exceedingly troublesome. When inflammation continues, and ulceration takes place, matter is secreted, which falls down the THROAT. This is one of the worst features of the disease, as the matter finds its way into the stomach, causing a general derangement of the system. In the morning, on rising, great difficulty is experienced in clearing the head and throat. BARCLAY'S CATARRH CURE will absorb and dry up all discharges. The air passages are freed, and breathing becomes easy. If not found at your dealer, write for FREE SAMPLES and CIRCULAR to BARCLAY SUPPLY AGENCY, 207 St. James street. Room 38, Montreal, Que.

For late Classified Ads See Page 24

PIGEONS FOLLOWED SHIP

SEA CAPTAIN'S STORIES OF BIRDS THAT FOUND THEIR HOME ABOARD VESSELS.

(From the Houston 'Post.')

Captain Cowdy, of the British steamship 'Cayo Manzanillo,' is a fancier of pigeons, and has demonstrated by actual experience that birds of the homing class will locate for themselves a temporary as well as a permanent loft. Captain Cowdy said that he had noticed recently in despatches from Galveston that a number of homer pigeons had been picked up by vessels in the Gulf and by people in this city and said that he is of the opinion that they may be part of his family of ten which was lost from the 'Cayo Manzanillo' off Vera Cruz, in a storm.

These ten pigeons are Belgian birds and have travelled with Captain Cowdy for thousands of miles and have been released in many different countries, at times as far as 500 miles in the interior, and in every case have found their way back to their ship, evidently having no trouble picking out their homes among the numerous other vessels that might be at anchor.

One of the latest tests that Captain Cowdy gave to his birds was at Vera Cruz, Mexico, when he took his pets with him a distance of two hundred miles into the interior to the city of Mexico, where they were released, and they flew direct to Vera Cruz and to their loft on board his ship.

An interesting coincidence with the disappearance of his ten birds on the night of the storm was that the next day one of them returned. It found the ship at sea and fell to the deck exhausted. Shortly afterwards it recovered and appeared anxious to leave again. It was released, but after flying about the ship for a while, rose in the air and made frantic appeals, so Captain Cowdy interprets them, to attract the attention of the commander and then slowly started away in the direction from which it had come. Captain Cowdy is positive in his belief that the bird's actions were intended to show that it would go after its companions and steer them to the ship. The bird's disappearance was the last seen of it, and the captain is of the opinion that his pets were caught in the force of the gale and perished, else he is sure that they would have followed the ship.

These trade-marks on every package
CRESCO FLOUR DIET FOR DYSPEPTICS
And Cures of
KIDNEY AND LIVER TROUBLES AND OBESITY
Makes delicious foods for everybody.
Unlike other foods. Any grocer. For book or sample, write
FARWELL & RHINES, WATERTOWN, N. Y., U. S. A.

Farm and Other Lands

COME TO THE FAMOUS FRASER River Valley, the farmer's paradise; abundant yields of all kinds of fruit and other produce. Send for free booklet to PUBLICITY ASSOCIATION, New Westminster, B.C.

Live Stock.

IMPORTED SHIRE HORSES FOR SALE. Two stallions. Four mares in foal. If not sold before, will be on exhibition and offered for sale at the Horse Show in Toronto next January 13th, 14th and 15th. For particulars write to WILLIAM LAKING, care Wm. Laking Lumber Co., Toronto.

FOR SALE — EIGHT REGISTERED Holstein Bulls and Heifers, eight and twenty months' old. R. A. GILLESPIE, Abbotsford, P.Q.

Eggs and Poultry.

PRACTICAL POULTRY BOOK—64 Pages, dealing with breeds, care, management, diseases, treatment, houses, etc., 10c. ARTHUR RICE, Granby, Que.

FOR SALE — THOROUGHBRED White Plymouth Rocks, Chickens, and White Holland turkeys. Apply to ALEX. MATTHEW, Sawyerville, Que.

HOUDAN COCKERELS FOR SALE. H. J. MARQUIS, Pickering, Ont.

FOR SALE — BLACK LANGSHANS AND Buff Cochin Bantams. Winners at Napanee, Ottawa and Kingston. Prices reasonable. Write. HOLLAND BROS., 190 Ordnance street, Kingston, Ont.

SPECIAL SALE, PURE BRED, BLACK Minorca, S. C. White Leghorns, S.C. Brown Leghorns, Pullets, May and April hatched, 75c and $1.00 each; Cockerels, $1; no culls. Sale until Dec. 19th. W. R. KAISER, Mitchellville, Ont., Leeds Co., via Lansdowne.

BARRED ROCKS, 'GROVE HILL Strain,' some splendid cockerels, 'pullet mating,' for sale. Write for prices and description. Satisfaction guaranteed. ROBERT WILSON, Longley Prairie, B.C.

BARRED ROCKS, WHITE AND LACED Wyandottes; Trios not related, $2.50; 2 Females and 1 Male, $3.00, shipped in special light crates. WADE & SON, Sarnia, Ont.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED, MEN AND WOMEN TO MAKE $25 to $50 weekly; no selling; no experience; not a cent capital required. Send stamp for particulars. NATIONAL HHOUSEHOLD PUB. CO., Montreal.

WANTED — PERSONS TO GROW MUSHrooms during winter months. Waste space in cellar or outhouse can be made yield a profit of from $15 to $25 per week. Now is the best season of the year to plant. Crop in from five to six weeks. No earth required. Only manure, which, when treated according to instructions, emits absolutely no odor whatever. Write for illustrated booklet and full particulars. MONTREAL SUPPLY CO., Montreal.

Business Chance

FOR SALE, HOTEL BUSINESS, 12 miles from Victoria, B.C., horse, cow, pigs, chickens, furniture, effects, good will, a going concern. My five year lease on hotel and five acres of land all under cultivation, in fruit trees, etc. Apply proprietor. Prairie Hotel, Saanichton, Nr. Victoria, B.C.

Canaries For Sale.

FOR SALE—HIGH BRED CANARIES, Yorkshires and Norwich, high colors and fine singers; also some fine type for breeding prize-winners. MRS. W. b. GRINER, 97 Dovercourt Rd., Toronto.

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 inquiry 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.

DIVORCES IN CANADA.

In answer to the inquiry of W.D.R., regarding the number of divorces in Canada in 1907, our Ottawa correspondent has ascertained that there were seven divorces in all granted by the Parliament of Canada at its last session. The divorce applications for next session already number fourteen.

CAT WITH FITS.

Eunice M.—I have a young cat that has just exterminated a horde of rats and mice. It takes fits frequently as a consequence. Please suggest a remedy. Ans.—The fits are, as you say, caused by devouring rats and mice. If the cat is kept where it can get no meat of any kind, and is given only milk, and not too much of that for a few days, it will likely recover by itself.

ONE OF MRS. STOWE'S BOOKS.

J.A., Rockland, N.B. —Where can I obtain a copy of Mrs. H. B. Stowe's novel, 'Drift,' which was published some time after 'Uncle Tom's Cabin,' and which now seems to be out of print, as I never see it in the publishers' lists of books. I have applied to several, but they don't seem to know anything about it. Ans.—You have not got the name quite correct. The title of the novel in full is 'Dred: A Tale of the Great Dismal Swamp.' It has not gone through anything like so many editions as 'Uncle Tom's Cabin,' but we do not think it is out of print. If your local bookseller cannot procure it for you, send stamped envelope for address of Montreal bookseller.

CHRISTMAS CAKE.

C.F.—Please give recipe for making a Christmas currant loaf. Ans.—Following is one recipe, which makes a very good cake at moderate expense. Put a cup of butter into a large earthen bowl, and work it with a spoon until it is of the consistency of cream. Add gradually a cup and a half of brown sugar, four eggs, well beaten. Then add one cup of milk, one cup of molasses, one teaspoon of lemon extract, also one cup and a half of seeded and stoned raisins, the same quantity of currants, that have been picked over, washed, and dried, and if preferred a cup of candied citron cut in bits. Have the fruit rolled in flour before adding to the mixture, so that it will not sink to the bottom and cling in a mass. Stir in four cups of flour that have been mixed and sifted with one teaspoon of soda, one teaspoon of ground cinnamon, one teaspoon allspice, one-half teaspoon of mace, and one-half teaspoon ground cloves. Line a cake pan with buttered paper, put in the cake mixture, and bake until a straw inserted comes out clean. Make several days before wanted for use.

CUSTOMS DUTIES AT CHRISTMAS.

Mrs. B. D., Prince Edward Island.—In the two weeks preceding Christmas are packages exempt from customs house duties between the United States and Canada? I have been told that you can send packages to friends at that time without their going through the customs house. Kindly tell me if this is the case. Ans.—There is no suspension of customs duties during holidays, but Sec. 690, last customs tariff, provides that casual donations from abroad sent by friends, and not being advertising matter, tobacco, articles containing spirits or merchandise for sale, when the duty otherwise payable thereon does not exceed fifty cents in any one case, under regulations by the Minister of Customs, are free into Canada. Articles going from Canada to the United States are subject to duty at Christmas the same as at other times, but Customs collectors, as a matter of fact, exercise a certain discretion in regard to presents, on which the duty would be small.

'BIGOT' AND 'FANATIC.'

Subscriber.—Please define the difference between a bigot and a fanatic. Can one be a bigot and not be a fanatic at the same time? Ans.—A bigot in the common usage of the word is a person who is so wedded to some particular opinion, creed, or party, as to be intolerant of all other differing opinions, creeds, and parties. A fanatic is one who goes to extravagant lengths in his zeal for some particular cause. One might be a bigot without being a fanatic. There are plenty of people narrowly attached to some creed or party who yet show no great enthusiasm in promoting the cause.

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

J.L.—Will you give the names and religious denomination of each member of the Dominion Government, as at present constituted? Ans.—Premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier (Roman Catholic); Minister of Trade and Commerce, Sir Richard Cartwright (Church of England); Secretary of State, the Hon. Chas. Murphy (Roman Catholic); Minister of Finance, the Hon. W. S. Fielding (Baptist); Minister of Militia and Defence, Sir Frederick Borden (Church of England); Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Sydney Fisher (Church of England); Minister of Customs, the Hon. Wm. Paterson (Independent); Minister of Marine and Fisheries, the Hon. L. P. Brodeur (Roman Catholic); Minister of the Interior, the Hon. Frank Oliver (Presbyterian); Minister of Justice, the Hon. A. B. Aylesworth (Methodist); Postmaster-General, the Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux (Roman Catholic); Minister of Inland Revenue, not appointed since the election, when the Hon. Wm. Templeman was defeated; Minister of Public Works, the Hon. William Pugsley (Church of England); Minister of Railways and Canals, the Hon. George P. Graham (Methodist).

THE REV. EDWARD IRVING.

S.D.W., New Glasgow.—Please give a brief sketch of the Rev. Edward Irving, the celebrated Scotch divine. Was there any truth in the story of his attempting to raise to life again his dead child, after he adopted his peculiar views? Ans.—Edward Irving was born at Annan, Dumfriesshire, in 1792. He graduated at the University of Edinburgh, in his nineteenth year, and taught in an academy for several years, at the same time pursuing his studies for the ministry of the Church of Scotland. He was ordained in 1823, and took charge of a small congregation in London. The powerful eloquence and plain spoken originality of the preacher drew crowds to his church. On Christmas Day, 1825, he first began to make known his convictions in relation to the second and personal advent of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the nearness of that great event. The subject of Messianic prophecy became a leading thought with Irving, and he held a series of conferences with his friends and those interested. He became imbued with the belief in the revival of the spiritual gifts specially referred to in St. Paul's epistle to the Corinthians, and gave himself up to the direction of what he believed to be supernatural utterances. Irving was deposed from the church on a charge of heresy in regard to the incarnation, and of irregularity of doctrine. He was constituted chief pastor or bishop of the Catholic Apostolic Church then being organized. He died at Glasgow, Dec. 8, 1834. Irving disseminated his views by his writings as well as by his preaching. He had a belief in faith healing, but the story about his trying to raise his dead child is probably fictitious.

CUDDLE DOON.

Mrs. G. G. McC. asks for the popular Scotch dialect poem, 'Cuddle Doon.'

The bairnies cuddle doon at nicht
Wi' muckle faucht an' din.
'Oh, try and sleep, ye wunkrift rogues,
Your faither's comin' in;
They never heed a word I speak,
I try to gie a froon,
But, aye, I hap them up, an' cry,
'Oh, bairnies, cuddle doon!'

Wee Jamie wi' the curly heid—
He aye sleeps next the wa'—
Bangs up an' cries 'I want a piece'—
The rascal starts them a'.
I rin an' fetch them pieces, drinks,—
They stop awee the soun'—
I draw the blankets up and cry,
'Noo, weanies, cuddle doon!'

But ere five minutes gang, wee Rab
Cries oot frae 'neath the claes.
'Mither, mak' Tame gie ower at ance,
He's kittlin' wi' his taes.'
The mischief's in that Tam for tricks,
He'd bother half the toon:
But aye I hap them up and cry,
'Oh, bairnies, cuddle doon!'

At length they hear their faither's fit;
An' as he nears the door,
They turn their faces to the wa'
While Tam pretends to snore.
'Hae a' the weans been guoe?' he asks,
As he pits off his shoon.
'The bairnies, John, are in their beds,
An' lang since cuddled doon!'

An' just afore we bed oorsels,
We look at oor wee lambs,
Tam has his airm roun' wee Rab's neck,
An' Rab his airm roun' Tam's.
I lift wee Jamie up the bed,
An' as I straik each croon,
I whisper, till my heart fills up,
'Oh, bairnies, cuddle doon!'

The bairnies cuddle doon at nicht,
Wi' mirth that's dear to me;
But soon the big warl's cark and care
Will quaten doon their glee.
Yet come what will to lika ane,
May He who sits aboon,
Aye whisper, though their pows be bauld,
'Oh, bairnies, cuddle doon!'.

'SAUNDERS McGLASHAN'S COURTSHIP

E.E.M.—Kindly inform me where I can get the reading 'Saunders McGlashan's Courtship'? Ans.—You will find it in Best Selections, No. 23.

THE NEGRO AND THE INDIAN.

D.L.C.—Who should you say is the best authority on the negro problem, including slavery; also on the Indian trials in the past in America? Ans.—Booker T. Washington understands the situation in regard to the negro problem perhaps better than anyone else; at least, he is most actively interested in all that concerns the people of his own race, and has made a careful study of the problem. In regard to the American Indian, a work is in preparation by Mr. E. S. Curtis, who spent years among the Indian tribes. An article by Mr. Curtis on vanishing Indian types, illustrated from photographs, appeared in 'Scribner's Magazine' in 1906 or 1907.

THE CHATEAU DE RAMEZAY.

A Constant Reader, Ste. Therese, P.Q. —Kindly give us some information about the Chateau de Ramezay. We have been told that it is a place of great interest, and we should like to learn something of its history. Ans.—The Chateau de Ramezay is a very interesting landmark in the history of Montreal. The builder and first owner was Claude de Ramezay, who came to Canada from France about 1685, as captain of a corps organized for the protection of New France against Iroquois raids. In 1703 he was made Military Governor of Montreal, and shortly after began the construction of a house for himself. The Chateau was built in the old Norman style, with thick stone walls, and after more than two hundred years is still a substantial building. In this mansion, which was a spacious one for the time in a town of some 2,000 people, as Montreal was then, Governor Ramezay lived from 1706 until his death in 1724. One room in the Chateau is still known as the council room, where De Ramezay and governors at a later date held councils to discuss the affairs of the country. About 1744 De Ramezay's heirs sold the Chateau to the India Company, and it became the headquarters for the traffic in furs. In 1774 the Chateau was leased as a residence for the Canadian governors when in Montreal. In 1775, when Montgomery invaded Montreal at the head of United States troops, he made the Chateau his headquarters, and Benjamin Franklin had his printing press set up in one of the cellars, while he tried by disseminating pamphlets to win over the Canadians to join the New England colonies in their revolt. The Chateau continued to be known as Government House for over half a century. In 1837, the special council appointed to carry on the government, sat in the Chateau, and in 1845 it was fitted up to receive a number of the government departmental offices, including the council chamber for the Governor-General. To this Lord Elgin repaired during the riots caused by the passing of the Rebellion Losses Bill. On the removal of the seat of government from Montreal, the courts of justice were held in the Chateau, while the new law courts were being erected. Sir Frederick Williams had his office there in 1860—61. From 1856 to 1872 the Normal school occupied the Chateau, and it was turned into a medical college during the next seventeen years. The Circuit Court was held there for some years. In 1893, through the efforts of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society, the Chateau was purchased for the city, and a museum and library, also a gallery of historical portraits, have been established within its walls.

THE STANLEY CREST.

Heraldry.—The coat of arms of our family is an eagle carrying an infant in its talons. Is there any record of such an incident having taken place? If so, when and where? Ans.—This device is found in the crest of the Stanleys, which is the family name of the Earl of Derby. The story of its adoption is as follows: Away back in the reign of Edward III., Sir Thomas Latham and his lady, who were walking one day in a wild unfrequented part of their park, were startled by the cries of a young child. A servant who accompanied them, on being ordered to search for it, found it in an eagle's nest on the top of a high tree. To their surprise, when it was brought to them, it proved to be a beautiful boy baby in rich swaddling clothes and unharmed. The child was accepted by the aged couple, who were without male issue, as a gift from heaven, and adopted and made their heir and successor. This heir had an only daughter, who was married to Sir John Stanley. In memory of this event, Sir John adopted the eagle carrying a child as his crest, and it has ever since been retained by his noble successors.

A PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.

W.A.H.—I have an old copy of the 'Pilgrim's Progress,' Mason's complete edition, with marginal references and notes. It has also eleven copperplate engravings, and a plan of the way from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City. It also has a life of John Bunyan. Printed by Allen, Paternoster Row. What is this book worth? Ans.—While copies of some of the earlier editions of the 'Pilgrim's Progress' are valuable, and command high prices, specimens of later editions, of which there were a very large number, sell for very little. Yours, no doubt, is a late edition.

NUMISMATIC.

Enquirer.—What is the value of the following coins? 1. Bank of Montreal halfpenny, dated 1844, with a view of the bank on one side with the arms of Montreal on the other. 2. Silver, dollar size, obv., 'Regne de la loi, 1793,' an angel writing on a tablet; rev., 'Republique Francoise, l'an II.,' a wreath of oak leaves enclosing 'six livres.' Ans.—1. Common, worth only one cent. 2. $1.25 to $1.50.

A.W.E.—What is the value of a French crown piece or dollar of Louis XV., dated 1768? Ans.—As these coins circulated very freely in Canada about eighty years ago, they are so common that they rarely sell for more than the price of old silver.

A Reader.—What is the value of the following stamps? 1. Canada, threepence, red, unperforated. 2. Ten cent, violet. 3. Twelve and a half cent, green. 4. Five cent, registered, green. 5. United States, two cent, green, Washington in profile. 6. Ten cent, green, Washington. 7. Great Britain, tenpence, octagonal, brown. 8. North German, one groschen, red. 9. Twenty cent, blue. Ans.—1. Fine and lightly obliterated, 10 cents. 2. Ditto, 15 to 25 cents. 3. 10 to 15 cents. 4. One cent. 5. Forty or fifty cents per hundred. 6. Three to five cents. 7. 75c to $1.25. 8. Fifty cents per 100. 9. Fifty cents per hundred.

LEGAL.

ONTARIO.

LAKE SIDE BUILDINGS.

Inquirer, Ont.—1. A owns cottage built on the water edge of lake; B owns land within two feet of A's cottage. B has built a launch house, and has run it out cornerways into the water in front of A's cottage, so it completely hides A's view of lake, and shuts off all breeze. Is there any way A can compel B to put his launch house on a straight line with his own land? 2. A farmer gave B leave to build a boathouse on his land on lake shore 20 years ago. B has moved the boathouse off the land. Can the farmer claim the land? Ans.—1. Yes; write to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries at Ottawa. 2. Yes.

TRESPASS BY HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS.

A Satisfied Subscriber, Ont.—1. Under what conditions can a person be prosecuted for going on another's land? 2. In hunting season a hound follows deer from open ground across a field legally closed to trespassing. Does man become liable only for damage done if he follows his hound? 3. A trapper sets trap on farm not fenced on all sides and catches a fox. Has owner of the farm any right to interfere with the fox in the trap? Has he any right to interfere with the traps found with no animals in them? 4. Has a man a right to shoot a hound crossing the farm if hound is unaccompanied, but is not causing damage and not running deer at the time, out of season? Ans.—1. Practically, it can ordinarily be done, effectively, only after he has been warned that it would be regarded as trespass, and has persisted despite such warning. 2. He may be fined also, and subjected to payment of costs as well. 3. We think not. 4. No.

CUSTODY OF TITLE DEEDS.

A Constant Reader.—A man bought a farm and paid some money down on it. The first party gave a deed to the second party, but took a mortgage on the land for the balance of the money due for a time. When mortgage came due the second party paid up to first party's agent, but he said he had mislaid the papers; and he has not delivered them yet, but the book in the registry office shows it paid. Is that sufficient? Or can party of the second part compel agent of the first party to produce those documents? Or is it necessary to do so since it shows on the registry book that all moneys against the land are paid. This transaction took place a number of years ago. Ans.—The mortgagor should have the mortgage back, and all title deeds; or, if they have really been lost, the mortgagee should give him a statutory declaration to that effect and furnish him with certified copies from the registry office. It is not altogether clear from the statement given us that a certificate of discharge has been obtained and registered. If this has not been duly atended to, it ought to be and without more delay. In the event of any legal steps becoming necessary, the mortgagee should be proceeded against rather than his agent.

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.)

ECZEMA.

S. S. has a child, two years old, who for the past year has been troubled with eczema. It has been all over her body, arms and legs. It is worst on the face arms and legs. She scratches herself very much, making the patches run water. She also has blotches and scabs. She cries a good deal and does not sleep well at night. Her general health is fair. She eats well and is active during the day. Under treatment she gets better for a little time and then gets worse again. Ans.—This disease is difficult to cure, especially in a child. When apparently cured it is apt to break out again. The trouble is not necessarily with the diet though this may help. Some cases are due to concealed gout; others seem to be nervous in origin. It is well always to give a simple diet, chiefly milk, bread, eggs, and cereals. Meat and soup, sweet stuffs, had better not be given for a time. It is of the greatest importance that you do not apply water to the skin. If you do, you will never get it cured, even with treatment that is judicious or otherwise. Oil the skin, rubbing on olive oil with a bit of clean linen rag. This will cleanse well enough until the condition is better. Remove all the scabs you can, after a preliminary softening with the oil. Then, apply the following ointment. Powdered calamine, fifteen grains; ointment of boracic acid, and ointment of zinc oxide, four ounces of each. Put the child into old combinations and tie gloves on her when you put her to bed. Do everything possible to prevent her scratching herself.

RED EYES AND NOSE.

'Reader.'—His eyes and nose become very redw hen exposed to the cold for a short time. Asks what is the cause and means of cure. Ans.—I think the fault is most likely to be found in the skin. When the skin is thin the blood shows through readily. Combined with this, a sluggish circulation would increase the trouble. It is a difficult condition to cure. You could make a leather pad to fit the nose. Attach a strong elastic band to it and wear this on the nose when in bed. Pass the band behind the head so as to exert a steady pressure. A course of cod liver oil for the winter would help you. For the eyes, bathe them every night in hot water. Rub a little vaseline on the edges of the lids.

PRURITUS.

'Subscriber's daughter' has been bothered for a long time with an itchy feeling. When she scratches the skin, the blood comes and then a scab will form. Sometimes it is worse towards evening. She wonders if it is 'bad blood' or some error in diet. Ans.—The causes of this trouble are very varied. In most there is some constitutional disorder. Bright's disease and diabetes are the chief. If your case proves obstinate it would be well to see a doctor and have the urine examined. Indigestion and constipation are other causes. Ovarian and uterine troubles also. Some people are attacked only in winter. Before you can cure the trouble you must find out the cause. Live plainly and simply, and keep the bowels open. Use soft smooth underwear. You can relieve the itching by sponging the body at night with a lotion composed of one teaspoonful of carbolic acid in a pint of water.

HEART DERANGEMENT.

R.R. has noticed a sensation as if the blood were crowding or scraping through the heart when lying on the left side. She can both hear it and feel it at intervals during the latter part of the night, unless she is careful to rest on the right side. At times a slight pain or lameness accompanies it. She has symptoms of gas on the stomach at the same time or the next morning. She has no palpitation of the heart. She has no other stomach or bowel trouble. She has a good appetite. Ans.—I would advise you to consult a doctor and have the heart examined, such symptoms may be evidence of a valvular affection. Of course, it may not be as serious as that, but it would be well to know. Flatulency and nervousness might cause it, but you cannot be sure. It is important to know the cause, so that you can take the necessary measures.

VETERINARY

Conducted by M. C. Baker, D.V.S.

LATERAL ORIFICE IN COW'S TEAT

G.B.—I have a young cow that has a natural opening in one teat about an inch from the bottom, from which the milk issues when she is being milked. Can anything be done to close this opening now when she is dry? Ans.—This can be done, but it requires considerable skill and careful attention to do it successfully and satisfactorily. An operation may be performed. The edges of the opening should be freely scarified and the resulting fresh wound sewed with fine silk or catgut sutures under strict antiseptic precautions, then covered with flexible collodion or some similar dressing. The success of the operation depends in first making a fresh wound of the opening and then closing this so that it will heal by first intention—that is, heal without suppuration. I would not advise you to do it yourself, but employ a veterinary surgeon.

'THE FLYING DEATH,' our New Serial, starts in this issue. Begin reading it today.

RAZOR STEEL SAWS
SECRET-TEMPER CROSS-CUT
FOR FARMERS



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

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

These saws are elliptic ground this back, requiring less set than any saw now made, perfect taper from tooth to back.

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

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

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

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

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY
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Maple Leaf Saw Works, Galt, Ont.

THE INTERNATIONAL BIBLE STUDY CLUB.

Gold and Silver Medals, Bibles and Books.

ALL READERS HEARTILY INVITED TO JOIN AT ANY TIME.

Please read conditions carefully.

To think out week by week the answers to a set of suggestive questions on the International S. S. Lesson and to answer one of them concisely in writing—such, in brief, is the idea of the Bible Study Club, which started last week in this paper.

The International Newspaper Bible Study Club is for the purpose of promoting, in an unfettered way among the masses, a wider study of the Bible, the basal truths of Christianity, and the problems which enter into every man's life. It is composed of all those who join a Local Club, and take up the simple course herein outlined, barring only ordained ministers. The club has the sympathetic co-operation of the latter, but it is not considered fair to have them compete for the prizes. Sunday-school teachers, Bible class scholars, and church-goers generally, may belong to this Newspaper Club, also non-church-goers, of all shades of opinion. All such who have not joined are warmly invited to do so and to compete for the prizes.

Persons may join the club at any time during the year, but must, of course, answer the 52 questions hereinafter explained, to qualify for the prizes. It is, however, desirable that the questions be answered as the lessons are studied.

The 'Witness' has secured the right to publish the International Sunday School Lesson questions by the Rev. Dr. Linscott, which have aroused so much interest elsewhere, and they will appear weekly. One of these questions each week is to be answered in writing, and upon these answers the prizes are to be awarded.

This paper is authorized to form a Local Newspaper Bible Study Club for its readers, and guarantee to all who join and fulfil the conditions, that everything herein promised shall be faithfully carried out.

CONDITIONS OF THE CONTEST.

1. Each contestant, or his or her family, must be a subscriber to the Montreal 'Witness' during the continuance of the contest, in order to qualify for membership in the International Newspaper Bible Study Club and this Local Club. [A statement that the 'Witness' is bought regularly from a newsdealer will in this competition be accepted from contestants whose names do not appear on our subscription list.]

2. Each contestant in this Local Club, must answer each of the written questions, for fifty-two consecutive weeks, commencing for Sunday, Oct. 25, 1908, and the answers must all be in the possession of this paper within two weeks of the close of this period, which allows two weeks grace after the close of the contest.

3. Each question must be answered separately, and the paper written on one side only. No answer must exceed two hundred words in length and may be less. It will be a convenience if students will write their answers on letter paper, about 8½ inches by 11 inches.

4. Each answer must have the name and address of the writer at the bottom of the answer, so it can be identified, given a number, registered and then the name cut off so the examiner may know it by number only.

5. Students should be careful to understand the question before answering. To do this, the lesson text must be read and especially the verse, or verses, upon which the question is based.

6. The answers from the 'Witness' Bible Study Club must be sent to this office, where they will be collated at the close of the contest, and forwarded to headquarters for independent examination by competent examiners. The prizes will then be awarded according to the highest number of marks, won by members of The International Newspaper Bible Study Club, and all prizes which may be awarded to members of the 'Witness' Club will be given out from this office.

Address all answers to the 'Witness' Bible Study Club, 'Witness' Office, Montreal.

SPECIAL NOTE—Contestants should always put at the head of each answer the date to which the question belongs, as well as the question written out in full or clipped from the paper. They should, moreover, always give their name and address, carefully with each answer, NOT on a separate sheet, but on the same sheet as the question, only well below it, so as to permit of its being cut off (see sections 3 and 4). They should always be sure to give name and address in the same form each week. Please read the conditions carefully, cut them out and keep for ready reference when preparing answers.

THE PRIZES.

First series—A gold medal to each of the first five contestants.

Second Series—A silver medal to each of the next five contestants.

Third Series—A Teachers' Bible, price $5.50, to each of the next five contestants.

Fourth Series—A valuable book worth $1.50, to each of the next thirty-five contestants.

Fifth Series—A developed mind, an expanded imagination, a richer experience and a more profound knowledge of the Bible and of life, to all who take this course whether winning any other prize or not.

Each medal will be suitably engraved, giving the name of the winner, and for what it is awarded, and in like manner each Bible and book will be inscribed.

All who can write, and have ideas, are urged to take up these studies regardless of the degree of their education, as the papers are not valued from an educational or literary standpoint, but from the point of view of the cogency of their reasoned ideas.

Some of our readers inquire whether they may join our Bible Study Club, seeing that they were not subscribers when the competition started, though they have begun to take the 'Witness' since that time. Most certainly they may. Anyone whose name is regularly entered on our books as an annual subscriber to the 'Witness' is thereby qualified to join the Bible Study Club, and the past questions of the series will be repeated from time to time for the benefit of new readers. When the head of the house takes the 'Witness,' any member of the family residing at home may join the Club by merely mentioning the name of the subscriber as it appears on the address tag. This serves as our voucher that they are eligible for membership. See Clause I.

SUGGESTIVE QUESTIONS ON THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FOR THE INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER BIBLE STUDY CLUB.

(Copyrighted, 1908, by Rev. T. S. Linscott, D.D.)

December 27, 1908.

Review—Read Prov. iv.

Golden Text—Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Prov. iv., 23.

A profitable review of the last twelve lessons may be had from the plan which follows. Read each lesson for the term, and then repeat the Golden Texts, and answer one question from each lesson as follows:

October 4—David Brings the Ark to Jerusalem. II. Sam. vi.

Golden Text.—Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise. Psalm c., 4.

Verses 1-4.—If a man is highly educated, successful and popular, but neglects the house of God, and personal religion, what does he gain or lose as a result? (This question must be answered in writing by members of the Club.)

October 11—God's Promise to David.—I. Chron. xvii.

Golden Text—There hath not failed one word of all his good promise.—I. Kings, viii., 56.

Verses 7-8—Is a blacksmith, or machinist, or farmer, or daily laborer, just as dear to the heart of God, as one who is rich and in an exalted position.

Oct. 18—David's Kindness to Jonathan's Son.—II. Sam. ix.

Golden Text—Be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another. Eph. iv., 32.

Verses 11-13—Should the State make provision to keep the aged, and all who are not able to support themselves?

Oct. 25—The Joy of Forgiveness.—Psalm xxxii.

Golden Text—Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.—Psalm xxxii., 1.

Verses 3-4. Compare two men, one who hushes the voice of God in his soul; and another who listens to that voice and obeys, and say what, if any, effect, the habits of these men will have upon the length of their lives.

Nov. 1.—Absalom Rebels Against David.—II. Sam. xv.

Golden Text—Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land that the Lord thy God giveth thee.—Ex. xx., 12.

Verse 23—May we expect to win in any battle if our hearts are filled with fear?

Nov. 8—David Grieves for Absalom.—II. Sam. xviii.

Golden Text—A foolish son is a grief to his father.—Prov. xvii., 25.

Verse 33—What can you say, for or against, the pathetic grief of this heart broken father, at the death of his worse than worthless son?

Nov. 15—The Lord Our Shepherd.—Psalm xxiii.

Golden Text—The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.—Ps. xxiii., 1.

Verse 1—Does scientific research, and our fuller knowledge of the vast network of worlds in the universe, tend to weaken or strengthen our faith in God's individual love and care for each person?

Nov. 22—Solomon Anointed King.—I. Kings i., 1-2: 12.

Golden Text—Know thou the God of thy Father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind.—I. Chron. xxviii., 9.

Verse 6—Are unusual good looks, and ability generally a help or a hindrance to character?

Nov. 29—World's Temperance Sunday.—Isaiah xxviii., 1-13.

Golden Text—I keep under my body and bring it into subjection.—I. Cor. ix., 27.

Verse 2—Is it possible for a nation of drinkers to permanently prosper?

Dec. 6—Solomon Chooses Wisdom—I. Kings iii., 4, 15.

Golden Text—The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.—Proverbs ix., 10.

Verse 13—Will every true Christian have all the riches and honor that are good for him?

Dec. 13.—Solomon Dedicates the Temple.—I. Kings viii.

Golden Text—I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord.—Psalm cxxii., 1.

Verses 1-11—What is the chief institution of a nation, and what is the chief duty of man?

Dec. 20— Solomon's Downfall.—I. Kings xi., 4-13.

Golden Text— Thou shalt have no other gods before me.—Ex. xx., 3.

Verses 6-8—Hundreds of strong, brainy men are serving long terms in penitentiaries; what proportion of them would be there, if they had been true to the Christian's God?

Lesson for Sunday, Jan. 3, 1909.—The Ascension of Our Lord. Acts i., 1-14.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON

Dec. 27, 1908.

FOURTH QUARTER—LESSON XIII.

REVIEW.

Golden Text.—Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.—Prov. iv., 23.

On opposite pages of the Bible album, open to the eyes of all, appear photographs of two kings, David and Solomon—father and son. Numerous fascinating and instructive contrasts and resemblances are easily found. The present-day usefulness of the old Book also is evident from the fact that the lessons gleaned from the opposite portraits are of universal and continuous application.

David was the son of a Hebrew sheik, and minded his father's flocks. His task brought him near to Nature's heart. He proved a close and admiring observer. His hours were filled with devout contemplation and qualities of reverence and trustfulness were cultivated in Nature's schoolhouse in the fields and under the stars. Nor were these only reflective qualities, but strong, aggressive traits as well. He must needs meet and fight the foes of his flock.

Through no fault of his own he later became the object of the most insane jealousy of the king, towards whom he felt only reverence and pity. A new and rugged school opened to him now, in which his training was to be completed. It was the school of the fugitive. In forest, cave, and mountain and in land of the enemy he sought refuge. Traits of resourcefulness were developed by successive emergencies. Such an acquaintance with the topography of his own and surrounding countries, with their respective inhabitants, as could be gained by no other means, was acquired. So, out of the eater came honey. Out of this bitter experience also came some of the best of his psalms, for he learned in suffering what he taught in song. So at length he came to the throne with qualities, natural and acquired, which fitted him to become the best king Israel ever had.

Solomon, on the contrary, had no rural life. He was a lad of the city and the palace, born and raised to the purple. None of his father's painful experiences of flight and exile were his. He had a golden crib and reclined under a silken canopy. Yet he was far from being a luxurious idler. He developed an aptitude for study and observation. He became the oldest of natural scientists, with large acquaintance with the flora and fauna of Palestine. He became also an adept in framing those bits of concrete wisdom which float easily on the stream of popular speech. The fame of his wisdom reached the end of the world and made his court the Mecca of inquiring spirits.

He also proved an aggressive character, but not like his father, in the art of war. He followed the peaceful pursuits of commerce and architecture, until his ships of the desert and the sea emptied the wealth of the world in his treasury. Under his inspiration and according to his plans his workmen wrought until 'fair Jerusalem lifted high her towers, while higher yet the glorious temple reared her pile, far off appearing like a mount of alabaster topped with golden spires.'

Yet, great as was the material glory with which Solomon was surrounded and which he in large part created, this was as nothing compared with the ethical and spiritual ideas which he held in trust. This was his greatest honor. The oracles of God were committed to him. The divine unity and spirituality, the turpitude of sin—the possibility of forgiveness—and the spirituality of worship—these were the truths of which to be the almoner was Solomon's greatest honor.

The Bible is terrible in the fidelity with which it portrays the weakness and sins of its most illustrious characters. It uses no gloss or veneer. So David's and Solomon's sins are both described. The contrast between father and son is in this, that while David repented, sought to make restitution, and found forgiveness, Solomon grew misanthropic and persisted in his sins. So David shines in spite of his spots, but Solomon suffers a total eclipse.

THE TEACHER'S LANTERN.

In the incident of the ark's home-bringing we are taught the importance of the way in which things are done. A right thing may be vitiated by the manner of doing it.

* * *

David's desire to build a house for God has been the ambition of devout souls in every age. But to make the preparations without prospect of seeing the consummation, as David did, is a severe test of sincerity.

* * *

David's counsellors must have thought he had lost his mind when he proposed to care for, not to kill, a legal rival to his throne. That act shines like a morning star of a better day.

* * *

The sin of sins is a wrong attitude towards God. David recognized this when he said, 'Against Thee have I sinned.'

* * *

Sharper than a serpent's tooth is a thankless son. The fang fastened in David's heart.

* * *

Well may Henry Ward Beecher call the twenty-third Psalm the nightingale among the Psalms, and bless the day in which it was born.

* * *

Uneasy rests the head that wears a crown, even in the dying hour. David must needs arouse himself to frustrate the plans of Adonijah and confirm Solomon as his successor.

* * *

Glory of the Bible is that its evolution parallels that of the race. It has a page for the twentieth century temperance reform.

* * *

Solomon recognizes that 'wisdom to govern' is the one thing indispensable for him. He asks for that alone. Several other things are added, however.

* * *

Dedication of temple marks a distinct epoch in Hebrew history—beginning of ecclesiasticism and ritualism.

* * *

Noteworthy that the lovely apparition of the Nativity came to those engaged in commonplace work; that they were not disobedient to their vision; that they told what they had seen, and that they finally returned to their work better shepherds than ever before.

HOME READINGS.

Monday, Dec. 21.—I. Chr. xvii., 1-14.
Tuesday, Dec. 22.—II. Sam. xv., 1-12.
Wednesday, Dec. 23.—II. Sam. xviii., 24-33.
Thursday, Dec. 24.—I. Ki., i., 32-40, 50-53.
Friday, Dec. 25.—I. Ki. iii., 4-15.
Saturday, Dec. 26.—Prov. iv., 1-13.
Sunday, Dec. 27.—Prov. iv., 14-27.

Drastic Purgatives Destroy the Intestines

If you burn your hand you have a good example of the sort of inflammation that the Drastic Purgatives excite in the intestines. Yet many people consider the virtue of purgative pills depends upon their activity.

Dr. Hamilton was the first to produce a pill that would cleanse the system, not by drastic action, but by exciting normal secretions of kidneys, liver, and bowels.

The deepest recesses of the system are searched by Dr. Hamilton's Pills. Poisonous and depressing accumulations, whether stored in the lymphatics, kidneys, liver or bowels are driven out—inward cleanliness is effected.

You are sure to feel better, sure to experience the buoyancy of robust health that comes with Dr. Hamilton's Pills. No medicine is more gentle, more searching, or surer to give that buoyant feeling of sound health. For the family no remedy is so universally satisfactory as Dr. Hamilton's Pills, 25 cents per box, at all dealers.

GARDEN TALKS

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

'Half-finished walls are tumbling down
In Half-way Town.
Half-finished streets are always lined
With half-done work of every kind,
And all the world just lags behind
In dreary Half-way Town.'

A great deal of the pleasure we have in life is found in the things that are well done, and there is no real satisfaction in anything that is the work of incompetence.

The pot of fleshy leaved Mesembry-anthemum in my window, sometimes called Dew plant, is in flower language 'Sloth,' and its heavy sprays do not attract the active flower lover. Out in the world this spirit of indolence, of being afraid we are doing too much, may possess us and yet nothing of importance has ever been accomplished without application and patient labor. The energetic earnest man or woman who works in a whole-hearted way is the one to succeed in any life work undertaken. There is no inspiration in the people who only do what they cannot avoid without thought of the helping hand held out for others, the uncertain people who are always wishing for a less arduous task, working under the fog of discontent, and never knowing the joy of achievement.

In the Book of Books we are admonished not to become 'weary of well-doing,' and great stress is laid upon well-finished work.

This want of a fixed purpose is the ruin of many a youth, who fails to concentrate his lifework, and to round up his calling to the highest possibilities. Yet in nature we find completeness from start to finish—there is no half-way about the seasons—the leaves and branches of the trees are not left partly formed, nor the flower with the unfinished coloring or shape, nor is the fruit left half grown upon the boughs.

God finishes everything in Nature, for in the densest woods hidden from human sight the violet is still blue, the wonderful ferns do not fail in their perfectness, all things are as complete as if on daily exhibition.

Knowing this, let us hope that in His own good time our lives will be brought to full completeness, unfolding into something serene and pure, generous and unselfish, the finished work of the Master.

FOR OFFICE WINDOWS.

Office.—It is a pleasure to know that there are business men who feel inclined to grow some plants in their office windows, and in answer to the query from this correspondent it may be as well to suggest that large plants are suitable and effective for this purpose, being less trouble than smaller ones.

If bloom is specially wanted there is nothing better than the Azalea and Genista, the Hydrangea and Oleander.

An interesting class of plants to be in an office window is an Orange or a Lemon, a Pomegranate, Fig or Guava, for these are sure to attract attention. If in large tubs such plants seldom need re-potting, only to have the top soil scraped off and replaced with rich earth.

Most of the plants mentioned are of the easiest management, if given root-room enough to develop a luxuriant top growth, plenty of water while growing, and but little when at rest. With these simple directions and keeping the foliage clean any office window may be made attractive.

INSECTS ON PLANTS.

Miss M.A.C.—The white fly could be easily managed if you covered the plant with a newspaper, cone shaped, and burned tobacco under it, giving the plant a good bath while the insects were inert. But the largest leaf sent with a bit of stem attached was infested by a worse enemy in the form of scale. You must take your plants to the tub of soap suds and while wet brush off these creatures that are under the little shells and sucking the life from your treasures.

Watch closely along the midrib and stems of the plant, and rub any uneven surface to find if it does not contain the enemy.

Kerosene emulsion, followed by rinsing in clear water will disconcert them, and persistent effort will cure.

Certainly the sample leaves are badly injured and of no use to the plant in the present condition.

FRUITLESS LEMON TREE.

Mrs. L. R.—It is rather disappointing to grow a lemon tree from seed to be three feet high and not to find on it either bloom or fruit. But Seedling Lemons seldom blossom with ordinary window culture and the only thing will be to have it grafted from a bearing plant. This done there will not be any further trouble, and the fruit produced will be good—while the wild fruit even if it did bear would scarcely be of any value.

TREES AS POSTS.

A farmer has discovered for himself that posts are scarce, and inquires what trees are best adapted for this purpose. Among the trees that are quickest of growth and suitable for posts, the Catalpa Speciosa, Honey Locust and European Larch are best suited.

You can get seedlings of these trees from the nurserymen, and it is the most satisfactory way to start a grove.

If seed is sown at home it should be done in autumn, and sometimes lies a year in the ground before sprouting.

The Honey Locust has such a hard seed it will sprout better if sown after soaking for a day in hot water. It requires some knowledge of the treatment of seeds to have them grow readily. The grove must be cultivated, and kept clean, but it pays to set out trees for this purpose, and they grow while you are sleeping, and in time will repay for the investment.

QUESTIONS REGARDING MUSHROOMS.

J.W.—It is a precarious business for a novice to try growing mushrooms, particularly in the city. In answer to your question, there would not be any probability of growing puff balls from the spores.

Mushroom beds can be started at any season of the year, but commercially the profit depends upon the scarcity and the demand. The life tenure of the spawn is indefinite, but the fresher it is the better. It requires a thorough knowledge of conditions to make a mushroom bed profitable.

PLANT FOR NAME.

Ella.—The half leaf enclosed in your letter is, I think, a palm known as Zamia Integrifolia. It is a dwarf Cycad, and in Florida, where it is a native, its roots are grated for starch.

If you have a good plant of this palm it should be very ornamental, not growing more than 18 inches high, but with numerous pinnate leaves.

It is a fine plant for a jardiniere, and well worthy of all care in its cultivation.

TO GROW THE OLEANDER.

Jessie.—The plant you wish to grow requires a rich, sandy loam, and to be freely watered when growing and blooming.

It can be kept in a frost proof cellar all winter, and does not require much water while there. The method of rooting cuttings in water is very simple, taking off pieces of half ripened wood, and putting them in a vial of rain water. Let the vial be placed where the sun will reach the base of the cuttings, but not the top of it, and add water as evaporation takes place. In less than a month its roots will appear, and when they have grown to be an inch long, a little fine earth can be put into the bottle to settle among the tender roots.

When the little plants show signs of putting out leaves the bottle may be broken, and the plantlets lifted out into a pot of rich soil.

Train into whatever shape you prefer, but the favorite form for the Oleander is a long, straight stem. When tall enough nip out the top, and force it to branch.

FAILURE WITH CAULIFLOWER.

Mrs. L.—It is quite possible the reason for your failure with cauliflower was caused by the dry season, for it is a plant that does not thrive in heat and drought.

The land must be very rich and clean, and the plants far enough apart not to crowd, nor is it a good plan to set out little plants, but to grow them strong and stocky before transplanting. The seed is not always reliable, that is, its power of germinating is often low, and seed is not always raised from the best type. This will, of course, cause failure in quality of the cauliflower, and the action of drought will cause a very inferior specimen.

Tie up the heads with soft twine as soon as they are the size of a tea cup, and this must be done while the leaves are soft in the middle of the day. Do not tie tightly, but so that you can watch development. Keep cultivating and give plenty of water, and if the seed is good, and plants healthy, there is no reason for failure.

BEGONIA GLOIRE DE LORRAINE.

Miss McG.—Your Lorraine should begin to bloom in October and last until March. After it has finished blooming for one season, it is best to give but little water for about a month.

All at once, from the base of the plant young shoots come out, and when these appear the Begonia requires more water.

After they are four or five inches long, cuttings can be taken and rooted, and if put into small pots will make good plants.

Never spray the foliage of this variety, but keep them growing all summer, pinching off the flower buds that may form.

After October this plant requires heat of about 60 degrees, and to be placed in sunshine as much as possible.

Being a heavy bloomer it is benfited by an occasional dose of diluted fertilizer.

ROSE FOR THE HOUSE.

E.L.G.—As a rule, I do not care to recommend roses for cultivation in an ordinary living room, for though a few fortunate flower lovers are successful there are many who fail.

Clothilde Soupert, Hermosa, Niphetos, are as good as any for this purpose, and the Baby Rambler endures neglect better than some others. They must have a moist and moderate temperature, full sunshine and clean foliage. The soil should be rich, and moderately watered to ensure success.

CROCODILES ALONG THE NILE.

('Strand Magazine.')

At the sound of the shot the whole of this bank of the river, over the extent of at least a quarter of a mile, sprang into hideous life, and my companions and I saw hundreds of crocodiles, of all sorts and sizes, rushing madly into the Nile, whose waters along the line of the shore were lashed into white foam, exactly as if a heavy wave had broken. It could be no exaggeration to say that at least a thousand of these saurians had been disturbed at a single shot.

Those who seldom read newspaper stories will want to read 'The Flying Death,' and once they begin it, they will follow it with keenest interest. Starts in this issue.

I. H. C. CREAM HARVESTERS

Skim Clean—Run Easy—Are Simple and Quickly Cleaned

BUY an I. H. C. Cream Harvester—it has the strongest recommendations behind it, both from the makers and users.

For choice you may prefer the chain driven DAIRYMAID, or the simple geared BLUEBELL.

Both are everywhere established as standard, dependable and most substantial machines. They are on exhibition at the International local agent convenient to your place.

You take no chances of disappointment, whether you choose a Dairymaid or a Bluebell.

Butter Fat Profits

Don't waste time and trouble skimming milk by hand, besides losing a large share of the butter fat.

I. H. C. Cream Harvesters separate every particle of butter fat from the milk, giving you the fresh, warm sweet skim-milk for your calves, pigs and chickens, instead of cold, stale or sour milk which you get from the factory or when you skim by hand.

I. H. C. Cream Harvesters make prize products possible; they will get you better prices for your cream or butter.

Every Machine Tested

Every I. H. C. Cream Harvester, either Dairymaid or Bluebell, is rigidly tested before it leaves the factory.

It comes to you in perfect working order—ready to use.

Every I. H. C. separator is built to operate with the least possible trouble to the operator—saves time and annoyance because it is so simple and easy to clean.

All parts are so easy to get at or take out and clean that the work of cleaning is quickly over with.

If you need a cream separator, call on the International local agent and talk the matter over with him. He will supply you with catalogs and full particulars. Or, if you prefer, write direct to the nearest office. You will be interested in securing a copy of "Development of the Cream Separator," or colored hanger which will be mailed on request.

CANADIAN BRANCHES: Calgary, Hamilton, London, Montreal, Ottawa, Regina, St. John, Winnipeg

International Harvester Company of America, Chicago, U. S. A.
(Incorporated)



The 1908 Improved U. S. CREAM SEPARATOR

Meets every emergency in the Dairy

It has a solid, low frame; waist low supply can without the back breaking low crank; simple yet thoroughly efficient bowl, holding World's Record for cleanest skimming; is thoroughly lubricated, as gears run in a pool of oil, and has ball bearings at high speed points, making it the easiest running separator made.

Do not delay longer in the purchase of a separator and buy no other until you have seen our catalogue No. 110 sent to any address on receipt of a postal.

Vermont Farm Machine Co., Bellows Falls, Vt.

Canadian shipments made from our Warehouses at Montreal, Calgary and Winnipeg.

FINANCIAL REVIEW.

'Witness' Office,
Saturday, Dec. 12, 1908.

What stocks may do when interest rates advance, as they must with the increasing demand for industrial and commercial purposes, cannot be predicted at this time, but it is evident that the influence of cheap money cannot be relied upon indefinitely. Notwithstanding the reverse which the stock exchange experienced this week, and which greatly diminished the trading, there is nothing in sight, however, at present to prevent a prompt return of business, at least in volume if not in price, to the record level. There is every reason for Canadians to take an optimistic view of the future, That was the cheerful note set by Sir George Drummond and Sir Edward Clouston in their addresses at the recent meeting of the Bank of Montreal. A feature of recent events has been the free loaning of funds by bankers to the smaller manufacturer and trader. The bond market has been fairly active, and on the Stock Exchange, to-day, there are first class corporate and industrial bonds still selling under actual values, and these are sure to bring comfortable returns to those who buy for investment.

During the week several of the leading Canadian banks published their financial statements and several held their annual meetings. In every case the result of the year's trading was found to have been surprisingly gratifying considering the conservative trading that was necessary during the period covered. The Bank of Commerce earned 16.27 percent, as compared with 17.52 percent the previous year, during the height of prosperity. Earnings for the year were more than double the amount paid out in dividends, and the bank has added $1,000,000 to reserve, which now amounts to $6,000,000, with paid-up capital of $10,000,000. Net profits for the year were $1,627,332.78, which, with $675,912.50 brought forward from the previous year, made $2,303,244.88 available for distribution. The financial statement of the Bank of Toronto for the year ended November 30, is in full accord with the previous flattering history of this institution. Net profits amounted to $581,156, a return of about 14½ percent on the capital stock of $4,000,000. The sum of $400,000 was absorbed in dividends, $10,000 transferred to the pension fund, and $95,813 written off bank premises. Last year $150,708 was carried forward to credit of profit and loss account, and this year the amount is increased to $227,050. Out of $4,000,000 note circulation available $3,674,244 is out; and the overdue debits only amount to $10,353. Deposits are given at $26,879,805, and loans and bills discounted at $26,866,290. The statements of the Bank of Montreal and the Bank of Ottawa have been published in detail, and have been very favorably commented upon in these columns, and the statement of the Merchants Bank of Canada, issued to-day, and of which the features most interesting to the public will be found on the financial page, should be gratifying to all concerned.

The Ontario government is doing the right thing in entering upon a crusade against such mining promoters as are not complying with the law. During the past month or two there has been a lot of advertising in the newspapers relating to Northern Ontario mines, and many of these have failed to comply with the regulations of the Ontario Department of Mines which make it imperative that full particulars regarding companies shall be filed with the Department. The Ontario Government did good work in prosecuting the Law-Russell people of Silver Bird mine fame. That prosecution stopped the neglect to comply with the law for some time, but now it is said to be as bad as ever. The statute was framed to be an absolute protection for the public, provided it is lived up to. It demands the purchase price, the promotion stock, the interest any person has in it, the interest of each director, and so forth. Anyone may prosecute under the act, but no one did so, and so the government has courageously come to the rescue. The directors of twelve companies have been summoned to appear in the Police Court at Toronto next week, and the progress of the case will be watched with great interest, especially by the many, many people who have been the victims of the wildcat schemers of the past and present.

PRICE CHANGES OF STOCKS AND INVESTMENT RETURNS

The following tables of active and inactive stocks listed on the Montreal and Toronto Stock exchanges have been compiled up to and including Friday afternoon's session on the Montreal market. Last Saturday's prices are also included so that the week's record may be complete. The tabulated information contains the amount of dividend payable, if any, the month when due and the highest and lowest prices of 1907-1908, together with the investment returns on current quotations.

	Div.	payb'l.	1907. High.	Low.	1908. High.	Low.	This week. High.	Low.	Last. Sale.	Price per share.	Re-turn.
C. P. R.	3½	H	Jan.	201½	140	178⅝	142	178½	176½	178½	$178.50	3.9
Power	1½	Q	Nov.	96½	79	109	85	108½	106½	108	108.00	5.6
M. S. R.	2½	Q	Feb.	239	157	204	156½	202½	202	200½	203.50	4.9
Twine	1½	Q	Nov.	100¾	100	94¼	78¾	94	93⅞	93⅞	93.87	5.3
Mer. Ry.	1½	Q	Jan.	115½	82¾	108	94	108	107	107	107.00	5.6
Detroit				81½	28½	58¼	34¼	55⅜	55	55	55.00	6.6
Richelieu	1¼	Q	Dec.	32⅜	43½	78	62	75	73	73	73.00	3.
N. S. Steel				79	45	85½	41¾	55½	54	55	55.00	...
Dom. Coal	1	Q	Jan.	70¼	37	58¼	41½	56⅞	53½	55½	55.50	...
Iron bonds	2½	H	Jan.	80	64½	80¼	70½	80¾	80	80¾	80..25	6.2
Coal com.				80	13¾	22½	15	21½	19½	20	20.00	...
Mackay Com.	1	Q	Jan.	15	42¼	77½	51¾	75½	74⅞	74¾	74.28	6.3

Stocks	Dividend	Payable	1907 High	1907 Low	1908 High	1908 Low	Last sale	Return
Lines								
Nor.	2½	Q. Dec.	257	225	228	247¼		4.8
Merch....	2	Q. Dec.	170	165	147½	165		4.8
Dec. Le...	1	Q. Dec.	114¾	100	133¾	108		5.4
T. T.....	2	Q. Jan.	162	152	148	152		5.2
Mols.....	1½	Q. Jan.	115¼	113	118	103		4.9
Toronto .	1½	Q. Dec.	234	220½	205	....		4.5
R.N.A....	4	H. Apl.	153½	147	141	147		6.8
Royal....	2½	Q. Jan.	242½	232½	211½	232½		6.2
Dominion.	3	Q. Jan.	243¼	229	225	225		5.3
Imperial..	2½	S. Feb.	220	211½	214½	217		5.0
Standard.	3	S. Feb.	240¼	....	....	....	215¼	5.5
Ottawa...	4	H. Dec.	244	....	220	224		4.4
Quebec..	1¾	Q. Dec.	145	176	120	122		5.7
Union....	2½	H. Dec.	152	133	121½	123		5.4
N.S.....	3	Q. Jan.	293	276	287½	286		7.
Comm....	2	C. Dec.	179½	170	156	170		4.7
Bonds								
Coal.....	2½	H. June	100	93	87	91		5.4
Scotia...	2	H. Jan.	110¼	109	103	108¼		5.5
M.S.R...	2½	H. Nov.	114	100	95¼	100		4.5
Col. Cot..	1½	Q. Dec.	98	100	93	95		6.3
Lke.Woods		h. Dec.	107	104	102½	106		5.7
Preferred Stocks								
Scotia....	2	Q. Jan.	120	115	108¼	114¼		6.9
Iron.....			66½	75	44	74		..
Coal.....	2½	H. Jan.	112	101½	85	102		6.8
Calvie...	1½	Q. Dec.	120	120	44	121		5.8
Switch..	1¾	C. Jan.	105	102	92	103		7.0

Stocks	Dividend	Payable	1907 High	1907 Low	1908 High	1908 Low	Last sale	Return
Pref. Con								
Mackay..	1	Q. Jan.	71¾	71½	89½	70½		5.7
Lke. Wds	1¾	Q. Dec.	112	114	103	115		5.9
Illinois..	1½	Q. Jan.	94½	15	77	93		6.4
Tri. City	1½	Q. Jan.	100¾	89	69	80		7.5
Lau.Paper	1¾	Q. Jan.	110	114¾	100½	104¾		6.1
Mngd.....	..	....	71½	....	....	71½		6.7
Havana...	1½	Q. Jan.	85	83½	68½	83½		6.0
Textile..	1¾	Q. Jan.	98¾	95	78¾	91½		7.2
B.C.Pack.	3½	H.	74¾	....	....	74¾	..	..
Miscellaneous								
Bell Tel.	2	Q. Jan.	145	142½	123	142½		8.6
Mon. Tel.	2	Q. Jan.	162	146	135	141¼		8.7
Mon. Col.	1¾	Q. Dec.	128	118½	105	118		4.7
Hali. Ry	1½	Q. Jan.	104½	105¾	90	105¾		5.7
Trinidad.	1¾	Q. Jan.	78	....	....	5¼		6.5
Toledo...	..	....	23½	15	5½	9		..
Switch ..	7	Y. Dec.	98½	93	60	79		8.8
Soo.....	4¾	Q. Apl.	136½	133	80¼	131¼		4.5
Lau.Paper		H. Feb.	93	112½	93	112½		5.4
Magd.....	..	....	31½	....	....	34½		..
Havana...	..	....	45¾	25	20	32½		..
Textile..	1¾	Q. Jan.	45	57	40	56		8.0
Lke.of Wds	1¾	Q. Dec.	107	98	71	97½		6.1
Mexican	..	....	57¾	79½	45¾	75		..
Sao Paulo	2	Q. Jan.	138¾	157	113	155		5.1
Rio.....	..	....	48	77	29	75¼		..
Ohio....	..	....	30¾	21	15¾	19½		..

PROVISION EXPORT TRADE HAD A DULL SEASON.

Local Business Active, Under Good Conditions of Road and Weather.

The export provision trade in the local market for the season has not been satisfactory. This has been caused largely by the increased expense of fodder. For the past three or four years weather conditions have been unfavorable to the raising of coarse grain crops, especially in Ontario, and the prices of feed have been so high that farmers could not produce feed as cheap as Denmark and other countries which supply the English market. The prices here were above parity of prices in England, which reduced shipments materially, and made business drag on the weak side of the market. In fact, the pork packing industry has been falling off ever since the poor food products.

It is hoped by local provision dealers that next season conditions will be such as to produce a large yield of coarse grain, and give to both farmers and merchants a better chance of enjoying a profitable trade.

Prices for all kinds and grades of meat products are rather high at present, and there is no chance of a decline in prices for the present at least.

Trade has become more active in the last week, on account of the good sleighing, and the fact that lumber men are beginning operations, and a quantity of pork products is consigned to their camp.

It is now expected that business will become much more active, and provision dealers, both wholesale and retail, are looking forward to a busy holiday trade.

Swift and Co. Earnings

Swift & Company's earnings for fiscal year ended Sept. 30 is understood to be equal to 20 percent on capital.

BUSINESS IN THE WEST EXCEEDINGLY BRIGHT

Mr. F. Nicholls is Optimistic After an Extended Trip Through the Western Provinces.

A despatch from Toronto states that Mr. Frederic Nicholls, who has just returned from an extended trip to the western provinces is quite enthusiastic as to the general financial and commercial conditions throughout the west. He was gratified to find that business had so rapidly improved. British Columbia in particular has held its own remarkaly well during the recent financial depression, and now that the future prospects have improved a great many enterprises are being developed that have been held in abeyance during the past year.

'The development of the fruit growing industry in British Columbia,' said Mr. Nicholls, 'has assumed very large proportions and land for this purpose is demanding a large price, in some instances as high as $350 per acre having been paid for unimproved land. In Manitoba and the Territories the feeling is entirely optimistic, as the proceeds of the excellent crop are commencing to have effect. While the recent excellent crop has saved the situation, and has resulted in improved conditions, the more conservative people are of the opinion that another good crop will be necessary to place Manitoba and the North-West in the independent position that it should assume.'

TRADE WITH BERMUDA GROWING

Ottawa, Dec. 11.—Increase of trade between Canada and Bermuda is reported to the Department of Trade and Commerce by E. H. Flood, trade commissioner. In ten years commerce between Canada and the islands has just doubled. There is a disposition on the part of the Bermudian Government to give Canada's products a preference in return for similar preference in Canada.

MR. PLUMMER DISCUSSES THAT DUMPING CHARGE

Dominion Steel Company is Only Selling its Product to the Best Advantage.

Mr. J. H. Plummer, president of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company, is of the opinion that the recent attacks made on the Steel Company by English Steel makers were unwarranted and unjustified, and in discussing the allegations of dumping, and unfair competition Mr. Plummer, previous to his departure from London for Canada, said that he could not understand why any international pool should take upon itself the arrangement of the division of the world's market, including Canada, as the members see fit.



MR. PLUMMER.

'We consider our plant equal to any other plant in the world, and the location is such that we are in a good position to export owing to our natural situation on tide water, which enables us to take advantage of the low ocean rates as compared with a combination of rail and ocean rates. We therefore feel that we should endeavor to get our share of the world's market and have every intention of continuing to do so. We are going our own way, and see no reason why other manufacturers should interfere with our operations.

'In exporting rails we are only following the example of others, that is, selling our products to the best advantage. This is no new policy, as British, German and American manufacturers have been doing this and, as a matter of fact, have been quoting prices which British manufacturers have accepted; perhaps, however, this is not surprising, as the Dominion Iron and Steel Company only manufacture "open hearth" rails, which are the best.

'Regarding the question of dumping I wish to state that the prices we are getting for the rails ordered from abroad show a profit quite apart from the government bounty. As to the suggestion that it would be interesting to have a comparison between the prices paid by the Grand Trunk Pacific Company and those paid by our customers abroad, we can only say that it would be equally interesting to have a comparison between the prices charged by British and other European manufacturers in the home market and those in the foreign.'

LARGE EXPORT BUSINESS MAINTAINS GRAIN PRICES

Exporters Have Enjoyed Fair Trade—Heavy Shipments of Wheat From Montreal.

Export grain business, according to figures issued on 'Change, would indicate that grain brokers have had a fairly successful season, and in the results achieved, it is gratifying to note that the shipments for 1908 are only about 1,250,000 bushels below that of the record made last year. The total exports this season amounted to 31,421,082 bushels, as compared with 22,783,918 bushels for 1907.

Of this total there were 28,303,982 bushels of wheat, an increase over last year of 7,155,000 odd bushels, but owing to the short crop of corn in the United States last year, and the high prices at which it ruled at throughout the season, the export trade in it was very small, there being only 317,000 odd bushels shipped as against 4,894,000 odd bushels last year.

The shipments of oats show a decrease of 3,908,000 odd bushels, which is due to the fact that prices were above export basis on account of a corner in them in Winnipeg, and when this collapsed prices receded rapidly, but as the United States was short of seed oats, she stepped in and too kfully 5,000,000 bushels. The volume of business done in flaxseed was also smaller than a year ago by 820,000 bushels. The shipments of peas, barley, rye and buckwheat all show small increases over last season's.

At the opening of the season no such volume of trade in the way of export was expected, as exporters have experienced. While on this subject some figures regarding the movement of grain from the port of Montreal may be not uninteresting to those connected with the business, and especially the farming community, in this city.

The principal feature has been the large number of tramp cargoes, of which Messrs. Wight & Esdaile loaded nineteen for the Ames, Brooks Company, of Duluth, with 2,966,592 bushels of wheat, and the bulk of them were cleared for St. Petersburg, Italy and France.

Among the exporters who have done the largest business this year from the port of Montreal were Messrs. Wight & Esdaile, with a total of over 12,000,000 bushels; Mr. A. G. Thomson, second place, with a total of over 7,500,000 bushels, and Messrs. J. S. Norris & Co., comes third, with a total of over 4,900,000 bushels, and the R. D. Martin Company are fourth, with over 2,000,000 bushels.

FARMERS' MARKET PRICES—Dec. 11.

Zero weather and snowing did not prevent a large number of the farmers from bringing loads of produce to the Bonsecours market this forenoon and the basket brigade filled both of the market halls. Turkeys and geese were offered in large numbers, but owing to the brisk demand, prices were higher; there were very few dressed hogs on the market, and higher prices were being asked; beef quarters were very plentiful, but of ordinary quality. Oats were plentiful and sold at $1 to $1.05 per bag; buckwheat, $1.25 do.; potatoes, 80c to 85c per 80 lb. bag; carrots, beets and turnips, 50c to 55c do.; onions, $1.25 do.; cabbages, $1 to $1.50 per barrel; celery, 20c to 40c per dozen; dressed hogs, 9c to 9¼c per lb.; beef quarters, 5½c to 6½c per lb. for handquarters, and about 4c per lb. for fronts; dead turkeys, 14c to 15c per lb.; geese, 11c to 12½c do.; chickens and ducks, 12c to 15c do.; tub butter, 24c to 26c per lb.; print butter, 25c to 32c do.; new laid eggs, 55c to 60c per dozen; older eggs, 30c to 45c do.; apples, $3 to $5 per barrel; cranberries, $7 do.; Valencia oranges, $3.50 for 420s and $4.50 for 714s; lemons, $3 per box; navel oranges, $3.25 do.; bananas, $1.25 to $1.75 per bunch; hay, $10 to $12.50 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw, $5 to $7 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

Bar Silver Quiet

London, Dec. 14.—Bar silver was quoted quiet to-day at 25½d.

THE MARKETS.

CATTLE MARKETS

LIVE STOCK MARKET—Dec. 14.

About 2,158 head of butchers' cattle, 203 calves, 801 sheep and lambs and 1,962 fat hogs were offered for sale at the Point St. Charles stockyards this forenoon. There were also about 1,700 head of cattle at the East End Abattoir, making about the largest number of cattle offered in one day on the Montreal markets. There was quite a number of Christmas cattle on the market and sales of these were made at 5¼c to 5½c per lb., but they were not the best on the market. Prime beeves sold at 4½c to 5c per lb.; pretty good cattle at 4½c to 4¼c, and the common stock at 2¼c to near 3½c per lb. Calves sold at 2½c to 5½c per lb. Sheep sold at 3½c to 3¾c per lb., and the lambs at 4¾c to 5½c per lb. good lots of fat hogs sold at 6½c to 6¾c per lb.

Chicago, Dec. 14—Cattle receipts 21,000, generally 10c lower; beeves, $3.40 to $7.60, Texans, $2.35 to $4.25; westerns, $2.25 to $5.50; stockers and feeders, $2.60 to $4.75; cows and heifers, $1.50 to $4.80; calves, $6 to $8.25.

Hogs receipts 53,000, steady; light, $4.30 to $5.60; mixed, $5.15 to $5.57½; heavy, $5.20 to $5.80; rough, $5.20 to $5.40; good to choice heavy, $5.40 to $5.80; pigs, $3.50 to $4.70; bulk of sales, $5.35 to $5.70.

Sheep receipts 43,000, 10c to 20c lower, native, $2.50 to $4.65; western, $2.50 to $4.60; yearlings, $4.00 to $4.90; lambs, native, $4.50 to $7.35; western, $4.50 to $7.30.

East Buffalo, Dec. 14.—Cattle—Receipts, 2,500; active and 15c to 25c lower; prime steers, $6.50 to $7; shipping, $5.50 to $6.25; butchers, $5 to $6; heifers, $4.50 to $5.50; cows, $3.50 to 5; bulls, 3 to 3.25.

Veals—Receipts, 400 head; active and steady, 7to $10.

Hogs—Receipts, 17,000 head; fairly active and steady; heavy, $5.96 to $6; mixed, $5.85 to $5.90; yorkers, $5.40 to $5.90; pigs, $4 to $5.35; roughs, $5.25 to 5.50; stags, $4 to $4.75; dairies, $5.40 to $5.80.

Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 14,000 head; sheep slow, lambs active; lambs, $5 to $7.50; yearlings, $5.75 to $6; wethers, $4.50 to $4.75; ewes, $4 to $4.25; sheep mixed, $2 to $4.25; Canada lambs, $7 to $7.25; Canada lambs, $7 to $7.25.

LOCAL PRODUCE MARKET STEADY—PRICES ARE FIRM

The receipts of eggs this past week, according to the trade, were 592 cases, as compared with 1,036 for the previous week, and 1,120 for the corresponding one last year. The arrivals since May 1 show an increase of 17,722 cases over the same period of last season.

There is a good demand existing for eggs in small lots and prices rule firmer. New laid are quoted at 50 cents; No. 1 stock at 30 cents; No. 2 stock at 25 cents per doz.

Demand for dressed poultry is somewhat light. Turkeys in round lots are quoted at 12½ to 13 cents, picked lots at 13½ to 14½ cents; large chickens at 13 to 14 cents; fowls at 9 to 10 cents, ducks 10 to 12 cents, geese at 9 to 11 cents per pound.

Beans continue in limited demand, $1.65 being the price asked by western shippers for three-pound pickers in car lots, ex-store here. Small sales were made at $1.65 to $1.70 per bushel.

Honey market is steady with demand fair. White clover is quoted at 13 to 14 cents and dark at 10 to 12 cents, as to size of section. White extracted, 9 to 10 cents; buckwheat honey, 7 to 7½ cents per pound.

Potato market is active under good demand. Green Mountains are selling at 80 cents per bag.

Trade in maple product is somewhat below the average without any marked change. Maple syrup is selling at 4 cents per pound, and 5 cents in tins; sugar at 7 to 8 cents per pound for best quality.

EGGS SOARING UPWARD OWING TO LIGHT SUPPLY

Eggs, which have been steadily soaring upward in price for several weeks, have now reached the high water mark, and the shortage is remarkable, even in this extremely short season. The advancing prices have curtailed the demand only in a small degree, and the stocks are being reduced in Montreal at the rate of hundreds of cases a week.

The receipts of eggs of any kind are very light, and there is such a small proportion of fresh stock that the receivers ask whatever price they want, and as a rule they are getting it, quotations on this grade being practically nominal.

New laid eggs are quoted up to 50 cents, and at the Bonsecours market and in special cases, 60 cents per dozen are demanded, and mixed from 30c to 40 cents, according to quality. Some retailers, however, are making sales of fresh eggs as high as 60 cents. Offerings of all kinds of low-grade eggs are also light, and sales of this kind of stock are made at from 20 to 25 cents. There has been little speculative dealing in storage eggs during the last week, but holders who sold have reaped high profits.

CANADIAN PRODUCE HEAVY ON ENGLISH MARKET.

According to a report received on 'Change this morning from Liverpool trade in cheese in the English markets during the past week has been slow, and quotations slightly lower. The demand is chiefly confined to domestic production, which apparently satisfies requirements for the present, at least, and leaves Canadian product more or less in abeyance.

Finest Canadian white and colored cheese is quoted at 59 to 61 shillings per 100 pounds; fine Canadian white and colored at 57 to 58 shillings per 100 pounds, and English cheese is selling at 56 to 72 shillings per 120 pounds.

The butter market seems to be in an unsettled condition and values are several shillings lower for both Continental produce and that from Canada and other colonies with holders urging sellers to dispose of their stocks. The close of the week showed the tone of the market to be steadier though the improvement was not marked. Choicest Canadian creamery in 56-pound boxes is quoted at 109 to 112 shillings per 100 pounds, while choicest Finnish, Swedish and Danish in Kiel casks are selling at 116 to 120 shillings per 100 pounds, but they are apparently the most expensive variety on the market.

C.P.R. EARNINGS

Canadian Pacific Railway Company's return of traffic earnings from Dec. 1 to Dec. 7 show an increase of $9,000, as follows:—

1908	$1,548,000
1907	1,539,000
Increase	$9,000

ONTARIO MARKETS

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—Prices did not reflect the usual Christmas stiffness at the market to-day. Beef was at 5½c for hind and 4½c for front quarters. Pork remained at the 8½c to 9½c per pound figure. Lamb was not an important feature of the offering. It sold at 11c for hind and 9c for front quarters. The offering of turkeys was not as large as might be expected at this time of year and a number of comments to that effect were heard. The prices, however, did not show any tendency to go beyond reach, for the figure of 15c and 16c per pound held good. Chickens per pair swung between the extremes of 75c and $1. Geese brought the flat $1 each. The offering of oats would suggest that farmers are anxious to dispose of any surplus they may have left for the purpose. Sleigh after sleigh was loaded with the plump, heavy bags. The prices did not show any tendency to go flat under the unusual quantity shown. Forty-five cents to 48c per bushel was the range of variation. Butter was at the usual figure of 30c for fresh variety and 25c to 28c for the print and packed variety. But eggs were almost out of sight. The offering was small and the price reached a scarcity level. Fresh eggs brought 45c per dozen, almost 4c apiece. Packed eggs were at 30c to 35c. The offering of vegetables almost reached the vanishing point. There were three or four sleighs with the remnants of the season's supply. Onions were at $1 per bag; carrots at 50c per bag; cabbage at 50c per dozen heads, turnips, at 50c per bag; celery at 40c per dozen bunches. Potatoes were at 90c to $1 per bag.

Ingersoll, Dec. 14.—White wheat, 90c to 92c per bushel; red fall, 80c to 82c; peas, 70c to 75c; barley, 58c to 60c; oats, 28c to 40c; corn, 85c to 86c; oatmeal, $3.75 to $4.00 per cwt.; cornmeal, $3.75 to $4 per cwt.; flour, $2.40 to $2.65; bran, $22 to $23 per ton; shorts, $24 to $25; butter, 28c to 30c per lb.; creamery, 30c to 32c per lb.; eggs, 24c to 26c per dozen; potatoes, 80c to 85c per bag; live hogs, $6 to $6.25 per cwt.; hay, $8 to $9 per ton; hides, $10 to $11 per cwt.

Hamilton, Dec. 12.—White wheat, per bushel, 88c to 90c; red wheat, per bushel, 88c to 90c; peas, per bushel, 75c to 79c; barley, per bushel, 50c to 53c; oats, per bushel, 39c to 40c; clover seed, per bushel, $10 to $11; timothy seed, per bushel, $1.75 to $2.25; white wheat flour, per brl., $3.90 to $4.20; strong bakers' flour per brl., $4 to $4.30; potatoes, per bag of 96 lbs., 75c to 80c; apples, per bag of bushel and half, $1.25 to $1.50; dried apples, per lb., 2c to 3c; butter, in rolls, per lb., 22c to 23c; butter, in firkins, per lb., 19c to 21c; fresh eggs, per doz., 25c to 28c.

Toronto, Dec. 14.—Grain markets opened steady this morning in spite of increased stocks at country points. Prices are holding firm, although buyers are holding off for the time.

Local dealers' quotations: Ontario wheat, No. 2 white or red, outside, 94c to 95c; No. 2 mixed, 94c to 95c; No. 2 goose wheat, 91c to 92c outside. Manitoba wheat, spot No. 1 northern, $1.08; No. 2 northern, $1.05, No. 3 northern, $1.03, on track, lake ports. All rail, No. 1 northern, $1.12; No. 2 northern, $1.09, delivered at Ontario points. Barley, No. 2, 55c to 56c; No. 3 extra, 53c to 54c; No. 3, 52c to 53c. Rye, dull, No. 2, 71c to 72c outside. Oats, Ontario, No. 2 white, 39c to 29½c outside; No. 2 mixed, 37c to 38c outside. Manitoba No. 2 Western Canada, 43c to 43½c on track, lake ports; extra No. 1 feed, 41½c; No. 1 feed, 41c on track, lake ports. Corn, old, 71c to 72c, Toronto freights, for No. 2 or 3 yellow; No. 3 yellow, 68c to 69c, Toronto freights. Buckwheat, No. 2, 57c to 57½c outside. Peas, No. 2, 86c to 86½c. Flour, Manitoba first patents, $5.80; seconds, $5.30; second bakers, $5.10. Ontario winter wheat patents, $3.65 to $3.70, buyers' sacks, outside.

Millfeed, bran, $20 to $21 per ton in bags, outside; shorts, $21 to $22 in bags, outside.

ENGLISH CATTLE AND PRODUCE QUOTATIONS

London, Dec. 3.—To-day's supply of beasts consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, trade for which ruled slow, though Monday's values governed all transactions. Top prices paid per 8 lbs. as follows:—Fat cows, 3s 6d; extreme, 3s 8d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s 2d. Only 10 sheep offered, but not of sufficient trade to quote. No calves on offer. Total supply:—Beasts, 90; sheep, 10; milch cows, 5.

London, Dec. 3.—Good supplies, but no Dutch sheep or pigs to hand, boats being delayed by fog, trade quiet but fair prices obtained for really good beef. English beef, 3s 6d to 4s; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; extreme, 4s 4d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; extreme, 3s 10d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 9d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; do., seconds, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d. Mutton—Scotch wedders, 4s to 4s 4d; tegs, 4s to 4s 4d; do., ewes, 2s 8d to 3s; English wedders, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; ewes, 2s 8d to 3s; veal, 3s 8d to 4s 8d; English pork, 5s 4d to 4s per 8 lbs.

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 12.—John Rogers and Company cable to-day: American steers from 12c to 13½c; Canadians, 10½c to 11½c; ranchers, 10c to 11c; cows and heifers, 10c to 11c; bulls, 9c to 10c; trade, firm but slow.

London, Dec. 12.—The bacon market has been disappointing and the tendency is irregular. Concessions have been made by some holders of from 2s to 3s for Canadian which rules quiet at 50s to 61s.

Hams are quiet at 58s to 66s.

The demand for cheese is slow at 60s to 61s for finest and 58s to 59s for secondary grades.

(Canadian Associated Press.)

Liverpool, Dec. 14.—John Rogers & Co. to-day cable American steers at from 12c to 12½c; Canadians, 10½c to 11½c; ranchers, 10c to 11c; cows and heifers, 10c to 11c; and bulls, 9c to 10c; trade firm, but slow.

TRADE THROUGHOUT CANADA

From information gathered from the branch offices of R. G. Dun and Company, from various points of the Dominion, it would appear that trade is becoming more active in Canada. Holiday season and good roads have served to brighten up business considerably. The state of trade in Toronto, as regards remittances and movement of Christmas stock is reported to be very satisfactory.

In the West and in the Maritime Provinces reports to hand tell of improved conditions and altogether the improvement in all lines of activity is quite marked and exceedingly encouraging.

Reduction in Sugar

New York, Dec. 14.—All grades of refined sugar, with the exception of 'confectioner's A,' were reduced five cents a hundred pounds to-day.

SEASON'S HAY TRADE NOT VERY PROFITABLE

Shortage of Crop in Usually Heavy Bearing Districts is Most Pronounced.

The local trade in hay during the past season has not been satisfactory, though it has been a more successful one than that of 1907. This year's crop was somewhat effected by the drought, but the yield was larger than last season's which had also felt the effects of dry weather. In Western Ontario the crops have been larger than those of the previous year and the demand active. Some of the districts which are usually counted on for the best yield had to receive shipments from outside places instead of exporting the product of their own fields.

The best crops appear to be those of the north shore division of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Eastern Ontario will have to take in hay, as it had to do in the previous year, as the crops produced fell short of domestic requirements, but the requirements will not be so large as in former seasons. Prices have been rather high and good profits have been made by farmers who have had a surplus of hay for sale. Last winter prices were $15 to $16 per ton for No. 1 and there has been a gradual reduction since then and quotations have gradually declined and now they are quoted at $12½ to $13 as the wholesale price.

It is said that exporters have made very little or no profit this year, and we are informed that they often had to sell at a loss; the price being too high for export. Business done in the United States has also been limited up to the present month and there is now some evidence of the brightening up. There is a feeling that the shortage of hay in many districts of the United States will cause them to import supplies from Canada, although this may not materially effect the market or prices prevailing for this commodity.

ENGLISH PRODUCE DEMAND IS NOT VERY ACTIVE

According to Reports From Liverpool—Canadian Cheese and Butter Favorites.

Correspondence received by produce merchants this morning from Liverpool houses states that cheese in the English market has been on the quiet side and that the demand up to the present time has not fulfilled expectations. In order to put some life into the trade holders of large consignments have had to make concessions in values, and this, of course, is accountable for the lessened trade from outside countries.

Finest Canadian white and colored cheese is quoted at 59s 6d per 100 pounds, and fine Canadian white and colored is selling at 57 to 59 shillings per 100 pounds, while English cheese, according to quality, is being disposed of at quotations ranging from 56 to 72 shillings per 120 pounds.

The Liverpool butter market appears to be somewhat inactive at the present time from the fact that there has been a sharp decline in continental and colonial prices owing to a marked absence of demand, and as a result values are several shillings lower than previously, with holders pressing sellers to dispose of their stock. Secondary grades are also easier, while it would appear that lower qualities, although in smaller supply, are being completely neglected, and altogether the English market is anything but satisfactory to the trade.

Among the many quotations as to the price of the different grades of butter choicest Canadian creamery in 56 pound boxes is quoted at 112 to 114 shillings, while inferior grades are correspondingly low. With the exception of choicest Finnish, Swedish and Danish, in Kiel casks, and high grade butter from Ireland and New Zealand, the Canadian stock appears to demand the highest figures, although the demand is limited.

ASBESTOS—QUEBEC'S MINERAL AND FUTURE INDUSTRY

The Sherbrooke 'Daily Record' has an interesting illustrated article in its issue of Dec. 12, devoted to asbestos, and entitled—'The great mining industry of the Eastern Townships—Rich serpentine ridge extends across five counties.' The Eastern Townships is famous for a number of things, says the 'Record,' but perhaps it has no more enduring basis upon which to rest its claim for world-wide recognition than its famous asbestos mines. Thetford Mines, Black Lake, East Broughton, Robertson, Asbestos, and now the Eastman district, are at present attracting great interest and asbestos mines are providing dividends for stock-holders. Asbestos occurs in the serpentine ridge which extends across at least five of the counties of the Eastern Townships—Megantic, Wolfe, Richmond, Shefford and Brome. It is now one of Canada's most noted mineral industries, showing a healthful, non-speculative growth, and Mr. Cirkel, mining engineer, and one of the best authorities on this subject, says that this condition will not only last, but that the future will see a still larger development of the existing sources.

NEW INVENTIONS.

The following Canadian and American patents have been recently secured through the agency of Messrs. Marion & Marion, patent attorneys, Montreal, Canada, and Washington, D.C. Any information on the subject will be supplied free of charge by applying to the above-named firm.

Canada—Nos. 115486, August Miltz, Charlottenburg, Germany, lubricating devices with oil-feeding box; 115494, Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France, manufacture of methane or of mixtures of methane and hydrogen; 115513, Amede O. Rousseau, St. Ephrem de Tring, Beauce, Que., automatic burglar alarm; 115519, Tigrane Timakeian, Paris, France, reinforced concrete and like constructions.

United States.—Nos. 905867, Wilfrid J. Girard, Quebec, P.Q., track fastenings and ties; 906227, John H. Hendrickson, Sunny Slope, Alta., mail deliverer.

COBALTS MAKING MONEY

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THE LAUGHTER OF LIFE

BY MARIA ALBANESI.

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SUMMARY OF THE PRECEDING CHAPTER.

Bertha and Drusilla Heronworth are orphan sisters, very wealthy, but still living at the old-fashioned family seat of Crowder Chase, in England. The morning after Drusilla's return from a long visit with friends at Braske, she goes out for a walk and encounters Lord Carlingford whom she had met at Braske. She invites him to stay and meet her sister. Other inmates of Crowder Chase at this time are Brian Keston, engaged by Bertha to put in order a valuable old library she has just bought, and Mr. and Mrs. Lingfield and their daughter Connie who are on a visit. Mrs. Lingfield, the girls' Aunt Edith, discovers at dinner that she used to know Brian Keston's people, but he is very uncommunicative on the matter.

CHAPTER III.—Continued.

'Forgive me for reminding you of sad things, but was it true that your father was involved in that Spanrith smash? I remember he was a very great friend of George Spanrith, and we always feared he might have suffered as so many others did.'

'He lost every farthing he had in the world,' Brian Keston said quietly; 'it was that which killed him.'

'Poor fellow!' said Mrs. Lingfield with a sigh; 'it was a terrible business.' She moved away and passed out into the drawing-room. Bertha Heronworth remained to introduce the two men, but Keston was only too glad to escape to his own room, and Lord Carlingford was left to sit and smoke alone.

In the drawing-room Connie Lingfield talked about him frankly.

'He is awfully handsome, Drusilla!'

'Yes, isn't he? And he wears such nice clothes,' said Drusilla in her laziest fashion, 'for which no doubt he never pays.'

Connie laughed.

'He looks as if he could make anyone pay who owed him anything! Drusilla, he has a temper!'

'Who hasn't?'

'Mother has only come here now because she heard a rumor that he was madly in love with you, and she felt she must know what was going to happen!'

At this Drusilla changed color.

'I don't know what Aunt Edith has heard, or who can have been telling her things about me. It is certainly a little premature to marry me to a man I have only known one short week.'

It was so unusual for Drusilla to speak coldly that her cousin opened her rather engaging eyes.

'You shan't marry anyone if you don't want to,' she said, soothingly.

And Drusilla laughed, for it struck her that this was rather the reverse of the actual case.

'Come over here,' she said, leading the way to the piano. 'Lord Carlingford shall sing to us.' When they were well out of earshot, she said to Miss Lingfield: 'Connie, darling, you won't let Aunt Edith worry me about this, will you? Really, it is too absurd!'

And Connie's eyes now twinkled.

'Well, I don't know. I am not given to jumping at conclusions as mother does as a general rule; still, you must confess, Drusilla, circumstances are going a long way to prove her case. She literally gasped when she heard he was coming to dinner. Of course, he must have intentions of some sort, else why should he be down here?'

Drusilla sat down on the music stool.

'Oh, Connie,' she said, 'do be an angel and marry him yourself! You can't think how much obliged I should be to you.'

'And how grateful Lord Carlingford would be! I must think it over. But, softly, here he comes! I suppose you don't want me to propose now right away.'

Drusilla pinched her cousin and then looked at the man approaching with mischief in her eyes.

'Lord Carlingford . . . . Miss Lingfield has something to ask you!'

The other girl started and blushed in confusion, but quickly recovered herself.

'We want you to sing to us,' she said a little breathlessly; 'please do.'

CHAPTER IV.

Lord Carlingford possessed, it appeared, quite a pretty musical talent. Drusilla threw herself into a low chair close to the piano and gave herself up to real enjoyment. She did not hear Connie Lingfield steal away after the second song to pay a visit to her father, but lay back with closed eyes, dreamily happy.

Mrs. Lingfield and Bertha sat at the other side of the room.

Drusilla's prophecy had been fulfilled. Assuredly, Mrs. Lingfield did not approve of the purchase of the celebrated Caroby library, and she allowed this to be clearly understood. But then she rarely approved of what her niece did, and had always grudged Bertha her splendid inheritance. Not that she herself lacked for anything; indeed, her share of the Heronworth wealth was by no means inconsiderable; but Bertha's father had been her elder brother and a very clever man, with the result that at his death the fine inheritance his father had left him had become a very large fortune. Mrs. Lingfield was not merely jealous; it had long since become a favorite occupation with her to criticize all that Bertha did. The last time she had been on a visit to Crowder Chase she had preached a sermon against her niece's simple home and simple ways. This time her text was different. As long, however, as she confined her remarks to the subject of the library, Miss Heronworth was not uneasy; it was when her aunt began to discuss Drusilla and the young man who was singing tender love songs in a whisper that Bertha Heronworth's heart grew a little cold.

Mrs. Lingfield had to allow grudgingly that Drusilla had not done badly, although, of course, there were blemishes to be found even in Lord Carlingford.

'He is the very image of his father,' she observed, as she opened a reticule and took out some ridiculous piece of work which she called 'embroidery.' 'And you know what sort of a man Lord Southborne is! When I was a girl everybody expected that he was going to be the man of the day, but he has ended by being a brilliant failure. And then his extravagance! I hear that this boy has already a few horses in training at Newmarket.'

Bertha looked at her aunt thoughtfully. Mrs. Lingfield was what would be called a sweet-looking woman of the Madonna type. Though she was no longer young, she had abundant hair only just sprinkled with grey. Dress with her was a passion, and her gowns inclined to the picturesque; her jewels were quite beautiful. There was nothing peevish or uncharitable about her expression; she was one of those women whom people enthusiastically decide must be a delightful mother; yet she had never had a child, and the real instinct of maternity which was so largely a part of Bertha Heronworth's nature had no place with her at all.

'You are going just a little too fast, Aunt Edith,' the younger woman said, unable to repress the coldness in her voice. 'Lord Carlingford is dining here just by chance. Drusilla met him for the first time last week when she was staying with the Deravans at Braske.'

Mrs. Lingfield smiled.

'You see, my dear,' she said, 'I know a little bit about these sort of things. As a matter of fact, I heard that he was paying particular attention to Drusilla at Braske; that was one reason why I came here to-day. Of course, it is a very important matter, and I thought you might like to talk it over with me. The position is excellent; at the same time one has to be careful.'

'Yes,' said Bertha, with a catch in her voice and a significant half-glance across the room.

It troubled her that such a delicate subject should be discussed by her aunt, and more particularly at this moment.

'It is, of course, well known that Drusilla will be rich,' pursued Mrs. Lingfield, quite impervious to the hint conveyed in Bertha's manner. 'I mean most people regard Drusilla as a great catch. And though I have never really understood how much exactly poor George left her, she is naturally what might be called a very rich girl.'

Bertha Heronworth rose with a quick sigh. She pushed back her chair and walked in her halting fashion across the room towards those two at the piano. Her gowns in the evening were usually black; to-night she wore velvet with a beautiful wide collar of old lace, and as Carlingford glanced up and saw her coming, he said to her sister:

'How charming Miss Heronworth looks! It is such a relief to see a woman dressed as she dresses. I adore the way she does her hair.'

'Don't you like the way I do mine?' asked the girl in a sleepy voice.

And he answered her truthfully:

'I don't know how you do your hair I never know what you wear, I only know that you are lovely.'

The girl turned and sat upright in her chair.

'Bertha, wasn't that an enchanting song?'

'I want to hear it again,' said Bertha Heronworth.

And her sister knew by the tone in her voice that she was not in her customary serene humor.

'Sing,' she said to the young man, 'sing all you know. Bertha will listen and I will go to sleep.'

Lord Carlingford shut down the piano.

'That is a hint,' he said, and he glanced at the clock. 'Half-past ten. Miss Heronworth, I feel ashamed; I have already trespassed on your kindness far too much to-day.'

'You have served a very useful purpose,' said Drusilla, getting up out of the chair reluctantly; 'no one goes in that motor-car except when I am at home, and it was getting rusty for want of use. While you are down here do please make your own arrangements with Wilkins, the chauffeur. I am afraid he has a very half-hearted opinion of me; but the fact is,' Drusilla said, 'I'm not really a motorist at all! Tearing wildly through the country doesn't give me the slightest pleasure. Indeed, to me there is a sort of arrogance ,a horrible selfishness, attached to a motor-car. I wasn't happy till I had one, and that dear, sweet angel always gives me what I want; but now I am not at all sure that our old coachman isn't right, and that there is not more dignity and luxury and comfort in an old-fashioned horse-carriage. Everybody is in such a hurry nowadays,' said Drusilla. 'Why do people want to be in a hurry?'

'Is there to be no music for me?' inquired Bertha, as the young man stood before her and held out his hand to say 'Good-bye.'

'I really think I must go now, but I will come to-morrow if you will let me.'

Drusilla had moved away; she was walking across the room towards her aunt.

'I want to speak to you alone,' Carlingford said to Miss Heronworth. 'May I come to-morrow?'

He was looking at her intently, and it seemed to him that her small face had a curious yearning in its expression; a look strangely suggestive of pain. There was just a little pause, and then Miss Heronworth said:

'You will find me here all the morning, Lord Carlingford.'

He betn and kissed her hand. He knew she was young, that the semblance of maturity about her came from her character, from circumstances alone, yet at this moment she stood to him in the light of Drusilla's mother.

He paused to say a few charming words to Mrs. Lingfield, but he had not expected to take his farewell of Drusilla in the presence of others. The girl, however, elected to dismiss him casually.

'Good-night,' she said. 'I heard you making an assignation with Bertha tomorrow; but, of course, we shan't expect you. You are one of those erratic kind of people who are here today and gone the next, and heaven knows where you will be the day after that!'

'I think you will see me,' said Carlingford, and then clasping her hand very firmly, he bent and kissed her on the brow.

Mrs. Lingfield gasped as he went out of the room.

'Dear me' she said. 'What queer manners you young people have nowadays! Bertha, if you don't mind, I shall go upstairs. I suppose Connie is not coming down again; the air here always makes me very drowsy! My reel of silk has fallen close to your foot; do you mind picking it up?'

Bertha Heronworth obeyed her and wound the long stretch of silk carefully round the reel. She was not looking at her sister, yet she was perfectly conscious of all that Drusilla did. She had heard the little sigh which escaped Drusilla, and she had seen the girl take her lace handkerchief and rub her brow almost fiercely. She felt rather than saw with what an effort Drusilla said 'Good-night' to her aunt, and as soon as she had escorted Mrs. Lingfield up the stairs to her room Bertha limped back again to the drawing-room. She went up to Drusilla, who was standing in front of the fire, looking into it with a strange expression.

'Dearest, my dearest,' she said. 'Do you care for this man. Oh! Drusilla, I must know, he is coming to me to-morrow; he is coming to ask me to give you to him, and it is you who must answer.'

Drusilla turned to her sister, her lips were quivering.

'Are you in such a hurry to get rid of me?' she said; then her voice broke: 'I don't know—I don't know, Beth. I want him to be just like everybody else in my life, but he forces me to see that he is different. It was like that the first hour we met; there is something about him which fascinates me. I want him when he is not here, and yet when we are together I feel as if I almost hated him. Oh! I wish he hadn't come! I did so long to be alone with you a little while, I wanted to talk to you about him. I am not sure of myself, Bertha; and I must be sure of myself, mustn't I?'

Bertha Heronworth sat down and Drusilla fell on her knees beside her sister.

'Won't you say all this to him to-morrow? Won't you tell him exactly what I have said?' she pleaded. 'He says time means nothing, but oh! it does, it does! And I want time. I never wanted anything so much as time to think things over. You see, you have always done the thinking for me,' said Drusilla, 'so you must decide now.' She laughed as she spoke, and sat back regarding her sister half shyly, half amusedly.

'You shall have time,' Bertha said after a little pause; 'but I don't really believe you want it.' She caught her breath a little as she spoke; then she kissed Drusilla many times and then she got up. At any rate,' she said, 'I am glad Uncle Edmund is here. I shall be able to talk over everything with him.'

'Uncle Edmund!' repeated Drusilla; 'but why? What has he to do with me?'

'He is your trustee,' said Bertha. She spoke constrainedly: 'Co-trustee with me. He must be told. I—I must consult with him.'

'You talk as if I were a lease of a house,' said Drusilla.

She was smiling again; all her sunniness had come back to her; in fact, she laughed outright, and as her sister looked at her she said:

'Wasn't Aunt Edith shocked?' I believe kissed me on purpose to make her jump. What has she been telling you about him?'

'He is certainly bold,' Bertha said, with a faint smile; 'but now, dearest, you ought to go to bed. You looked awfully tired when we were at dinner, so white that I thought you were ill, and you have so much to excite you. I will come and say "Good-night" when you are in bed.'

'Bertha,' said the younger girl, as she put her arms round her sister, 'I do wish we could be little children all over again . . . . . one is never responsible for anything when one is a child. Do you remember how I used to worry you to let me be grown up? Now I should like to be a little baby, sleeping all day long in a bassinette. Come soon, darling,' said Drusilla, as she picked up her fan and gloves and handkerchief, 'or else I won't promise to keep awake.'

Left by herself, Bertha Heronworth stood a long time without moving; then she limped to her writing-table.

She felt cold, and there was a cheerless feeling in the air. She could hear Durning, the butler, moving about in the hall beyond, waiting to turn out the lights. Taking up a pen she wrote hurriedly:—

'Dear Uncle Edmund,—

'I hope so much you will be better in the morning. I want to have a little chat with you on a most important matter. It is something which concerns Drusilla—in fact, it has to do with her marriage. I suppose I ought to have been prepared for this, but, indeed, it has taken me by surprise. Drusilla is so young, and somehow I have never thought about what I should do in circumstances like this. . . . . I hope you will be able to relieve my mind of a great sense of trouble and anxiety. I know that you will always do what is right, but oh! dear Uncle Edmund, I pray with all my heart that what we feel is the right and just course to take will work out for the happiness of my dear, dear child.'

She scribbled this note, scarcely seeing the words inscribed for the moist of tears which clouded her eyes. Indeed, she had to pause a little while before folding the letter and addressing the envelope. Then she went to the door and called in the butler.

'Durning,' she said, 'this is a note which must be given to Mr. Lingfield early in the morning. Will you take it yourself or give it to his man? I understand he has brought a new valet this time.'

'I'll give it myself, miss,' Durning said. 'Shall I shut up now, miss?'

Miss Heronworth said 'Yes,' and bade the butler 'Good-night' in her usual gentle way; then went slowly up the stairs to Drusilla's room. It was an old custom with her to go the last thing to see that all was well with Drusilla; to-night it cost Bertha Heronworth a great effort to bring a smile to her lips and drive the trouble from her eyes, and she paused a long while at the girl's door before entering.

Then when she turned the handle, she found all in silence. Drusilla was already asleep. It was evident she had tried to wait for Bertha's coming, for the light was still on and a book lay on the counterpane, but she was thoroughly tired, and sleep had stolen on her unawares.

Bertha Heronworth would not kiss her for fear of rousing her. Her lips trembled and the tears came again as she moved softly away.

'If only she need never know!' she said to herself.

CHAPTER V.

Brian Keston was always up early, and, as a rule, had done a vast amount of work before breakfast. He made no change in this rule at Crowder Chase, although contact with luxury awakened in him certain sensations which had lain dormant for years. There had, indeed, been nothing to soften the ugliness of material life up in that little northern town book-shop, and now he was conscious in a vaguely resentful way of a certain uncouthness in himself, an awkwardness which he had never realized before. And yet he was not absolutely sure that the life he had lived would not prove more sympathetic to him in the long run than his present life promised to be. He did not want a smooth path. His nature craved to struggle with and conquer difficulties. A dream with him had always been to travel, to find the world in untrodden places, and this restless desire held him now as keenly as ever. It was only when he was alone among the packing-cases in the library, handling with wonder their marvellous contents, that he drifted into a mood that was almost one of satisfaction. Indeed, the work was so congenial, so fraught with amazement and delight, he lost count of time. He forgot everything.

When Keston went to breakfast, the morning following the arrival of the Lingfields, he found a letter which had been forwarded on to him from the old shop. Just glancing at it, he put it on one side; he knew its contents. His mother only wrote to him when she had need of him; and really, considering that she was the wife of a fairly rich man, it was surprising how often she turned to her son to ask for financial assistance. Later, standing with his back to the fire, Keston took up this letter. As usual it related a story of petty annoyance.

A grim little smile curled the lips of the man who read it. It was amusing in a sense to note with what dexterity his mother invented new explanations for her habitual extravagance. Sometimes he had been asked to help her so that she might help one of her family; sometimes the plea was that she had such enormous demands for charity on her private purse she was left without a penny; then apparently a time of depression would have necessitated economy on her husband's part.

Lately, she had used her two children—Keston's step-sisters—as an excuse for worrying him. The present letter gave a long and rambling account of the ill-behavior of a certain governess, whose abrupt departure had seemingly exhausted Lady Draycott's financial resources.

Keston flicked the letter from him with a smile and a sigh. By practising the most rigid self-denial he had in the last few years managed to scrape together a little money, but his mother's constant demands, though they did not run to big sums, had made such inroads on this small capital that, together with the expenses incidental to his taking up his present post, he was left with very little in hand.

There were various reasons why Keston would have been glad to have been able to keep his mother in ignorance of his present employment. In particular, he had a nervous dread lest Lady Draycott should take it into her head to pay a flying visit to Crowder Chase. She had once, long ago, gone to see him in the North, and had never repeated the experience, but there was a wide difference between that shabby little shop and the place where he was now.

'And what mother could not possibly grasp,' he said to himself, 'is the fact that I am just as much of a servant here as I was there.'

It was this straightforwardness, this uncompromising truthfulness of his, which had put a barrier between his mother and himself from the beginning; and, as time had rolled on, and her marriage (which had followed so quickly on her widowhood) had put their lives asunder, the separation between them had become almost absolute.

He pondered and frowned a little, whilst Bob stretched himself in slumber on the hearthrug, and then, with the chiming of the clock, Keston put away his thoughts and went back to his work.

The morning was fairly advanced when there came a tap at the library door, and he turned, to greet, as he supposed, Miss Heronworth, who had joined him each morning for a little while at this hour. It was, however, the younger sister who appeared.

'Good-morning,' said Drusilla. 'May I come in and sit here a little while? I shan't be the least bit of a bother, but I do want to know something about what is going on.'

'It is very dusty,' said Keston, in his stiff, awkward way; 'you will spoil your dress.'

But Drusilla had caught the folds of her blue serge gown closely about her, revealing two enchantingly pretty feet.

'I see a chair,' she said, 'and it isn't very dusty. Really, Mr. Keston, I promise you I will get out of your way the moment you ask me.'

Keston was very much annoyed at Drusilla's arrival. She was composed of such disturbing elements, it was impossible to concentrate his attention when she was sitting there, the embodiment of irresponsibility.

'You know, I felt I had to come here,' said Drusilla, after a little pause, in which she had studied him attentively. She told herself that she liked his features and she liked his voice. He had on a long linen coat to protect his clothes from the dust, and he managed to appear attractive even in this very trying garment.

'You look,' said the girl when she spoke again, 'just like an umpire at a cricket match.' Then very quickly she added: 'Do you really mind my being here, Mr. Keston?'

Before he had time to answer her she said:

'The fact is, I wanted some relief. I have had Aunt Edith on my shoulders since breakfast time. Connie is with Uncle Edmund, and Beth has one of her bad headaches, poor dear! So I have been trying to do some of her work—not very successfully, I am afraid. It is so natural for Beth to be sweet and amiable with people even if she doesn't like them, but I find it an awful effort. This doesn't explain, however, does it, why I came here?' Drusilla ended, with a laugh.

She got up from the chair, and sat down on the edge of the table.

'I want you to coach me, Mr. Keston, to give me a few names that I could introduce into my conversation,' she laughed. 'You see, Aunt Edith doesn't quite approve of this library, and she has made up her mind that Beth has paid a fancy price for it. It isn't any business of hers, of course, but that doesn't make any difference to Aunt Edith. Now, I want to impress her, to let her understand, that Beth has done a clever stroke of business. I know I can do it if you will only help me. What are the biggest things you've got here? Isn't there something which no other library has got? If there isn't, please invent that something. I'll be ever so grateful to you, Mr. Keston, if you'll only give me a real, good chance of crushing Aunt Edith. She is so nasty to me!'

'I'm afraid names alone won't carry much weight to an expert,' said Keston, still a little stiffly.

'It isn't names exactly that I want,' said Drusilla; 'it is what these biggest things really signify in monetary value. Aunt Edith is always impressed by pounds, shillings and pence. Have you a pencil and some paper?'

He gave her his note-book, and, drawing the chair up to the table, she sat down with the pencil in her mouth, and looked at him. He was conscious then of the illuminating power of her beauty.

It was a cold, grey day, but Drusilla seemed to bring warmth and light into the big, as yet empty-looking, room. Then, too, she was so young.

There was the eagerness, the spontaneity of a child in her expression and manner.

'Suppose you tell your aunt that there are no less than nine perfect Caxtons in the library, worth anything from twenty to thirty thousand pounds,' Brian Keston said as a beginning.

'I say,' said Drusilla impulsively, 'what a lot of money! Caxton? How do you spell it? and who was Caxton when he was at home? But that isn't fair,' she added, with her enchanting laugh. 'I asked you to coach me, not to educate me. Yes; nine Caxtons. Oh, please go on, Mr. Keston! This is a splendid beginning!'

He felt his stiffness thawing; and as he began to enumerate a few of the really priceless books which had passed into Bertha Heronworth's possession he warmed to the task.

'Here,' he said, touching one of the huge cases, 'is a rare collection of things relating to the Reformation of the Church of England, and here an almost unique collection of the earliest books on gardening. Miss Heronworth also possesses a copy of the first book printed in England with wood cuts, which is in splendid preservation. I should imagine there is not another to equal it, although it is known that there are one or two other copies in existence.'

He enumerated many others, spelling the different names for Drusilla to write down.

'I shall have to learn this by heart—that is the difficulty. I am so horribly stupid at learning anything,' the girl said dubiously after a while. 'Look here. I'll tell you what you might do; just pencil beside all these roughly what you think the value of each book is.'

She gave him the note-book and the pencil.

'Isn't it queer,' she said after a pause, 'how much some people seem to think about money? Aunt Edith has been rich all her life, yet nothing impresses her so much as a large banking account. When she sees a wonderful cathedral she never realizes it is beautiful—she only wonders how much it cost to build; and Uncle Edmund is so different! I do hope you'll like him, Mr. Keston; he is an enthusiast about books.'

'I hope he is better,' said Keston, reverting a little to his awkward manner. 'I am afraid he isn't. I went to his room this morning, but my cousin said he wasn't well enough to see me. I call Connie my cousin, but there isn't really any relationship, and Uncle Edmund is only our uncle by marriage. He is, anyhow, much, much nearer to us, and so is Connie, than Aunt Edith ever could be.'

Brian Keston stood making calculations and marking figures in a note-book, and Drusilla, looking at him, recalled her aunt's chatter about him.

'Of course, I knew he was a gentleman,' she mused to herself, 'but I didn't think there was anything romantic about him. That only shows how little we know other people. I wonder what I should do if I lost all I had? I am sure I should make a helpless muddle of things! No wonder he looks hard. It must make him bitter to feel that his father died because he trusted all he had to a friend. I was going to call him a prig, but now I shan't!'

As she sat waiting for Mr. Keston to give her back the note-book, there came a knock at the door, and Durning, the butler, appeared.

'Lord Carlingford—he is waiting in the hall, Miss Drusilla.'

Drusilla uttered an impatient exclamation, and pushed back her chair so sharply that it scratched on the floor.

'He has come to see Miss Heronworth, not me,' she said.

(To be Continued.)



CHILDREN'S CORNER.

BR'ER SPIDER IN NORTHERN NIGERIA.

('Blackwood's Magazine.')

A spider, it seems, had occasion to borrow a sum of money. A journey round to the generously disposed brought him two thousand cowries each from the cat, the dog, the hyena, the leopard, and the lion. When pay day came round, the spider remained at home to receive the visits of his creditors in a certain prearranged order. First came the cat to claim repayment of his loan. 'Hush!' said the spider. 'I hear a noise outside—it is a dog come to see me: you must hide under this calabash for safety.' The cat was scarcely hidden when the dog, coming in, made a similar request for his money. Says Master Spider, 'There is a cat under that calabash—take him, and consider the debt paid.' No sooner said than done. Just then a snuffling and scraping were heard at the door. The third creditor, the hyena, had arrived. 'Don't be alarmed, my dear dog, but hide here till he has left.' And the spider bustled him under the calabash. 'I smell a dog,' said the hyena, routing about. 'Under that calabash,' the spider replied. 'Eat him up, and your debt is paid.' The dog paid the penalty of his simplicity, and all was quiet once more. The hyena was preparing to leave, when he heard an ominous sound that sent him crouching against the wall. It was the pattering of the leopard's feet at the door. 'Quick! Under this calabash,' cries his host, and the hyena curls up in the fatal cache, only to meet a like fate from his more courageous enemy. 'My debt is repaid!' said the leopard, and ran against the lion coming in. A terrible fight ensued, for the leopard and the lion are equal in strength, so the natives say. While blood and dust make havoc in the house, and both animals are exhausting their strength, the spider is busy at the fire. Seizing a pot of boiling grease he pours it over the clawing mass. Leopard and lion roll apart in their death agony, and the spider has only to straighten and clean up before resuming once more the humdrum life of fly-catching. No wonder he is known as 'Mai-wayo'—the crafty one.

FOR THE LITTLE MOTHERS

A SEWING CIRCLE.

Who has not played the jolly game, 'Will you join Aunt Sally's Sewing Circle?' We have another sewing circle in mind—of little Aunt Sally and her friends sewing for their dollies. Don't you want to form a sewing circle, making new clothes to ''sprise them' for Christmas, and have patterns of your own like the big folks, only ever so much simpler?

Get four little girls to join you and collect five cents from each. Send the money to us or better still, get mother to send it for you, (twenty-five cents in stamps would do), and we will send to you five doll's pattern sets, very simple and easy to cut. They are all one size, for doll of 12 to 10 inches high, but you can cut larger or smaller to suit. Each set gives patterns for several garments. We select the styles from our stock; you distribute them to your little friends, and then the members of the club get together to sew, changing round their patterns so that all the dollies can share the styles. Wouldn't it be fun? Who'll be the first 'Aunt Sally?'

If you want these patterns you must write quickly, for we have only a certain number. They were so popular last year that we got all the maker had left, and when these are gone we can't get any more like them this season. Single orders for one set cannot be filled at less than ten cents, or two sets for fifteen cents.



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THE FREETHINKERS AMONG THE PROPHETS

(By Rev. Thomas Yates, England.)

'I will stand upon my watch and set me upon the tower, and will look forth to see what He will speak with me, and what I shall answer concerning my complaint.'—Habakkuk ii. I.

The brief pamphlet which has come down to us under the name of this prophet may be summarised in few sentences. The conditions of its writing are uncertain, but its main burden is clear. It is the old problem of the oppression of the righteous, and the prosperity of the violent, and the first section is occupied by a dialogue between the perplexed prophet and the answering God. From the fifth verse, the second chapter is a series of lyrics which throb with poetic force, and in them the prophet, who has found some foothold for faith, lifts up his voice against the oppressor. The third chapter is widely different, and its authorship in dispute. It is a lyric poem of remarkable beauty, whose theme is the recognition of God's sufficiency in Israel's past, and for her present and future. The whole book is cast in an intensely dramatic form in which historical elements are arbitrarily handled that the speculative aspect of some great moral and religious problems may the more clearly appear. I have thus briefly indicated its contents in order that we may now concern ourselves with the man rather than the message.

THE MAN AND THE MANUSCRIPT.

Tradition has much to tell of Habakkuk the prophet, but history has nothing. There are many legends, and few facts. Later Judaism wove many curious apocryhal incidents around his name, but not one has a vestige of warrant, and they are not even interesting, because in spite of the lack of biographical detail, the personality of this prophet, as it emerges from the pages he has left, is so vivid and arresting as to need no retouching to make it one of the most life-like and arresting in the portrait gallery of the Old Testament.

We strike the note of self-revealing at once. There is no escaping it, and it is a new note. This man is different from every prophet who has yet appeared, and what is different and distinctive is his outlook. It is an outlook in a new direction, an unusual spiritual frontage.

The distinction of Habakkuk is not primarily in what he says, but in the direction he faces, the way he is looking. Other prophets have looked at the people, addressed the people, have been messengers of God to the nation. Habakkuk only looks at the people that he may the more intensely and inquiringly look towards God. His speech is addressed to God, and it is the speech of reverent but daring challenge. The burden of other prophets was the character of Israel, the burden of Habakkuk was the character of God. They challenged the people, 'What mean ye by this doing wrong?' Habakuk challenged God, 'What meanest Thou by doing nothing?' Their cry was: 'The Lord hath a controversy with His people.' Habakkuk's cry was: 'Thy people have a controversy with Thee, O Lord.' He is Habakkuk the Speculative. He is the man who says: 'How? Why? When?' One note is repeated like a recurring decimal; it is the note of interrogation. 'His prophecy,' as Dr. George Adam Smith says, 'is the beginning of speculation in Israel.'

THE NOTE OF INTERROGATION.

Obviously this is not a man who by any chance can be overlooked; he will take good care of this himself. He breaks the conventional level. He is a prophet moved by the wind of God, but the wind is blowing from a new quarter. He belongs to a class who have made history; he is the kind of man whom God sends to usher in new stages, and launch new epochs of knowledge and action. Without knowing the precise circumstances which awoke him, we are able to see him as he was. I do not know whether Habakkuk was a young man or an old, but I think I could venture his portrait. Knowing his soul, we may discern his face. Surely a brooding face, drawn as with long vigils, with oft-knitted brows, and eyes that see deeply rather than far; a bold and restive man, torn with contradictions and oppressed with the painful riddle of the earth. He is not yet an optimist, but you feel that he will be an optimist as soon as he can at the same time be honest with himself. It is not the ways of men that trouble him so much as the ways of God. His question is that of the spectre in the ghost-story of the book of Job: 'Shall mortal man be more just than his Maker?' He is a man to whom light is given, but the way is hid. he is a man who may not get far, but he will never stand still, and will never leave things exactly where he finds them. In any biographical history of philosophy, the name of Habakkuk must find a place. He is the first of the philosophical school of Hebrew prophets, one of the first of path-finders through these dark and tangled ways of doubt into which even good people fall sometimes, when their practical experience of human life seems to contradict the doctrines of their religion. He is one of the fathers of that great company of the speculative, who have not shirked before the contradictions which life seems to offer to faith, but have brought their brains to bear, sometimes with reverence and humility, and sometimes, alas! without either, upon the dark problems of life in their bearing upon what man would like to hope and believe about the Creator.

And now do you see this man? As amongst the disciples stands Thomas, so among the prophets stands Habakkuk, a devout freethinker. He dared to look round and ask what things meant; more than this, he dared to lift his fearless face to the heavens and ask what God meant. We owe much to minds such as these. The man, and his like, have helped to raise faith out of stagnation, and have constrained her to make sure that she was grappling herself to realities and not shadows; they have helped to deliver her from the fetish of phrases which had ceased to hold living and operative ideas, and, as perhaps the greatest service of all, they have compelled the salutary discovery and admission that there are some things that even good people do not know; that not the wisest have seen all the paths that radiate from the throne of God; that there is a point, where our little tapping staff of inquiry goes clean over the edge of things, and finds nothing that it can probe. And in compelling this discovery, this man and those like him have done by no means their least service, for it is only when faith is taken off its feet that it discovers it has wings.

THE CRITICAL TEMPER.

I invite you to consider this new type of prophet a little more fully, and for this reason mainly, that we live in an age when the minds of men, perhaps more earnestly than ever before, are engaged upon the moral enigmas of the world. It is a pertinent question today how far the critical temper may be permitted to a good man, and what are those qualities which safeguard it and turn it from being a disintegrating habit of mind into a bracing and fruitful exercise. The grounds of the prophet's own perplexities need not now occupy us. They were questions which arose incidentally out of the circumstances of his own day but essentially they are old problems which are forever new. Men are forever freshly stating them as they emerge out of fresh circumstances, and under the challenge of new events. The doctrine of a righteous and Holy Father God is beautiful, if we can only accept it, they say. But does not nature shriek against it, and the tragedies of life contradict it? If a righteous father, why this world of pain, and why not an end to the long horror of its social ills?

These are questions that men like Habakkuk are asking in every age. The temper that so asks may be blasphemous and destructive. Can it be redeemed, and so redeemed as to make contribution to spiritual good? Soon or late every thinking person wants to ask precisely the kind of questions which Habakkuk flung forth from his watch-tower. Let us look at the spirit of the questioning.

REVERENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY.

I see, first, that it was a temper which, with all its daring, was always reverent, and in its utter frankness was completely sincere. This man never rails against God; he is never irreverent, much less blasphemous. His questions are not against God, but to God. The problems that vexed this man were not those that arise out of a rebellious life and a heart alienated from goodness or indifferent to it. They arose out of the very purity and tenderness of his character. A bad man would never have felt the pressure of those problems which so oppressed the soul of Habakkuk. A bad man would never have perceived that such problems existed. It was this man's lofty conception of righteousness, his high thought of justice, and his heart of deep pity, which made him the troubled man he was. God counts no question heterodox which comes out of an orthodox life.

I see, secondly, that it was a temper which, amid its questionings, was steadied by a sense of personal responsibility. He feels that he is a man with a responsibility to discharge, and only from the standing-ground of his own faithfulness does he feel that he has a right to ask and expect light. When I want to ask questions, let me do it 'standing to my post.' The best of us is but a sentry, with a watch to keep, and a charge to guard. Stand to the thing clearly to be done, and done by you and no other. If the night be dark about you and thick with questionings, still stand to your post.

The answers to the questions a perplexed mind will ask fly to the spot where the questioner is needed, and they surely find the man who holds to his faithful beat. 'I will stand to my post.' There is no better vantage ground for a man who watches for the dawn.

HIGH QUESTIONS ON HIGH LEVELS.

I see further, that this is a temper which seeks the highest truth in the highest spirit. Brooding over his problems, this man in spirit climbs to his watch-tower that he may search the secrets of God. 'I will set me upon my tower.' 'I will climb to my rampart.' Divine verities are only revealed to the gaze of the uplifted life. High truth is not to be found on a low plane of thinking and feeling. To grovel is to lose competency to discuss the solemn problems of existence and destiny. The secularized soul simply cannot get at the truth of things. To low-thinking, mean feeling, and poor doing, the lights of the upper universe are lost. It is not intellectual acuteness, but elevation of soul that brings vision. The coarsened soul may perceive the dark enigmas of life, but it will return from its questionings only with a deeper misgiving. Character is the chief condition of illumination; lofty conduct is the kindler of the inner light. Believe me, a worthy life will do more for the clearness and certitude of faith than a world of controversy.

What answer did Habakkuk receive to his questionings? They were by no means full and complete. They were not answers so much as mitigations of, and clues to, the problems that perplexed his soul. To the oldest questions man has asked there is no complete answer. There are still secret things which belong unto God. But we have a larger answer to them than Habakkuk, for we have known Jesus Christ who brings us answers not only in what he said, but more in what he was, that are at least sufficient to live by in confident trust that the larger light we must still await will not betray our faith. But two things Habakkuk saw which are gain for us also. When he climbed to his watch-tower to ponder the ways of God, it came upon him that what he was considering was a half-told tale, and that to take short views of the ways of God, which extend through the ages, is to take false views. It was a dark time when Habakkuk looked forth inquiringly, but it was a time with issues unworked to their end. God never finishes his work in the dark. In the morning man goeth forth unto his labor. Man works while it is called to-day, for the night cometh when no man can work. But when God works, it is from dark to light, and it is the evening and the morning which make his day, as in the lovely poem of creation. He finishes his work in the morning light, and it is always the morning stars which sing together over the finished purposes of God.

The second thing that Habakkuk saw was that the just shall live by his faithfulness. Paul used this word for high and true purposes, preaching the doctrine of justification by faith. But the prophet's first meaning is that faithfulness, in the sense of integrity, is in itself a principle of life. 'The just man shall live by his faithfulness,' and by 'living' he meant not material prosperity, but moral security and triumph. The only house of life which can stand against storm and tide is a building whose every stone is squared to the plummet of righteousness. As the Master said, it is he who 'heareth and doeth these sayings of mine' who stands when deep calleth unto deep.'

BIBLE TRUTHS

NOAH AND HIS ARK.

Two Hebrew words are translated ark, one always in connection with Noah, or Moses. The great wooden house of Noah, and the small boat of rushes for Moses, both are named 'ark.' The other word for 'ark' is used for a box or coffin, first used in Gen. l., 26, for Joseph's coffin, the only place in the Bible where it is so translated. Everywhere else it stands for the box beneath the Mercy-seat, in the Holy of Holies. The vessel in which Noah was saved from the destruction which came to an ungodly race was God's provision for one of His faithful ones, and his family. 'Come thou and all thy house into the ark.' When God saves a man He would have his family saved with him. How few men say when they are converted. 'Now, my wife and children must be converted.' Exodus describes the making and purpose of the ark and its relation to the Mercy-seat. (See Ex. xxv., 10, 17.) See also Heb. ix., 5. The ark or box was to contain the two stone tables of the law, Aaron's rod, the emblem of priesthood and the pot of manna. All these were pledges of what God would do for His people. All are fulfilled in Christ. He is our only Priest. He is now in Heaven, the true Holy Place where He ever lives to make intercession for us. He is the Bread on which we should continually feed, and He is to be the pattern of our daily life. Imitators of God as beloved children, walking in love, an odor of a sweet smell to God. (Eph. v., 1-3.) The ark was the emblem of God's presence with His people. When the Jewish nation rejected Christ, the Temple veil was rent, the glory departed. Now heaven is the place of worship. There the believers are represented by Christ the Great Priest of His people.

WHICH FOOT WALKS FASTER?

You may think this a very silly question to ask, but it isn't. It is a simple, demonstrable fact, which you can prove to your own satisfaction in a very few minutes. If you will take a pavement that is clear, so that there will be no interference, and walk briskly in the centre, you will find that before you have gone fifty yards you have veered very much to one side. You must not make any effort, of course, to keep in the centre, but if you will think of something and endeavor to walk naturally you cannot keep a direct line. The explanation of this lies in the propensity of one foot to walk faster than the other, or one leg takes a longer stride than the other, causing one to walk to one side. You can try an experiment in this way by placing two sticks about eight feet apart; then stand off about sixty feet, blindfold yourself, and endeavor to walk between them. You will find it almost impossible.—'Tit-Bits.'

Eczema, Salt Rheum.

Eczema or Salt Rheum, as it is often called, is one of the most agonizing of skin diseases. It manifests itself in little round blisters, which contain an extremely irritating fluid. These break and subsequently a crust or scale is formed.

The intense burning, itching and smarting, especially at night or when the part is exposed to any strong heat, are almost unbearable.

The pre-eminent success which Burdock Blood Bitters has met with in permanently curing a disease of such severity is due to its wonderful blood cleansing and purifying properties.

No other remedy has done, or can do, so much for those who are almost driven to distraction with the terrible torture, as our thousands of signed testimonials can testify to.

Mrs. John O'Connor, Burlington, N.S., writes:—"For years I suffered with Salt Rheum. I tried a dozen different medicines, but most of them only made it worse. I was advised to try Burdock Blood Bitters. I got a bottle and before I had taken half a dozen doses I could see a change so I continued its use and now I am completely cured. I cannot say too much for your wonderful medicine."

Sold by all druggists and dealers.

LOST HIS NERVE

A strong man almost died, grew thin, weak and nervous.

A remarkable recovery

'Until three years ago I was the picture of health—then I became what people call Neurasthenic. I grew sleepless, worried, lacked will power, felt great physical fatigue, experienced fears and felt always in danger of something unknown. All the time I grew thinner and weaker, felt so nervous that I felt the end must be near. No medicine helped, each one seemed a new disappointment. Then my doctor suggested 'Ferrozone'—it was a fortunate choice, because I improved at once. I gained weight, enjoyed my meals, got a better color, forgot my nervous fears. The way Ferrozone built me up is surprising—it made a new man of me and now I look good for twenty years to come.'

J. Y. WAGHORNE. (Merchant),
Wilmington.

Ferrozone is a nourishing tonic that strengthens, fattens, builds up, restores weak, sickly people to health. If you feel poorly, let Ferrozone help you get well, 50c per box, or 6 boxes for $2.50. at all dealers.

READABLE PARAGRAPHS

PROF. BLACKIE'S LOVE STORY.

Mrs. Blackie, who died recently, became the wife of Professor Blackie in 1842, after, the 'Times' states, a somewhat eventful courtship. Blackie's attentions to Miss Eliza Wyld, as she then was, who was his cousin, when he was on a visit to the family in 1837, were not encouraged, and, although they had to separate at the time, they kept up a correspondence. After he had won his professional chair the professor approached his cousin again, and in a letter refused to accept his dismissal at her father's hands. The young lady was forbidden to write or to hear from her lover, but at length she rebelled, and one morning she very early walked to Leven and got a boat to Leith, where she took a cab to a relative's house in Edinburgh. At the marriage Sir William Hamilton was best man, and Sir Theodore Martin was also present.—Bristol 'Times and Mirror.'

An Always Ready Pill—To those of regular habit medicine is of little concern, but the great majority of men are not of regular habit. The worry and cares of business prevent it, and out of the irregularity of life comes dyspepsia, indigestion, liver and kidney troubles as a protest. The run-down system demands a corrective and there is none better than Parmelee's Vegetable Pills. They are simple in their composition and can be taken by the most delicately constituted.

'De man dat keeps talkin' 'bout hisse'f,' said Uncle Eben, 'sometimes makes you feel dat a heap o research has been wasted on a somewhat unimportant subject.'—Washington 'Star.'

A Boon for the Bilious.—The liver is a very sensitive organ and easily deranged. When this occurs there is undue secretion of bile and the acid liquid flows into the stomach and sours it. It is a most distressing ailment, and many are prone to it. In this condition a man finds the best remedy in Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, which are warranted to speedily correct the disorder. There is no better medicine in the entire list of pill preparations.

'I like to see a man take an interest in his work.' 'So do I. I once knew a policeman who was so enthusiastic that it positively pained him to see anybody out of jail.'—Louisville 'Courier-Journal.'

Externally or Internally, it is Good.—When applied externally by brisk rubbing, Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil opens the pores and penetrates the tissues as few liniments do, touching the seat of the trouble and immediately affording relief. Administered internally, it will still the irritation in the throat which induces coughing and will cure affections of the bronchial tubes and respiratory organs. Try it and be convinced.

NOT TO DISAPPOINT.

Ella—I'm going to hang up my stocking on Christmas.

Stella—What for?

'By special request of papa and mamma. You know they believe in Santa Claus.—'Life.'

So popular is Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup as a medicine in the treatment of colds and coughs or ailments of the throat, due to exposure, to draughts, or sudden changes of temperature, that druggists and all dealers in patent medicines keep supplies on hand to meet the demand. It is pleasant to take, and the use of it guarantees freedom from throat and lung diseases.

FIRST IMPRESSION.

While in the country last summer Bertha listened in astonishment to the clucking of a hen to her brood of small chickens.

'Mamma,' she said, 'the poor old hen has got the hiccoughs.'—Chicago 'News.'

GOINGS ON.

'Mamma, what is a biped?'

'Anything, Willie, that goes on two legs.'

'A pair of stockings, mamma?'—Boston 'Transcript.'

Worms cause fretfulness and rob the infant of sleep, the great nourisher. Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator will clear the stomach and intestines and restore healthfulness.

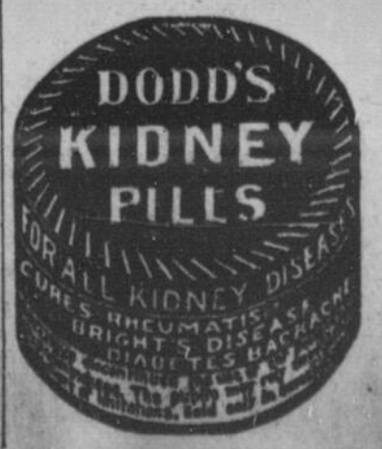
HIDDEN IN HAT.

A young lady who wears one of this season's big hats has endured all the jibes and jeers cast at her chapeau in dignified silence. The last straw, however, was the remark that a friend makes every time he meets her: 'Come out from under that hat,' he calls. 'We all know you are there!'—Boston 'Record.'

No surgical operation is necessary in removing corns if Holloway's Corn Cure be used.

Judge—'What is your profession?' Witness—'I am a poet.' Judge—'That's not a profession; it's a disease.'—'Judge.'

'Have you lived here all your life, friend?' 'Not yit. But ef I don't git money enough to move, I reckon I'll have to!'—Atlanta 'Constitution.'



The Boys' Page.

Charged by Sixteen Engines.

(By Herbert Coolidge, in the 'Youth's Companion.')

Sixteen engines on one snow-plough! It was a great sight. Snow on a level with the tops of the cabs; sixteen engineers on one side, sixteen firemen on the other, heavy-eyed, their jaws set.

The railway needed men on the Siskiyou grade in the winter of '95; men no less of iron and steel than the engines driven by them.

For a week they had been bucking the drifts. Back for a running start, on at the bank with a full head of steam, a sudden burst in the roar of exhausts, a shower of sparks from two long lines of screeching drive-wheels, a few car lengths of snow forced aside; then with a jerk they would reverse for another charge. It was catch-as-catch-can for food and sleep, and back and forth, day and night, sixteen engines and thirty-two men ramming the snow blockade.

I was there, not as an engineer or fireman, only a lineman with instructions to snow-shoe on ahead and inspect the telegraph wires. All day long, as I worked up the canon, I could hear the snow-fighters—the signal for reversing, a multitudinous puffing of engines in sullen retreat, the down-brakes whistle, the go-ahead whistle, a prolonged chorus of barking puffs merging into one long purring roar, doubling in volume to a violent burst, then quickly dying to nothing.

Darkness and a blinding storm overtook me as I returned, and the glow of the headlights rising from the long trench of snow gave a welcome promise of food and shelter. The locomotives had been halted for some time. They were six car lengths round a curve from the end of the line. I thought they were at the face of the blockade, and blundered headlong into the fourteen-foot cut.

Snowshoes are awkward things to fall with. The snow packed between the rails was as solid as a pavement, and the shock knocked me half-unconscious. I heard the go-ahead signal and the puffing and clanking of locomotives, and wondered without alarm if my neck was broken. The engines pulled up a bit, then reversed. From the way they jiggled back and forth I thought they must be jerking a derailed comrade into line.

I sat up, rubbed my neck, and then for the first time became aware of danger.

I jumped to my feet, and started for the snow-plough. Two long blasts of the whistle signaled 'go-ahead.' At the same moment I tripped on a broken snowshoe and fell headlong.

Scrambling up, I plunged at the white bank, and realized that the walls had been pressed aside and packed by the power of sixteen engines. The signal for down brakes sounded, and saved me from being frightened to madness.

Then I tried to rid myself of the broken snowshoe, but I could not unfasten it with my numbed fingers. I found my voice, and yelled like a wild Indian; but the men were busy and round a curve, and no one heard me.

I finally got my knife open, lashed off both snowshoes, and started on a run down the track. I rounded a curve into the blinding glare of a headlight when the whistle sounded the reverse, and choo-chy-chy! choo-chy-chy! clang-ity-bang! the sixteen engines receded down the cut. I yelled and waved my arms, but the lookout on the snow-plough neither saw nor heard me.

I had matches, and thought of building a signal-fire of my snowshoes, but could find no kindling. I gave up all hope, and was sure I must die. I thought of climbing out at the wedge-shaped face of the blockade, and turning, raced up the track through the darkness, only to discover that the mold of the long-nosed, broad-based snow-plough was more like a trap than a place for ascending.

From afar down the dark trench one long blast of the whistle signaled down brakes. For moments that seemed like hours I stood thinking. The go-ahead signal sounded, the sharp coughing of sixteen engines merged into an angry, deafening purr; and still I stood—thinking, yet without a thought.

Of a sudden it became clear that I must burrow or die. But with what was I to burrow? With a quick thrill of hope I reached for my climbers, but did not find them. Supposing that they had become detached from my belt by the fall, I fumbled along the edge of the cut, but found nothing.

Pr-r-r—r-r-r—pr-r-r—r-r-r roared the sixteen engines. The rails were snapping and singing.

I snatched a heavy pair of pincers from the other side of my belt. At the same moment I discovered that I still carried my open knife; and with a weapon in each hand, I began a tunnel. A few seconds later common sense told me to make instead a niche the length and breadth of my body. A half-dozen strokes showed me that work with the pincers was wasted effort, and I threw them aside. Then I settled down to slashing the packed snow with my heavy knife-blade.

I was over my flurry now. Without the loss of a quartersecond by a tardy strike or one too hurried I worked at my niche. From top to bottom and return, from top to bottom and return. Pr-r-r—r-r-r—pr-r-r—r-r-r! roared the engines; louder and louder sang the rails.

Every sweep of my arm peeled off a six-foot strip of snow two inches wide and knife-blade-deep. Slash, slash, slash I went, determined, if die I must, to die digging.

The blinding headlight swung round the curve, the cut filled and quivered with a fresh burst of clamor. Then the head engine whistled down brakes, and tooted the danger-signal. There was the thud and the jar of sixteen engines reversed, and I felt cheered somewhat and less lonely.

I spared one glance from my task, made ten more slashes, flattened myself against the face of my niche, dug my fingers and toes into the corners, braced my elbows and knees, and waited for the plough flange to scrape off my back—one second. Then the great blade shot by and shut out the light, a set of resisting drive-wheels screeched past, the locomotives jarred from a bunt against the snow, another set of drive-wheels ground by, the next approached more slowly, and halted with a terrific jar as the locomotives stopped and stood panting.

When they backed up I stepped out unharmed, less scared at the time than the brakeman who had sighted me from the snow-plough lookout.

MYSTERIES OF THE SEA.

There are few things which are so full of mystery, or which make such a powerful appeal to the imagination, as the stories of ships that sail gallantly out to sea and of which nothing is ever heard after the masts have dipped below the horizon. At present the papers are full of records of these marine tragedies.

What are the secrets of these mysterious vanishings of stately ships, with their crews and their cargoes? In nineteen cases out of twenty, says Tit-Bits, the secrets lie with the ships many fathoms deep, and will perhaps never leap to light. To this day no one knows what became of the 'City of Glasgow,' which set her sails so gallantly in the Mersey half a century and more ago, bound for Philadelphia, nor was she seen again after the hills of Wales were lost to view.

The 'Burvie Castle' left London some years ago on a long voyage to Australia. She should have made a final call at Plymouth, but she never came within sight of the Hoe, nor has human eye ever seen her from the day she dropped down the Channel. It was on May 10, 1854, that the 'Lady Nugent' spread her sails at Madras with 367 of the 25th Madras Light Infantry and other passengers on board. Her destination was Rangoon, but half a century has gone and neither Rangoon nor any other port has sighted her.

Nearly two years later the Collins liner 'Pacific' dropped down the Mersey with 180 souls on board. She was accounted one of the stoutest and swiftest vessels of her time—and so no doubt she was; but she went the way the 'City of Glasgow' had gone a couple of years earlier, and for fifty-two years has been lying at the bottom of the sea—but where none may know till all secrets are revealed. The training vessel 'Atalanta' started a quarter of a century ago for a short cruise in Bermudan waters, and from that day to this no one knows what became of her and the 250 souls she carried.

On Jan. 28, 1870, the 'City of Boston' sailed from Halifax for England with 191 souls on board. She was an Inman liner, a fine ship, splendidly equipped and handled; but she, too, was destined to vanish from the face of the waters.

The victim of another still remembered ocean mystery was the 'President,' a fine vessel, which was expected at Liverpool in March, 1841. March passed and Liverpool saw nothing of her. The long delay in her arrival caused great anxiety, and the wildest rumors began to be circulated. On April 13 news came that her engines and rudder had been disabled in heavy weather and that she had put into Madeira for repairs, and there naturally followed a reaction from gloomy forebodings to transports of joy. The vessel was expected at Liverpool on a certain day, and her arrival was awaited by hundreds of people who had friends aboard; but she never came, and it was found that the story of her arrival at Madeira was a heartless hoax. All the time the ill-fated vessel was at the bottom of the sea.

On Nov. 30, 1888, a large vessel was seen from the beach at Deal, sailing toward the Goodwin Sands. She was a fair picture to look on, as she moved over the waters with her stately spread of sails. But as the eyes of the watchers followed her she was seen to pause, and within a few seconds she vanished utterly from their view. What caused this tragically sudden disappearance of a stately ship? That is another of the countless secrets which the ocean has in its jealous keeping.—New York 'Sun.'

HUNTING MOUNTAIN LIONS.

We worked our way noiselessly along the rim-wall curve for several hundred yards and came to a halt again, this time with a splendid command of the situation. The trail ended abruptly at the dark cave, so menacingly staring at us, and the corner of the cliff had curled back upon itself. It was a box-trap, with a drop at the end, too great for any beast, a narrow slide of weathered stone running down, and the rim-wall trail. Old Tom would plainly be compelled to choose one of these directions if he left his cave.

'Frank, you and I will keep to the wall and stop near that scrub pinon, this side of the hole. If I rope him, I can use that tree.' Then to me:

'Are you to be depended on here?'

'I? What do you want me to do?'

'You cut across the head of this slope and take up your position in the slide below the cave, say just by that big stone. From there you can command the cave, our position and your own. Now, if it is necessary to kill this lion to save me or Frank, or, of course, yourself, can you be depended upon to kill him?'

I felt a strange sensation around my heart and a strange tightening of the skin upon my face! Then, because of the pride of a man, or perhaps inherited instincts cropping out at this perilous moment, I looked up and answered quietly:

'Yes, I will kill him!'

'Old Tom is cornered, and he'll come out. He can run only two ways: along this trail or down that slide. I'll take my stand by the scrub pinon there so I can get a hitch if I rope him. Frank, when I give the word, let the dogs go. Grey, you block the slide. If he makes at us, even if I do not get my rope on him, kill him! Most likely he'll jump down hill—then you'll have to kill him. Be quick. Now loose the hounds. Hi! Hi! Hi Hi!'

I jumped into the narrow slide of weathered stone and looked up. Jones's stentorian yell rose high above the clamor of the hounds. He whirled his lasso.

A huge yellow form shot over the trail and hit the top of the slide with a crash. The lasso streaked out with arrowy swiftness, circled, and snapped viciously close to Old Tom's head. 'Kill him! Kill him!' roared Jones. Then the lion leaped, seemingly into the air above me. Instinctively I raised my little automatic rifle. I seemed to hear a million bellowings reports. The tawny body, with its grim, snarling face, blurred in my sight. I heard a roar of sliding stones at my feet. I felt a rush of wind. I caught a confused glimpse of a whirling wheel of fur, rolling down the slide.

Then Jones and Frank were pounding me, and yelling I know not what. From far above came floating down a long 'Wha-hoo!' I saw Wallace silhouetted against the blue sky. I felt the hot barrel of my rifle, and shuddered at the bloody stones below me—then, and then only, did I realize, with weakening legs, that Old Tom had jumped at me, and had jumped to his death.—From 'The Last of the Plainsmen,' by Zane Grey. The Outing Publishing Company.

RIDDLES.

As long as I live I eat, but when I drink I die.—Fire.

What relation is the scraper to the door-mat? Step-father (farther).

What is the difference between a jeweller and a gaoler? One sells watches and the other watches cells.

Which are the most contented birds? Rooks, because they never complain without caws (cause).

Why is a fishmonger never generous? Because his trade makes him selfish (sell fish).

What is that which goes up a chimney down, and down a chimney down, but won't go up a chimney up, nor down a chimney up? An umbrella.

Which two letters in the alphabet are very cold?—I-C (icy), of course.

Why is a sovereign gained like a guinea?—Because it is one pound won.

Why are you more a carpenter than I am—Because you are a deal plainer.

Why do little birds in their nests agree?—Because if they did not they would fall out.

When is the moon like a load of hay? —When it's on the wane (wain).

What is the only pain of which everyone makes light?—A window-pane.

CAN YOU SPELL?

If you think you can, ask somebody to dictate the following jumble to you and see how many mistakes you make!

Antinous, a disappointed, desiccated physicist, was peeling potatoes in an embarrassing and harassing way. His idiosyncrasy and privilege was to eat mayonnaise and mussels while staring at the Pleiades and seizing people's tricycles and velocipedes. He was an erring teetotaler, and had been on a picayune jamboree. He rode a palfrey stallion and carried a salable papier-mache bouquet of asters, phoix, mullein, chrysanthemums, rhododendrons, fuchsias and nasturtiums.

He wore a sibyl's resplendent turquoise paraphernalia, an ormolu yashmak and astrakhan chaparejos. He drank crystallizable and disagreeable curacao juleps through a sieve. He stole some moneys and hid them under a peddler's mahogany bedstead and mattress.

Like a fiend in an ecstasy of gayety, I rushed after him into the maelstrom, or melee, and held him as in a vise. I could not feese him, however, and he addressed me, with autocracy, in the following imbecile words which sounded like a soliloquy or a superseding paean on an oboe:

'You are a ratable luna-moth; a salaaming vizier; an equinoctial coryphee, and an isosceles daguerreo type.'—From the 'Bookman.'

HE GOT THE JOB.

'I was much amused the other day,' said a hardware dealer, 'at a small boy who came around for a job. One of the clerk had dropped a lot of sharp-pointed tacks into a drawer of brass screws, and had given up the idea of taking them out. When the youngster turned up we thought we would try him by letting him sort the two articles. He went at it the same way the clerk had begun, picking out the tacks with his fingers, and getting the point of about every third tack in the ball of his thumb. He had enough in about a minute, and he straightened up. We all began to smile, expecting him to give up the job. Instead of that he went over to the showcase and picked out a horshoe magnet. Then he came back to the box. In thirty seconds he had the tacks out and the screws were still in the compartment. He knew that the magnet would attract iron and not the brass, and in a jiffy he had accomplished what we had been trying to do all the morning. We didn't really need a boy, but this little fellow's smartness appealed to us, and we engaged him at once.'—'Standard.'

THE FIRST CANDLESTICK.

Perhaps not many of our readers know that the first candlestick known to our ancestors was a boy—a real, live boy, too. He used generally to sit in the corner of the kitchen or dining hall, holding in his hands a piece of fire candle, and from time to time cutting and trimming it to make it burn more brightly.

The fir candle, as you have probably guessed, was a length of wood cut off a branch of a fir tree, this kind of wood being the best for burning, because of the resin it contains. All boys and girls know about that, especially those who have had the fun of making bonfires out of fir Christmas trees when they have served their purpose. How the branches do crackle and sputter to be sure!

These fir candles are still used in some parts of Scotland, and though a regular candlestick is generally used nowadays, it is still called a 'puir mon'—meaning a 'poor man.' It gets this name from the fact that in the old days, when a beggar asked for a night's lodging, he was expected to hold the candle. At other times the 'herd laddie,' or shepherd boy, usually performed this duty, when his work on the hills was done.—Selected.

BATTLE CRY.

More than half beaten, but fearless,
Facing the storm and the night;
Breathless and reeling, but tearless,
Here in the lull of the fight,
I who bow not but before Thee,
God of the fighting Clan
Lifting my fists I implore Thee,
Give me the heart of a Man!

What though I live with the winners
Or perish with those who fall?
Only the cowards are sinners;
Fighting the fight is all.
Strong is my Foe—he advances!
Snapt is my blade, O Lord!
See the proud banners and lances!
O spare me this stub of a sword!

Give me no pity, nor spare me;
Calm not the wrath of my Foe.
See where he beckons to dare me!
Bleeding, half beaten—I go.
Not for the glory of winning,
Not for the fear of the night;
Shunning the battle is sinning—

Red is the mist about me;
Deep is the wound in my side;
'Coward' thou criest to flout me?
O terrible Foe, thou hast lied!
Here with my battle before me,
Grant that the woman who bore me
Suffered to suckle a Man!
—John G. Neihardt, in 'Outing.'

HEARD IN LONDON.

Some difficulties of the English language were illustrated on the streets of London when a visiting German asked a passerby where Messrs. Blank could be found. Why, to be sure,' responded the man, promptly, 'Their shop is 1, High Holburn,' but he pronounced it 'one 'igh 'obun,' cheerfully ignoring such unnecessary letters as the h's and the silent l and r. 'Take this 'bus and ask the conductor to put you down there.'

The German thanked him and took the 'bus. After a little while he approached the conductor diffidently, suggesting the place of his destination.

'Eh?' said the conductor sharply, not catching the name distinctly.

'I just want 'one eye open,' returned the German, slowly and carefully.

'Then keep the other eye shut,' retorted the conductor, who happened to be in a bad temper.

YOU GET AS YOU GIVE.

Look for goodness, look for gladness,
You will find them all the while.
If you bring a smiling visage
To the glass, you meet a smile.
Do not look for wrong and evil,
You will find them if you do;
As you measure for your neighbor
He will measure back to you.
—Alice Cary.

PUZZLES.

BEHEADINGS.

Take away five letters from

1. One who claims, and leave an insect.
2. A flower, and leave an animal.
3. The treble, and leave a negative.
4. A poisonous serpent, and leave a violation.
violation of divine law.
5. A preparation of the cacao nut, and leave long delayed.
6. An arrogant threat, and leave to act.
7. A plant, and leave a note in music.
8. A rattling instrument, and leave something used for catching fish.
9. A quadruped armed with prickles, and leave an evergreen tree.
10. Sheets stitched, but not bound, and leave to lease.—'C. E. World.'

IRISH TOWNS ENIGMATICALLY EXPRESSED.

Part of a candle; not high. A vehicle; not high. A liquid; shallow water. Relationship; opposite of purchase.

DIAMOND.

A consonant. A utensil. Concord. A city in England. Famous. A jerky movement of the head. A consonant.

Answers to Last Week's Puzzles.

Numerical Puzzle—The Hardy Norseman.

AN HOUR-GLASS.

TRADERS
RAISE
ICE
K
EEL
RANGE
PANSIES
—Dickens.

Cross-Word Enigma—Calendar.

The answers to last week's puzzles sent by Lucy Wilton, Montreal, Willie C. Grant, Moose Creek, Ont., Basil C. McLean, Cote St. Paul, and Charles G. Richardson, Montreal, though not quite agreeing with the printed answers, are very good.

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR DEPARTMENT.

Feathered Friends in Winter

(Concluded.)

The host most not be discouraged if guests do not arrive immediately, or if only a very few arrive at first. As the good news spreads, the number and variety of birds will increase from week to week. We have had as many as eighteen different kinds of birds patronize our feeding stations in a single winter.

Of all these guests the chickadees have been the tamest and the source of the greatest pleasure. Every winter they come to us, and their confidence seems to be unlimited. They fly to the window sills, and standing on the tips of their toes, and stretching their necks upward, peer in the room, first with one eye and then with the other. If someone does not attend to their wants at once, they peck at the glass with their bills and call in a tone which certainly seems to have a shade of impatience in it. We open a door or window, and in they come, by ones and twos and sometimes in a little flock. They hop about the floor, pick up scraps of paper under my desk, fly to the backs of chairs and to the pictures hanging on the walls, examining everything with the brightest of black eyes, and occasionally testing with their bills, some object which seems to interest them. Sometimes they mistake the way out, and fly straight into a closed window. But even such an accident does not alarm them; they pick themselves up and try again.

One frosty morning when the chickadees seemed even more persistent than usual, we thought it might be a good idea to invite them in to breakfast. So we moved the breakfast table close to a window, which we opened, scattering broken nuts on the cloth for our guests. They came in fast enough, but instead of staying with us, they picked up the fragments of the nuts and flew out again to eat them in the trees in the garden. This not being in accordance with our plan, we took some more broken nuts, and with a needle and thread, tacked them lightly to the table cloth. Then, when the chickadees returned, they were unable to carry the food away, so remained and took breakfast with us. They never forgot this meal, I think, for whenever the window was opened at breakfast time, they were sure to come in with an air of expectancy to see if we had anything for them.

If we go outside in the winter, we are usually mobbed at once by a flock of chickadees, who literally 'hold us up' for nuts. They fly to our hands, if we hold them out and to our shoulders and faces if we don't. The smallest fragment of nut catches the eye of one of the chickadees instantly, and he does not hesitate to claim it no matter where it may be—on our hats, in our hands or even between our lips. If I hold a bit of kernel between my thumb and forefinger, a chickadee will sit there until it is all gone, even if it takes five minutes. Sometimes he will get positively tired eating, but will sit on guard until his appetite comes back. He will never allow another chickadee to sample the food in the meantime, but will drive off all intruders at the point of the bill. Sometimes, when one of my guests has been perched on my hand, I have suddenly felt one of his feet tighten on my finger and the next moment he would deliberately raise the other foot and scratch his head.

Last winter these birds were tamer than I have ever seen them before, not only coming to us on the piazza and in the garden, but following us on long walks in the woods and fields. On one occasion, when I was practising with a rifle, they would alight on the weapon, and even lean over the muzzle and peer down the barrel as though to see what there was in that. One day, while I was eating my lunch in the woods, a little band of chickadees came up and insisted on taking lunch with me. They alighted on my knees and hands and on my snowshoes which were sticking up in the snow. One of them, more persistent than the rest, flew to the edge of a sandwich which I was just beginning to eat, and from his attitude I should judge that he was not only astonished at the size of the bite I was taking, but greatly alarmed that he was not going to get his share.

MILLIONS OF BIRDS IN A FLOCK.

The ornithologist Wilson estimated a flock of passenger pigeons which he once observed to contain over two thousand millions of birds. But the great Audubon's graphic account of the incredible numbers, flight and volant methods of flocks he noted in 1813 in Kentucky, is one of the most striking pictures of bird literature. After counting one hundred and sixty-three different flocks in something less than one and a half hours, and noting their increase in density and number, he gave up any thought of even a wild approximation.

'I travelled on,' he says, 'and still met more the further I proceeded. The air was literally filled with pigeons. The light of noonday was obscured as by an eclipse, and the dung fell in spots not unlike melting flakes of snow, and the continual buzz of wings had a tendency to lull my senses to repose. . . . Not a single bird alighted, for not a nut or acorn was that year to be seen in the neighborhood. They consequently flew so high that different trials to reach them with a capital rifle proved ineffectual. . . . I cannot describe to you the extreme beauty of their aerial evolutions when a hawk chanced to press upon the rear of the flock. At once like a torrent and with a noise like thunder they rushed into a compact mass, pressing upon each other toward the centre. In these almost solid masses they darted forward in undulating and angular lines, descended and swept close over the earth with inconceivable velocity, mounted perpendicularly so as to resemble a vast column, and when high were seen wheeling and twisting within their contracted lines, which then resembled the coils of a gigantic surpent.' For three days, he tells us, these flocks continued to pass in undiminished numbers. Yet as a species this incredible multitude has been ruthlessly, almost extirpated by netting and by the professional plundering of nests of the young. Near breeding grounds hogs were fatted on slaughtered pigeons. In New York City squabs have been sold by the barrel at a less price than potatoes.—From 'The Flight of Game Birds,' by Lynn Tew Sprague, in the 'Outing Magazine' for November.

IF YOU ARE LOST IN THE WOODS.

Let the man who is lost in the woods be very careful not to over-exert himself. His chief dangers lie in panic and over-exertion, and, though he may be in a great hurry to find shelter, I must warn him to go slowly. Two miles an hour, on an average, through the snow in the woods, is all that a man in his condition will be able to stand without over-fatigue and its attendant dangers, over-heating and perspiration. By exercising caution, a man may live through a week of what he is undergoing. To make this article brief, however, we shall suppose that he regains the road by the afternoon of the first day. He doesn't yet know, of course, just where he is. He should examine the tracks of the person who last passed that way. It being afternoon, he must follow in the direction taken by the last passing vehicle or team, as shelter will be nearest in that direction. Had it been morning he would have taken the opposite direction, as whoever made the tracks must have come from the place where he obtained shelter the previous night.—From 'Lost in the Woods,' by A. B. Carleton, in the 'Outing Magazine' for November.

HOW THE MISTLETOE GROWS.

The mistletoe for centuries has been one of the most important factors in Yuletide decorations, its use dating back as far as the Druids. The hanging of the mistletoe on Christmas Eve, between 11 and 12 o'clock, in many homes, is the beginning of the season's merry-making. The bough is hung in a place where there will be no obstacle in passing under it, and the penalty for being caught beneath its branches all know.

The story of how the mistletoe gets on the trees is a most interesting one, writes Prof. S. C. Schmucker, in the 'Ladies' Home Journal.' Covering the mistletoe twigs are pearly white berries. These come in the winter season, when food is comparatively scarce, and hence some of our birds eat them freely. Now when a robin eats a cherry he swallows simply the meat and flips the stone away. The seed of the mistletoe the bird cannot flip. It is sticky and holds to his bill. His only resource is to wipe it off, and he does so, leaving it sticking to the branches of the tree on which he is sitting at the time. This seed sprouts after a time, and not finding earth—which, indeed, its ancestral habit has made it cease wanting—it sinks its roots into the bark of the tree and hunts there for the pipes that carry the sap. Now the sap in the bark is the very richest in the tree, far richer than that in the wood, and the mistletoe get from its host the choicest of food. With a strange foresight it does not throw its leaves away, as do most parasites, but keeps them to use in winter when the tree is leafless.

A GOOD TIME COMING

Yes, but you'd say 'twas surely here already if you saw the bright, jolly faces of the boys who besiege our office for the Christmas number of the 'Pictorial' to sell for Christmas gifts, or for Christmas pocket money. Some boys come in and show us their order cards with anywhere from twenty to fifty orders already booked. From all over Canada come the letters, too. It keeps us busy, but we don't mind, 'the more the merrier.' Send in YOUR order. We want it, too, and will give you our best attention. Read the large advt. on another page about 'Christmas Presents Free,' and act on it without delay.

One young photographer, George Classen, Ontario, has just received from us a fine No. 2 camera, films, developing powder, printing paper and frame, mounts and album. He let his sales of several months accumulate, believing us to be good 'bankers,' and then when ready he drew his cheque, as it were, on us for what he wanted. Another small boy of seven, Archie McQueen, out in British Columbia, who at one time was our youngest agent, feels he must drop out for a while, but he says: 'Meantime accept thanks for the fair and courteous treatment you have always given me.' Thank you, Archie. We part the best of friends, and when you come again we'll give you a hearty welcome, and the same sort of treatment. It's the kind we always try to keep on hand.

Almost every letter sings the praises of our premiums. They are the right sort, and 'the most for the least work.' Our watches (earned for 14, 16 or 19 of the Christmas Number, according to style), are, of course, what most boys want first. A large new case just in from the makers, testifies to their popularity. Are you in all this? If not, why not? Just send us a postcard order for four Christmas Numbers on terms of our 'Christmas Present' advt. on another page, and let us give you all particulars.

Address John Dougall & Son, [illegible] Block, Montreal, Agents for the 'C[illegible] Pictorial.'

THE FLYING DEATH

BY

SAMUEL HOPKINS ADAMS

Author with Stewart Edward White of 'The Mystery.'

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CHAPTER I.

THE INSOMNIAC.

Stanley Richard Colton, M.D., heaved his powerful form to and fro in his bed and cursed the day he had come to Montauk Point, which chanced to be the day just ended. All the world had been open to him, and his father's yacht to bear him to whatsoever corner thereof he might elect, in search of that which, once forfeited, no mere millions may buy back, the knack of peaceful sleep. But his wise old family physician had prescribed the tip-end of Long Island.

'Go down there to that suburban wilderness, Dick,' he had said, 'and devote yourself to filling your lungs with the narcotic ocean air. Practice feeding, breathing and loafing, and forget that you've ever practised medicine.'

Too much medicine was what ailed Dick Colton. Not that he had been taking it. On the contrary, he had been administering it to others. Amid the unbounded amazement of his friends, who couldn't see why the heir of the great Colton interests should want to devote his energies otherwhere, he had insisted on graduating from medical school, and, with a fashionable practice fairly yearning for him, had entered upon the grimy and malodorous duties of a dispensary among the tenement-folk. There, because the chances of birth had given him a good intelligence which his own efforts had kept brightened and sharpened, because Providence had equipped him with a comely and powerful body, which his own manner of life had kept attuned to strength and vigor, and because Heaven had blessed him with the heart and the face of a boy, whereof his own fineness and enthusiasm had kept the one untainted and the other defiant of care and lines, he had become a power in the slums. It was only by eternal vigilance that he had kept himself from being elected an alderman from one of the worst districts.

There came a week of terrible heat when the tenements vented forth their half-naked sufferers nightly upon the smoking asphalt, and the Angel of Death smote his daily hundreds with a sword of flame. Dick Colton fought for the lives of his people, and was already at the limit of endurance when Fate, employing as its dismayed instrument a contractor with liberal views on the subject of dynamite, reduced the dispensary outfit in one fell shock to a mass of shattered glass and a mephitic compound of tinctures, extracts and powders. Only one thing was to be done, and the young physician did it. He stocked up again, attending to all details himself, using his own money and his own energy freely, and proving to his own satisfaction that strong coffee and wet towels about the head would enable a man to live and toil on four hours' sleep a night.

When, at length, a two days' rain had drenched the fevered city to coolness, Dick Colton drew a deep breath and said: 'Now I'll go to sleep and sleep for a week.'

But the drugs which for so many weary days had filled his entire attention declined now to be evicted from his thoughts. Disposing themselves in neatly labelled bottles, all of a size, they marched in monotonous and nauseating files before his closed eyes, each individual of the passing show introducing itself by some outrageous and incredible title utterly unknown to the art and practice of pharmacy. To think upon sheep jumping in undulatory procession over a stone wall, so the wisdom of our forebears tell us, is to invite slumber. To contemplate misnamed medicine bottles interminably hurdling the bridge of one's nose, operates otherwise. From the family doctor Colton had carried his vision to Montauk Point with him.

Now, on this cool September midnight he rose, struck a light, and found himself facing two neat, little beribboned perfume jars, representing the decorative ideas of little Mrs. Johnston, the hostess of Third House. It was too much. Resentment at this shabby practical joke of Fate rose in his soul. Seizing the pair of bottles, he hurled them mightily, one after the other, into outer darkness. The crash of the second upon the stone wall surrounding the little hotel was rather startlingly followed by an exclamation.

'I beg your pardon,' cried Colton, rather abashed. 'Hope I didn't hit you.'

'You did not—with the second missile,' said the voice dryly.

'It was very stupid of me. The fact is,' Colton continued, groping for an excuse, 'I heard some kind of a noise outside and I thought it was a cat.'

'Where did you hear it?' interrupted the voice rather sharply. 'Did it seem to be on the ground, or in mid-air?'

Colton's frazzled nerves jumped all together, and in different directions. 'Have I been sent to a private lunatic asylum?' he inquired of himself.

'Lest my manner of inquiry may seem strange to you,' continued the voice, 'I may state that I am Professor Ravenden, formerly connected with the National Museum at Washington, D.C., and that your remark as to an unrecognised noise may have an important bearing upon certain phenomena in which I am scientifically interested.'

Colton groaned in spirit. 'Here I've told a polite and innocent lie to this mysterious pedant,' he said to himself, 'and of course I get caught at it.' He leaned out of the window, when a broad, spreading flare of lightning from the south showed, on the lawn beneath him, the figure of a slight, compactly built man of fifty-odd, dressed with rigorous neatness in Norfolk jacket and knickerbockers, and carrying a broken lantern and a butterfly net. His thin, prim and tanned face was as indicative of character as his precise and meticulous mode of speech.

'Did I break your lantern?' asked the young doctor contritely.

'As I do not carry my lantern in the small of my back, you did not, sir,' returned the professor with an asperity which reminded Colton that he had put considerable muscle into his throw. 'A loose rock which turned under my foot upset me,' he continued 'and the glass of my lantern was broken in the fall. The rising gale prevented my relighting it. Your opportune light, I may add, alone enabled me to locate the house.'

'Perhaps my unintended rudeness may be pardoned because of my involuntary service, then,' said Colton, with the courtesy which was natural to him.

There was a moment's pause. Then, 'if I may venture to impose upon your kindness,' said the man on the lawn, 'will you put on some clothes and join me here? It is a matter of considerable possible importance—scientifically.'

'Anything to avoid monotony,' said the other, rather grimly. 'I'm here for excitement, apparently.'

Worming his way into a sweater, trousers and shoes, he went downstairs and joined his new acquaintance on the veranda.

'My name is Colton, Dr. Stanley Colton,' he said. 'What is it you want me for?'

'I wish the testimony of your younger eyes and ears,' said the other. 'Would you object to a walk of a third of a mile?'

'Not at all,' returned the other, becoming interested. 'Shall I see if I can rustle up a lantern?'

'No,' said the professor thoughtfully. 'I think it would be better not. Yes; decidedly we are better without a light. Come.'

He led the way, swiftly and surefootedly, though it was pitch-dark except when the lightning lent its swift radiance.

'I was out in search of a rare species of Catocala—a moth of this locality—when I heard the curious sound to which I hope to call your attention,' he paused to explain.

He hurried on in silence, Colton following in puzzled expectation. At the top of a mound they stopped, and were almost swept off their feet by a furious gust of wind which died down, only to be succeeded by a second, hardly less violent. In a glare of lightning that spread across the south, Colton saw the fretted waters of a little lake below them.

'We're going to get that storm, I think,' he said.

No reply came from his companion. In silence they stood, for perhaps ten or fifteen minutes. Then the wind dropped temporarily. Colton was wondering whether courtesy to the peculiar individual who had haled him forth on this errand of darkness was going to cost him a wetting, when the wind dropped and the night fell silent.

'There! Did you hear it?' the professor exclaimed suddenly.

Colton had heard, and now he heard again, a strange sound, from overhead and seeming to come from a considerable distance; faintly harsh, and strident, with a metallic sonance.

'Almost overhead and to the west, was it not?' pursued the other. 'Watch there for the lightning flash.'

The lightning came, in one of those broad, sheet-like flickers that seem to irradiate the world for countable seconds. Professor Ravenden's arm shot out.

'Did you see?' he cried.

Darkness fell as the query was completed. 'I saw nothing,' replied Colton. 'Did you? What did you see?'

A clap of wind blew away the reply, if there was any. This time the wind rose steadily. They waited another quarter of an hour, the gale blowing without pause.

'This is profitless,' said Professor Ravenden, at length. 'We had best go home.'

Thankful for the respite, the younger man rose from the little depression where he had crouched for shelter from the wind. With a thrill of surprised delight, he realised that he was healthily sleepy. The quick, hard walk, the unwonted exercise, and the soft, fresh sweetness of the air, had produced an anodyne effect. But was the air so sweet? Colton turned and sniffed up wind.

'Do you smell anything peculiar?' he asked his companion.

'Unfortunately I am troubled with a catarrh which deadens my sense of smell,' replied the scientist.

'There's a peculiar reek in the air. I caught it with that last shift of wind. It's like something I've come across before. There!'

'Can you not describe it?'

'Why, it's—it's a sickish, acid sort of odor,' said Colton hesitantly. 'Where have I—— Oh, well, it's probably a dead animal up to windward.'

As they reached the house, he turned to the other.

'What was it you thought you saw?' he asked bluntly. 'What are you looking for?'

'I am not satisfied that I saw anything,' answered Professor Ravenden evasively. 'Imagination is a powerful factor, when the eye must accomplish its search in the instantaneous revelation of a lightning flash. As for what I am seeking, you heard as much as I. I thank you for your help, if you will pardon me, I will bid you good-night here, as I wish to make a few notes before retiring.'

Leaving the professor busied by candle light at the desk in the main room, Dick Colton cautiously tiptoed up the stairs. At the top he stopped dead. From an open door at the end of the hall issued a shaft of light. In the soft glow stood a girl. Her face was toward Colton. Her eyes met his, but unseeingly, for he was in the shadow, and her vision was dazzled by the light she had just made. Her face was softly flushed with sleep and her dark eyes were liquid under the heavy lids. She was dressed in some filmy, fluffy garment, the like of which Colton did not know existed. Nor had he realized that such creatures as this girl who had so suddenly stepped into his world, existed. He held his breath lest the sweetest, softest, most radiant vision that had ever met his eyes, should vanish. The Vision pushed a mass of heavy black hair back from its forehead, and spoke.

'Father,' it said.

In his sheltering shadow Colton stood rigid as a statue.

'Father,' she said again. Then with a note of petulance in the soft, rippling voice. 'Oh, Dad, you're not going out again.'

'I beg your pardon,' said Colton in a husky voice that belonged to someone whom he didn't know. 'Your father is downstairs. I'll call him.'

But the Vision had flashed out of his range. The light was shut out, and all that remained to him was the echo of a soft, dismayed, frightened little exclamation.

Having delivered the message to Professor Ravenden, and received his absent-minded, 'In a minute,' the insomniac returned to his room. Strangely enough, it was while he was striving to fix on the photographic lens of his brain every light and shadow of that radiant girl-figure, that the solution of the strange noise came, unsought, to him. He went to the foot of the stairs to tell the professor, who was still writing.

'I think I know what the sound was that we heard, Professor Ravenden,' he said. 'It was very like the rubbing of one wire on another.'

'Very like,' agreed the professor.

'Probably a telegraph or telephone wire, broken and grating in the gale, against the others.'

The professor continued to write.

'Good-night,' said Colton.

'Good-night, Dr. Colton,' said the scientist quietly, 'and thank you again. By the way, there is no wire of any kind within half a mile of where we stood.'

Two problems. Dick Colton took with him as exorcisers of the processional medicine bottles, when he threw himself on his bed and closed his eye. It was not the sound in the darkness, however, but the face in the light that prevailed as he dropped to sleep.

CHAPTER TWO.

THE VOICE IN THE NIGHT.

Before the dream had fairly enchained him Colton was buffeted back to consciousness by a slamming of doors and a general bustling about in the house. He sat up in bed, and looked out over the ocean just in time to see a fiery serpent writhe up through the blackness and thrust into the clouds a head which burst into wind-driven fragments of radiance before the vaster glory of the lightning surrounded and wiped it out.

'A wreck, I fear,' said Professor Ravenden in the hall outside. 'I shall go down to the shore, in case I can be of assistance.'

'Indeed you shall not!' came a quick contradiction from the room at the end of the hall. 'Not until I'm ready to go with you.'

It was the voice of the Vision. Colton observed that, soft as the tones were, a certain quality of decisiveness inhered in them.

'Can't Mr. Haynes bring you?' suggested the professor mildly. 'I see a light in his room.'

'He'll have his hands full with Helga. Please wait, Dad. I won't be ten minutes.'

From downstairs rose a banging of doors, a tramping of feet and the gruff voice of Johnston, the host, mingled with the gentle remonstrances of his wife, in which a certain insistence upon rubber boots was discernible. On the other side of Colton there was a swishing and thumping, as of one in hasty search for some article that had declined to stay put. 'Where is that sweater?' came in a sort of growling appeal to whatever Powers of Detection might be within hearing.

'Don't say things,' Mr. Haynes,' sounded in tones of soft gaiety from the end room, and the sweaterless one responded: 'The half of it hath not been told you. Got a sweater to lend a poor man with a weak chest, Miss Ravenden?'

'I'm just getting into my one and only garment of the kind,' was the muffled answer.

A second woman's voice, low, but with a wonderful, deep, full-throated sonance in it, broke in:

'My dream has come true,' it said, gravely. 'The ship is coming in on Graveyard Point. How long, Petit Père?'

'With you in a minute, Princess. Just let me get into my boots,' returned the voice of the seeker, but so altered by a certain caressing fellowship that Colton was half-minded to think he heard a new participant.

'Are you dressed already, Helga?' demanded Miss Ravenden. 'How do you do it?'

'I hadn't undressed, Dolly,' said the other girl, gravely. 'I knew—I felt that something——'

She paused.

'Helga's dreams always come to pass, you know,' said the man of the elusive sweater half banteringly. 'What kind of a knot has that shoe lace tied itself into?'

'Pray God this dream doesn't come to pass,' said the girl outside, under her breath as she passed Colton's door.

Another rocket and a third pierced the night and the response came, in a rising glow of light from the beach. 'The life-savers are at hand,' observed the professor below. 'Make haste, daughter. If we are——'

A burst of thunder drowned him out.

'This,' said Colton with conviction, as he dove into his heavy jersey jacket and seized a cap from a peg, 'is going to be a grand place for an insomnia patient! I can see that, right at the start.'

As he ran out of his door he collided violently with a small, dark, sinewy man who had hurriedly emerged from the opposite room.

'Don't apologize, and I won't,' said Colton as they clutched each other. 'My name is Colton. Yours is Haynes. May I go to the shore with you? I don't know the way.'

'Apparently you don't know the way to the stairs,' returned the other a trifle tartly. Looking at his keen, pallid and deeply lined face, the young doctor set him down as a rather irritable fellow, and suspected dyspepsia. 'Everybody will be going to the beach,' he added. 'If you follow along you'll probably get there.'

'Thanks,' said Dick, undisturbedly. It was a principle of his that the ill-temper of others was no logical reason for ill-temper in himself. In this case his principle worked well, for Haynes said with tolerable civility:

'You just came in this evening, didn't you?'

'Yes. I seem to have met the market for excitement.'

By this time they had reached the large living-room, where they found Mrs. Johnston presiding with ill-directed advice over the struggles of her grey-bearded husband to insert himself into a pair of boots of insufficient calibre.

'Twenty-five years o' service in the life-savin' corps an' ain't let to go out now without these der-r-r-ratted contraptions!' he fumed.

A splendid, tawny-haired girl in an oilskin jacket stood looking out into the night, her eyes vivid with a brooding excitement. She turned as Haynes came in.

'Are you ready, Petit Père? I'm smothering in these things.'

Expressively she passed her hands down along the oilskins, which covered her dress without concealing the sumptuous beauty of her young figure.

Filled as was Colton's mind with the image of another face, he looked at her with astonished admiration. Such, thought he, must have been the superb maids in whose inspiration the Vikings fought and conquered.

'If you knew what a gallant wet-weather figure you make,' Haynes answered her (Colton wondered how he could ever have thought the face disagreeable, so complete was the change of expression), 'your vanity would keep you comfortable.'

'Dinna blether,' returned the girl, smiling with affectionate comradeship, and slipping her arm through his to draw him to the door. 'Father's boots are on at last.'

'We're to have company,' said Haynes. 'Mr. Colton—I think you said your name was Colton—wants to come along.'

'I'm sorry that you should have been awakened,' said the girl, turning to him. 'You don't mind rough weather?'

'At least I'm not likely to blow away,' returned the young man good-humoredly, looking down at her from his six-foot-one of height. Inwardly he was saying: 'You are never the daughter of that weather-beaten old shore man and that mild ancient hen of a woman.'

Haynes, who had caught up a lantern and was moving toward the door, turned and said to him: 'You had better keep between Mr. Johnston and myself. What are you waiting for?'

'Aren't there others coming? I thought I heard someone upstairs speak of it.' He paused in some embarrassment, as he realized the intensity of his own wish to see that dark and lovely face again.

'Oh, Dolly Ravenden. Her father will bring her,' said Miss Johnston. 'We shall meet them at the beach.'

With heads bent, the four plunged out into the storm. The wind now was blowing furiously, but there was little rain. Over the sea hung a black bank of cloud, from which spurted great charges of lightning. Colton, implicitly following his guides, presently found himself passing down a little gully where the still air bore an uncanny contrast to the gale overhead. Hardly had they entered the hollow when Haynes checked himself.

'Did you hear it?' he said in a low voice to the girl.

Colton saw her press closer to her companion, shudderingly. She poised her head, staring with great eager, sombre eyes, into the void above.

'When haven't I heard it, in my dreams!' she half whispered.

'There!' cried Haynes.

'Yes,' said the girl. 'To seaward, wasn't it?'

On the word, Colton, straining his ears, heard through the multiform clamor of the gale aloft the same faint, strange, wailing note of his earlier experience, not unlike the shrieking of metal upon metal, yet an animate voice, infinitely melancholy, infinitely lonely.

'It chills me like a portent,' said Helga.

'Never mind, Princess,' reassured Haynes, in his caressing voice. 'It was stupid of me to say anything about it, and make you more nervous.'

'Nervous! I never knew I had nerves—until now.' She turned to Colton. 'Did you hear it too?'

'Yes. What was it?'

A furious flurry of the gale intervened. The girl shook her head. Johnston in the lead now turned to climb a grassy knoll, and conversation became impossible.

At the top they came in view of a score of busy figures outlined sharply against a lurid background as the lightning spread its shining drapery from horizon to zenith. Presently the four people from Third House stood on the cliff overhanging the sledge-hammer surf, and watched the life-saving crews of two stations, Bow Hill to the east, Sand Spit to the west, play their desperate game for a hazard of human lives. Straining their eyes, they could discern, in the whiteness of the whipped seas, a dull, undefined lump, which ever and anon flashed, like a magician's trick, into the clean, pencilled outlines of a schooner, lying on her beam ends, and swept by every giant comber that rolled in from the wide Atlantic. She lay broadside to the surges, harpooned and held by the deadly pinnacled reef of Graveyard Point.

(To be Continued.)

BRETON TWO STORY BEDS

MANY IN PEASANTS' HUTS RICHLY CARVED AND ORNAMENTED.

(New Orleans 'Times Democrats')

The Breton peasant has some charming qualities, courtesy, good humor, detachment from the prosaic side of life, but the virtue of cleanliness is not for him.

The cottages are frequently very dirty and the approach to them is sometimes over a pile of refuse. There is nothing of luxury in a cottage interior, but you may generally count on two things to beautify even the poorest. One is the white coif of its mistress (always spotless, however dirty anything else may be, and the other is the brass trimming of the armoire, usually polished to a degree of brightness that is positively dazzling. Some of these armoires are really beautiful, with elaborately carved panels, and in many cases are heirlooms that have been in the family for generations. Then there are the beds—one of them, of which the mistress is very proud, will be modern, with coarse Nottingham lace curtains draped over it.

You give it a few complimentary words in order to satisfy its owner, but what you really want to see is the 'lit-clos' in the far corner, and if it is a 'lit-clos a deux etages' you are more than content. Some of these 'lit-clos' are things of great beauty, like the armoires, and the carvings on the sliding panels are enough to make a collector green with envy. But imagine how stuffy they must be to sleep in—and in winter the panels are shut! One day I was expressing my admiration of a certain 'lit-clos' when madam pulled the sliding panels apart and revealed the figure of her husband sleepily rubbing his eyes and wanting to know what was the matter! She calmly explained to him that I wanted to see the inside of the bed and then explained to me that her good man had been out fishing since dawn and was very tired. I begged him to close the panels and go to sleep again, which he immediately did, but not before I noticed that he was fully dressed. I am told that the Breton peasant always disappears into the 'lit-clos' fully dressed and always emerges therefrom in the same condition.

While her husband slept madam enlarged on the advantage of a 'lit-clos' in bringing up a family. She told me that she had had six children and that when they were little she used to put three in the top stage and three in the bottom, then close the panels and leave them with an easy mind.

THE PIANIST'S REVENGE.

(London 'Standard.')

The proprietor of a Paris café noticed that after he had refused to give his pianist an increase of salary the number of his customers dwindled rapidly. It was only when all but one diner had deserted him that he discovered the pianist had been inflicting Chopin's 'Funeral March' on the audience nightly. The pianist has been fined £2. He pleaded that he played according to the mood he felt in after his request had been refused.

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(1361)

Home Department.

A Shining Thought.

I gave a beggar from my little store
Of well-earned gold. He spent the shining ore
And came again, and yet again, still cold
And hungry as before.

I gave a thought, and through that thought of mine,
He found himself a man, supreme, divine,
Bold, clothed and crowned with blessings manifold,
And now he begs no more.

—Selected.

Hilda's Awakening.

(By Mary E. Bamford.)

Hilda had been investigating the Italian quarter for her newspaper. The Chinese quarter of the California city lay before her. A Chinese funeral was progressing at a Chinese undertaker's. A Chinese priest in a black robe coming to his knees stalked haughtily by Hilda into the undertaker's.

Several American men and women had stopped to gaze. Through the repeatedly opening door Hilda saw the coffin with two red candles burning below it. Opposite sat a Chinese girl in white, with a white cloth band around her head. The priest was intoning. A Chinaman came up the street with a Chinese woman, and entered the undertaker's. This visiting woman stood opposite the coffin and bowed half-way down.

Out the door came a blue-bloused Chinaman.

'Here comes the grub,' said a rough onlooker.

The Chinaman bore a tray containing a baked chicken, some small white cakes, and something darker—perhaps roast pork. He put the tray into what looked like an open laundry waggon. He came out again with the white-dressed Chinese girl. She climbed into the waggon and sat on the floor. Near her was put a dish of red incense sticks.

The yellow wooden casket, covered with a red cloth, was brought out and shoved into a black hearse. Hacks drove up, having inscriptions in Chinese on white paper in the windows. In one hack rode dark-dressed Chinese women.

Crash! went the startling Chinese gong in the musicians' hack. The high squeaking instruments of Chinese music joined. With clanging gong the procession passed—a frequent sight of Chinatown, a 'show for Eastern tourists.'

Suddenly a hand grasped Hilda.

'I saw you when you turned from poor See Wong's funeral,' said a voice. 'I wanted to see you. Our Chinese school closes next week Friday, for Christmas vacation. I'm trying to find folks who'll contribute dressed dolls. We give the Chinese children little presents on closing day. You're to be responsible for three dressed dolls, Hilda! Not very big dolls. Even little Chinese boys would rather have dolls than anything else! The little boys cry, "O, give me doll! Give me doll!"'

'Very well,' said Hilda, smiling.

She and Ethel Holdsworth had been schoolmates years ago, had joined the church together, had had ambitions to succeed in literature, and had begun as reporters. Both had done well. But one day Ethel had quietly resigned and had taken up work among the little Chinese children. To Hilda's amazed, almost angry remonstrances Ethel had only answered with tears that the voice of the little Christless Chinese children cried so loudly to her that she could not write.

'Nonsense!' Hilda had sharply answered, and for a long time thereafter she had nothing to do with Ethel. But afterward they had come back to friendship, so that to-day Hilda promised the three dolls and hurried away.

It was Friday of the next week before Hilda remembered again about these dolls. Startled to discover that the dolls were due she hurriedly bought them and hastened to Chinatown.

It was four o'clock. The parting festivities of the Chinese mission school were evidently just over. A stream of quaintly costumed little orientals in pink and blue and yellow and green and red and orange rainbow combinations, with little pink-braided queues or gay flat headdresses, were coming down the stairs, with older Chinese women or girls. The little Chinese children were hugging their dolls and other presents.

One Chinese lad was wailing, tears dropping on his yellow chom. He seemed broken-hearted. His white-woven queue bobbed with grief.

'What's the matter?' demanded Hilda.

'Him no got doll,' explained an older child.

'Here!' cried Hilda, pulling one of her three dolls out of her bundle.

She thrust the doll into the arms of the weeping little lad of the white-paited queue. He raised a scared, olive-colored face.

'Hilda!' said a voice from the top of the stairs. 'There you are at last! Give me the two dolls quick, please. Thank you.'

Ethel breathlessly grasped the dolls, and was surrounded by eagerly polite, longing children.

When everything was settled Ethel smiled at Hilda.

'You gave little Wo Sun a doll didn't you?' said Ethel. 'That little Chinese boy you met on the stairs crying. Poor little Wo Sun! His grandfather died last week. You saw his funeral at the Chinese undertaker's. That's the reason Wo Sun has that little white cord in his queue.'

For several days after that Hilda had to make journeys through the Chinese quarter, for the Italian quarter beyond that now demanded Hilda's services for her newspaper. One day, hurrying through Chinatown, past Chinese shops that displayed occasional piles of green 'chi yong toi,' and baskets of sprouted beans, and deep yellow squares of bean-curds stamped with Chinese characters and unInviting wooden-appearing tubers of some kind of taro, and long stalks of sugar-cane looking like fishing poles, and white water melon seeds, and fish fins, Hilda heard little feet, and lo! the small Chinese boy, Wo Sun, to whom she had given the doll. He had recognized Hilda.

'Jesus lady,' he said smiling, his trustful little olive-tinted face raised shyly.

A sudden shock as of embarrassment fell upon Hilda. A newspaper reporter was not often called a 'Jesus lady.' And yet there had been a time when Hilda had professed His name.

Again and again during the approaching holiday season, as Hilda hurried daily through Chinatown to the Latin quarter, she saw little Wo Sun. Always he had his dear doll, and always he smiled and said his two English words, 'Jesus lady.'

The remembrance of the two words followed Hilda as she climbed the unswept newspaper stairs on Christmas Eve, and by the light of an electric bulb saw her accustomed way into the little rooms connected with the newspaper office. It was almost Christmas—Christmas!

She went to her desk and scribbled her copy. Her chief appreciated her. What had she not done? Had she not written columns for the big Sunday supplements, unheeding her conscience's protests? Had she not even sacrificed her Sundays to extra work? She was not known as a 'Jesus lady' in this office. The workers knew her here as a swift writer of adaptable, versatile powers, ready for any emergency. They did not know how often she had sacrificed scruples for so-called 'success.' She had nothing to do with Sunday editions now but the effect of the past was on her. Yet, as she scribbled, a curious heartache kept her uneasy. How confident in her Christianity had been that uplifted, smiling little oriental face, with his gentle salutation, 'Jesus lady.'

It was ten o'clock. Hilda shut her desk. She could go early to-night.

'Going to hang up your stocking?' asked the office boy.

Hilda shuffled her papers a little blindly. Grown as she was this was the first Christmas without that. To-night there were no old, wrinkled hands at home to fill the daughter-reporter's stocking. There never would be again—never again. The office boy had not remembered.

'I'm going to hang mine,' he said.

Hilda put on her hat and went out.

At her lodging house, in her room she lit her gas and began writing, trying to forget. It was Christmas Eve, the night of His birth, the night when mother always, the last thing, secretly filled Hilda's stocking, as always since childhood. Hilda had filled mother's, too.

Now and then Hilda looked up from her writing. The room was so empty—so empty—so still. Nobody cared much whether she had any Christmas or not. Nobody would ever care—that way—again. Hilda's head went down on her paper. One year ago—only one little year. A sob burst from her.

The room grew unendurable. She sprang up. It was after eleven, but Ethel had often told Hilda to come any time and spend the night with her and Ethel knew how late a reporter was often out. Ethel roomed on the edge of Chinatown. She had just come back from a meeting at the mission.

'O, Hilda,' said Ethel, her face shining, 'there was an old Chinese woman converted to-night at the mission! I've been praying for her so long and trying to show her the way to Jesus, and she came into the light so beautifully to night. Why, Hilda, you must know her! She's the grandmother of that little boy you gave the doll to, Wo Sun; I knew you'd be so glad to see me, dear. Don't you remember when we were both first converted, how happy we were? That old Chinese woman is just like that!'

Hilda did not answer. When of late years she had been called on to rejoice over the coming of a new soul into the kingdom? Her associates at the office were not usually making a business of soul-saving.

Ethel could hardly sleep for a while for happiness. But after Ethel slept Hilda lay awake still, the two words, 'Jesus lady,' in her memory. The Chinese must call Ethel that. Was it recompense enough for all the 'success' in writing that Ethel had gone without? Why, Ethel could have succeeded in writing! Hilda knew she could. Hilda remembered that day, long ago, when Ethel with a sudden burst of tears had confessed that the voice of the Christless little Chinese children had cried so loudly to her that she could not write.

'What has become of all your ambition?' Hilda had answered, sharply. 'You to fail when you might have success!'

But now, to-night, lying in Ethel's room, remembering Ethel's rejoicing over the saved old Chinese woman, Hilda felt something tug at her own heart. Why did the light in Ethel's face give her such a heartache?

Hilda turned her head and resolutely shut her eyes. She fell asleep, her questions set aside.

It seemed as though the girls both woke at the same moment. Hilda sprang out of bed. Some old rookeries of Chinatown were ablaze. The house the girls were in—

Ethel!' cried Hilda. 'Ethel!'

They ran to their door. As they jerked it open, a crackling sheet of flame swept up the stairs. The girls ran into the hall, but the flooring was giving way, and the flames drove them back into their own room again. They rushed to their window. Screams were coming from all over the burning house. Penned in their room, the two girls could only lean out their window and call for help. Their room was full of smoke. Far below them lay an alley. Opposite them was a roof, but an impassable gulf of air lay between. There seemed no way of escape.

Out of the flashes of fire and clouds of smoke rose now and then the sight of the shape of the oldest of the joss houses, the temple of the queen of heaven. Ethel's white face was toward that temple and the flaming buildings next it.

'O, my people! My poor people!' she cried. 'They are not fit to die! O, my people, my people! O, God, save my people!'

No cry for her own safety only for 'her' people, these heathen, these whom Christ had taught her to call her own. Hilda saw.

The room behind them filled with denser smoke. Through cracks the flames shot in at the girls. And nobody came to help. The firemen must all be around on the main streets. This was an alley. Nobody might see.

The window glass was growing hot, so hot that one's hand could hardly be laid on it. The temple of the queen of heaven wavered through the smoke. It was growing difficult to breathe. Flames were beginning to run along the floor toward the girls.

Hilda crept closer to her companion.

'Ethel,' she gasped. 'Ethel, if they don't find us in time, I—I just want to say that I—I take back all I said about your not having any high ideals—that that I said the other day, you know. If it must be a comfort to you—if we've got to die this way—to feel that at least you've spent your life trying to save souls. I haven't saved any, Ethel—I haven't tried. When I look back from eternity I shan't have saved a soul! Ethel—Ethel, my scribbling, and the Latin quarter stories, and the newspaper, and —my success—Ethel, what's my life going to count for in a few minutes more? Ethel! We're going to die! And I haven't saved anybody.'

She cried out, but Ethel's arms were around her and held her fast.

'Hush, dear,' said Ethel. 'Hush! The dear Lord is here, in this fire. Tell Him, dear.'

Then the fire rose up through the floor of their room. Then through smoke, from the roof across the alley, there fell a ladder that came resting on the window sill where the girls were.

'Crawl across here, quick!' shouted a fireman, and Hilda shut her eyes while she and Ethel crawled across the gulf that opened below them into the alley's depths.

On the other side of the gulf they ran over burning roofs.

'This way!' cried the fireman, and around chimneys and down steep roofs the girls slipped, and choked in smoke, and fell, and sprang across burning gulfs, and then came other ladders, and then the blessed ground under foot. It was Christmas morning, and they were safe. The temple of the queen of heaven looked darkly down at the heathen streets, where the firemen fought and saved the lives of the alien race. It was Christmas morning, the Christmas when Hilda had felt herself bereft that no one had a gift for her. Yet now she had a gift, the gift of further life instead of death.

Another gift was here, too. As Hilda went through Chinese streets there came rushing little feet. There was thrust into her hand a six-inch length of sugar cane. Little Wo Sun's face smiled at her.

'Jesus lady,' he said, 'me give!'

'Why, thank you!' cried Hilda.

She bent down.

'Wo Sun' said Hilda, softly, 'I'm going to be a real Jesus woman in my newspaper work after this.'

From henceforth part of her earnings should be consecrated to Christ's work. Even her newspaper office should see that she was a woman whose aims had changed.—The 'Christian Advocate.'

Home Thoughts.

CHRISTMASTIDE.

O little Son of Mary,
We bring our hearts to Thee,
Thine would we be forever,
From sin and death set free.
True Son of God to save us,
True Son of man to bless,
Prince wise Thou born on Christmas morn,
All evil to redress.

—Margaret E. Sangster.

Let us not sing of Christ's birth, but make of our hearts a birthplace for Him. cradle His spirit in us, watch tenderly, and make it grow, till in our lives shall be ripe and rich fruit kindred to that which perfected Him.—The Rev. J. F. W. Ware.

Swifter than a weaver's shuttle fly our years. To people beyond early youth, it seems as if the interval between one Christmas and another keeps ever growing shorter so fast the twelve months flit past, so rapid is the revolution of the seasons. Nevertheless, the bubbling up of joy at Christmastide is the effervescence of a perennially fed spring, the waters of which rise from no earthly fountain, but come from a world unseen and eternal, and have in them the clear shining and the sweetness of the paradise of God.—'Christian Intelligencer.'

Help the Children.

Not a little of the distraction that a busy mother feels at the approach of Christmas is that not only must she provide presents for all of the family, but she must oversee the providing of the family's presents to others.

Children nowadays have lists as long as their mothers, and early begin clamoring to know what they can give to each and every person on it.

If expense is not a question it is fairly simple to take them down street on a shopping tour and let them choose their own gifts. Do this shopping, however, before the crowds begin, or it will be most unsatisfactory to the child, and nerve-ruining to the mother.

Take one child at a time or trouble will surely follow. Insist before starting on her list being plainly written with a pencil attached to check off each present as it is bought. If the young buyer is old enough to have an allowance it is much better for children to be forced to get their presents out of that. Or all the little ones can be given the same sum to buy their gifts, and then be allowed to use their own judgment as to the best disposal of it.

In no other way can the value of money and the wisdom of making the most of it be so practically taught. There is as great a difference in children in respect to getting the worth of their money as among grown people, and it is often amusing what shrewd little traders some of the tots are.

Usually, though, there is little money to buy the children's presents, and gifts must be made at home. Then, indeed, is the mother's cup of trouble full to overflowing, unless she is full of suggestions.

There are many simple, inexpensive things that the children can make, and with a little instruction from the grown-ups, these may be made really worth while.

Some mothers allow their little ones to give atrocious specimens of sewing or painting at Christmas, when with a little direction they could just as well make pretty and useful gifts.

One can never begin too early to insist that what a child does it does well. For instance, pretty prints that cost but a few cents apiece can be bought and the children shown how to mount these on cardboard and frame them with passe-partout. Boys and girls of eight or ten years old can easily and neatly do the pasting necessary, and if artistic pictures are selected a dainty gift, that anyone would be glad to own, will result.

Little girls should be given some fine huckaback and shown how to draw the threads and hemstitch useful and pretty washrags that will give much pleasure to aunties or grandmothers. Assistance will probably be necessary in laying the hem, but the hemming is quite simple.

Many children learn raffia work in the schools, or, if the mother has any knowledge of it herself, she can teach even the tiny children how to make pretty baskets and photograph frames of the bright colored straws. It is surprising what good work quite young tots can do in this line, and it keeps them so interested that the mother is spared many fretful queries, 'What shall I make for Christmas?'

The older girls can dress dolls for the younger children, the mother showing them how to cut out the clothes, or, they can be shown how to crochet a baby blanket for the doll coach out of gay bits of zephyr from the knitting bag.

If father has any particular taste that the children know, as a fondness for jokes or a love of horses or dogs, the boys and girls might begin weeks before to cut from the papers or the backs of magazines, pictures or little items of interest connected with it.

Cut a number of sheets of heavy brown or blue unlined paper about a foot square, paste the clippings neatly on one side of the sheet only, and make them into a book.

This can have a plain sheet of the same paper on the outside for a cover on which can be painted a title and father's name. Holes should be punched through the outer edge in three places and the book tied with ribbon.

A more elaborate and more durable cover could be made by cutting backs of heavy pasteboard a trifle larger than the sheets of paper and covering them with pretty design in wall paper, or even cretonne, though the former is more easily pasted on.

Most children could make a pin case of a strip of gay colored ribbon, seven inches wide and twelve long, lined with white, pink or blue flannel. The mother could cut the pieces and perhaps baste them together, and the children could sew up the seams, turn them and blind stitch the end.

Attach a piece of narrow ribbon to the middle of the top edge for rolling, and have the children put in pins of all sizes in any ways they choose.

This might be a combination present, the girls making the cases and the boys getting the pins and putting them in the case.

Another present the boys could make would be a shaving case of tissue paper for father or uncle. The pasteboard outside can be cut in the shape of a diamond, square or clover leaf and covered with fancy crepe paper.

If the boys have a tool chest they can easily turn out a small bench or footstool about ten inches high for auntie to rest her feet on. After it is finished they should paint it with dark green paint or red paint.

The older girls can make a paper doll book for one of the younger ones. Any big blank book will answer for this, and furniture can be cut from the magazines and advertisements. Odd bits of wall paper should be used on the upper part of each page to represent the walls, and spaces should be drawn for the doors and windows, which can be hung with paper lace curtains.

The tiny tots can string beads or work with bright crewels the punched cards that can be bought ready prepared for book-markers.—Philadelphia 'Times.'

SHE WHO LOOKS AHEAD.

It was certainly three weeks before Christmas when I dropped in one morning for an idle chat with a good friend of mine, and great was my surprise when I beheld her usually orderly sitting room a litter of tissue paper, scarlet ribbons, and sprigs of artificial holly, not to mention a businesslike looking pile of brown wrapping paper and several uncompromising balls of heavy hemp twine.

'What on earth!' I gasped, as I saw her in the midst of this confused array. 'Why, it's just past Thanksgiving, and unless my eyes deceive me, this can mean nothing less than Christmas packages.'

'Exactly what it does mean,' she informed me, hardly pausing in her occupation.

I saw that there was to be no idle chat this morning, so I determined to probe the cause of what looked to me a spasm of untimely industry. And finally when the disorderly litter was reduced to an orderly pile of wrapped and addressed parcels, my hostess stopped for breath and laughed at my dazed expression.

'One or two more mornings' work of this kind,' she said, 'and I can sit down and smile complacently while the rest of you are scurrying. Inside of a week every one of my out-of-town gifts will be on its way.'

'But what will people think?' I ventured. 'Christmas isn't Christmas almost a month in advance.'

Then she smiled again, a superior sort of smile, and produced a bunch of holly-wreathed tags, on each of which was written, 'Please don't open until Christmas.'

'These packages,' she said, 'are all for members of the family and old friends away from home—people who always send me things, so there's no danger that I shall be accused of sending things so long in advance by way of a friendly hint. I tie these tags to my parcels then if people want to be foolish enough to open their things at once and spoil their Christmas, it's no affair of mine.

'I'll tell you in a minute what moved me to this. Of course, I've always known vaguely that the last few days before Christmas are an awful strain on the postmen and express people, but something happened last year which made me resolve to do my tiny part toward relieving things and if every one would follow suit, it would mean a real help at the very end.

'You see, late on Christmas Eve last year, my bell rang and I went out and peeped over the stairs to see what was coming. An expressman with a package for me was lurching up the stairs, whistling and singing so uproariously that I made for safety behind my own door, slipped the chain-bolt, and parleyed through the crack. At first I was disgusted, for it was appalling to see a decent looking lad of not more than twenty in such a condition, and I signed the book in virtuous silence. The boy had steadied himself when he saw me dodge behind my door, and when he finally handed me my parcel, he took off his cap and said:

'"I know I'm in no condition to speak on duty to a lady—I've been forty-eight hours without a square meal—I couldn't say no to a drink—sorry, lady, beg pardon."

'And he went away, leaving me filled with indignation that such a thing could happen, a nice boy drunk—yes, drunk is the word—by reason of the thoughtlessness and laziness of well-meaning people like myself, very probably. So I determined this year I'd take this way of knowing myself guiltless, and my conscience is at rest—and if I succeed in awakening in any of my friends a desire to do likewise, so much the better," she finished with a significant look in my direction.—'Times.'

The Christmas Dinner.

A dinner table on Christmas Day ought to be distinctly suggestive of the occasion, writes Miss Caroline French Benton, in the New York 'Observer.'

In the middle may be a little tree, either a tiny fir tree from the woods, or the tip of a small evergreen, or, if one lives in town, a little German tree in a pot, made of some imitation materials, but very cleverly, and which has the great advantage of shutting up like an umbrella when out of use, so that once bought it will last for years. Trees like this may be purchased at a department store for a small sum.

If one has a tree it is best not to use candles on it, since they will not last out the meal, and will certainly drip on the cloth; it is better to put ordinary candles in sticks on the table and drape the tree with tinsel and glass balls to reflect the light. All around it may be piles of green, holly preferably, but anything pretty, and little red ribbons may twine in and out, ending at each plate in a package done up in green tissue paper and red ribbon, holding some trifling and nonessential gift.

In place of a tree a little open sleigh driven by a Santa Claus may be chosen, the sleigh piled either with packages or with candy. If one can get a sleigh with one or more reindeer, so much the better; they are to be had in all toy shops. If there are no children in the family and the dinner is a formal one—a thing difficult to associate with the day—then the centrepiece may be holly and red poinsettas, and red candles may be used.

The main dish of a Christmas dinner should really be roast goose, and where one can get a young and tender bird this is not only a good choice, but the best of all, since turkey is used on all other holiday occasions. If there is doubt about the age of the bird it may be made tender by parboiling or steaming it till all it needs is a final browning in the oven. Here is a menu which is suggestive of the day:

Oyster Soup. Celery. Hot Crackers.
Roast Goose. Mashed Potato.
Baked Onions. Apple Sauce.
Little Chicken Pies.
Lettuce with Grape Fruit.
Cream Cheese. Crackers.
Plum Pudding with Hard Sauce.
Coffee.

Or, if one wishes something quite different from this, here is another menu:

Cream of Tomato Soup.
Creamed Salmon. Small Dishes.
Roast Duck. Mashed Sweet Potatoes.
Cranberry Jelly. Cauliflower.
Celery Salad. Wafers. Olives.
Plum Pudding. Ice Cream.
Coffee.

Recipes.

Oyster Soup—Heat a pint or more of oysters on the stove in their own juice after straining it. Heat rich milk or half cream and half milk in the double boiler; add a small tablespoonful of butter, putting in a tiny bit at a time for fear of making it show on the milk, and season with salt and a little pepper. When the milk steams add the oysters and cook till their edges curl, when it must be taken up at once. If you wish this thickened, add a half cup of fine cracker crumbs. Most oyster soup is ruined by boiling the milk and cooking the oysters till they are leathery; the milk need not boil at all, only simmer, and the oysters must not be allowed to cook, merely to steam till they are plump and curly.

Stuffing for Goose and Ducks.—Make a quart or more of fine soft bread crumbs. Heat a dry frying pan and put in a heaping tablespoonful of nice butter, a quarter of an onion, chopped very fine, a teaspoonful of salt and a dash of red pepper. Cook till the onion browns, then put in the crumbs and stir and toss till they are brown and crisp, adding more butter if necessary. Half fill the bird, sew up and roast with the breast downward in the pan. Oysters may be added or cooked and chopped chestnuts to this stuffing, or a cup of stewed and chopped prunes, but all herbs should be omitted, except a tablespoonful of chopped parsley put in with the butter.

Little Chicken Pies.—Cook a fowl till tender, remove the bones and cut into even bits; stew down the stock and strain it. Line patty pans with rich pie crust rolled thin, and lay cover lightly on each. When baked, remove this cover, heat the chicken in the stock, fill with chicken and put them on again, with a sprig of parsley in each. Serve at once, before the gravy penetrates the crust.

Plum Pudding.—A pint and a half of soft white bread crumbs, a pint of chopped suet, a pint and a half of mixed raisins and currants, half a cup of shaved citron, a small cup of sugar, half a teaspoonful of salt, half a teaspoonful of nutmeg, five eggs, two even tablespoonfuls flour, mixed with a small half cup of milk. Beat the eggs together, and mix the whole in the order given. Steam four hours in a mold and serve with foamy sauce. Flavor both pudding and sauce to taste.

Plum Pudding Ice Cream.—Scald a quart of rich milk or thin cream with a cup of sugar. While hot add three squares of chocolate grated or melted, a teaspoonful of cloves, two of cinnamon and a teaspoonful of vanilla. Cool and freeze; when firm take out the dasher and add a cup of stoned raisins and another of currants; mix well, pack down firmly and let it stand two hours. Turn out in a mold shape and decorate with holly; surround with spoonfuls of whipped cream. If you choose you can whip the cream and put it in a small covered pail and bury it in ice and salt from the time you begin the ice cream till it is done, when the whip will be frozen but foamy, very delicious with the pudding.

Christmas Mince Pies.—One cup of chopped cooked beef, one and a half cups of stoned raisins, one and a half cup of washed currants, one and a half cups of brown sugar, one cup of granulated sugar, three cups of chopped apples, one cup of the stock from the meat, two teaspoonfuls of salt, two of cinnamon, half a teaspoonful of mace and half a teaspoonful of cloves, one lemon, the grated rind and juice, a small cup of cider, and half a cup of finely sliced citron. Mix in the order given, and if not very soft, add a little more meat stock. Cook till the apples and raisins are both soft, and put in the cider when the whole cools. A good addition is a little of the spiced vinegar which comes on pickled peaches. Pack away in a stone jar, and let it ripen in a very cool place two weeks before using.

TRAVELLER'S VALUABLE FIND

Travelling on the I. C. R., Mr. Harry Towers, St. Paul street, St. John, N.B., found a box of Zam-Buk, the great skin-healer. He was suffering from badly chapped hands at the time, so applied the balm. He says:—'Zam-Buk eased the pain and smarting, healed the cracks, and made my hands quite smooth. Finding it so good, I kept a supply handy, and have since proved it a really wonderful healer. It cures cuts, sores, or burns equally well, and I would not like now to be without a supply.'

Mr. Towers is only one of thousands who are glad they heard of Zam-Buk. There is no skin disease it will not relieve and cure. Its fame is spreading everywhere, and it is now regarded as Nature's great 'first-aid' in workshops, on the farm, or in the home. No traveller should be without it. Every home should have its box always ready for use. A little Zam-Buk rubbed regularly on the hands and face before retiring each night will keep the skin soft and free from chaps, cold-sores, or disease.

If you have a cut, a bruise, or some irritating skin disease, which has defied all ordinary remedies, apply Zam-Buk. It first cleanses a wound by killing off all harmful bacteria. Then it builds up new tissue cell by cell—just as a bricklayer lays row after row of bricks. Then it covers the wound with new healthy skin, and the cure is effected!

Zam-Buk is also a cure for piles. It gives speedy relief and ends the throbbing, burning pains. Skin diseases, such as eczema, itch, ulcers, barber's rash, rashes due to blood-poison, etc., cannot resist its powerful healing virtues. Purely vegetable, it is an ideal combination of power and purity. 50 cents a box of all druggists and stores, or post free from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, for price. Reject cheap, harmful and dangerous substitutes.

Local wholesale depot, 144 Craig street west, Montreal.

BRITISH NEWS.

ENGLAND.

The Queen has received a cheque for £10,000, as an instalment of the profits of her Christmas Gift Book.

It is officially announced that the wrecked cruiser 'Gladiator,' which cost £54,000 to salve, is to be sold out of the service at the next sale of warships, not being worth repair.

Sir William Hartley has offered to give £5,000 to a fund to assist the dependents of breadwinners who give up their work to undergo treatment at the Liverpool Consumption Hospital.

The naval expenditure of Great Britain for the last ten years has totalled £284,638,830, against £106,148,971 spent by Germany, £118,315,763 by France, and £103,123,828 by Russia.

The Franco-British Exhibition buildings are to be reopened next year for an international display of specialties, all the best and most interesting products and manufactures that can be contributed by the countries co-operating.

The Crystal Palace Company are promoting a bill to authorize them to borrow money to maintain the Palace, and to make provision for carrying it on for some national or public purpose, such as an Imperial Exhibition for the Colonies or an educational centre.

This year's potato crop in Great Britain amounted to 3,919,798 tons, 942,313 tons more than in 1907. The turnip and swede crop amounted to 23,738,207 tons, an increase of 1,652,489, and the mangel crop was 8,987,161 tons, 50,239 more than last year.

There has been an increase of nearly thirty percent in the net weights of letters and postcards transmitted to America since the introduction of penny postage to the United States. In the four weeks of September it amounted to 35,600 pounds. In the four weeks of October it rose to 45,340 pounds.

At a meeting of the Essex Rural District Council, a body composed entirely of farmers and clergy, a complaint was made that the council was overpaying their laborers at 14s. a week, a shilling more than the farmers paid. In consequence one shilling has been deducted from the wages.

Married women are not to be employed in future as teachers in the public elementary schools of Coventry. It is claimed that the step will give quicker promotion to single women teachers, and that it is unjust to allow married women, whose husbands are already earning salaries, to occupy such posts.

Sir A. Conan Doyle, speaking at a bazaar on behalf of Dr. Barnardo's Homes at Tunbridge Wells, suggested the establishment of agricultural colleges for poor boys, and that instead of lads being sent away from England hundreds of boys should be placed on the thousands of acres of uncultivated land, and receive a sound farm training, to the great benefit of themselves and the country.

The L. and S. W. Railway Company announce that during the ensuing year the whole of their mechanical engineers' department will be removed from London to Eastleigh, Hampshire. The total number of the staff affected is approximately 1,500, of whom about two hundred and fifty are apprentices, and the immigrants will number all told nearly 5,000.

As illustrating the absence of ambition towards a domestic career in the modern school girl, an instance is given by the headmistress of the Central Foundation Girls' Schools, Bishopsgate, London. Out of 222 girls to whom she spoke 37 percent wished to be teachers and 30 percent clerks; 3 percent aspired to needlework; 3 percent to nursing or cooking; and only one little girl, a Jewess, said she wanted to 'keep house!'

The Rev. Cowden Cole, vicar of Thorley, Isle of Wight, has died suddenly at Portsmouth. He was known as the 'boycotted vicar.' He led a secluded life in the village, took little interest in practical affairs, and, except for the occasional visits of a lady organist and a few children, to whom he gave a few coins for attendance, he often preached to empty pews. He was his own sexton and organ-blower, and was without church wardens or sidesmen.

Sir Ralph Littler, K.C., chairman of the Middlesex Quarter Sessions, who has just died, was known throughout England as an advocate of long sentences, and his judgments have often been adversely commented on. So much so, that at the time of his death he was suing two newspapers for libel as the result of their comments. He was especially severe on old offenders; to such he invariably gave long sentences, holding that short terms of imprisonment not only had no reforming effect on hardened criminals, but actually confirmed them in their contempt for the law.

By the presence of mind of the respective engine-drivers, what threatened to be a disastrous railway collision at Barnetby, near Grimsby, was reduced to a comparatively trivial mishap. A light engine had been allowed to get on to the main line in front of a Great Central Continental boat express for Grimsby. The driver of the express, seeing that a collision was inevitable, applied his brakes, while the driver of the light engine increased his speed in an endeavor to keep ahead. The trains, however collided, and both sets of buffers were smashed, but not a passenger complained of injury, and the express was delayed only fifty minutes.

SCOTLAND.

As the result of a private conference at the Board of Trade between representatives of English and Scottish railways, the services of express trains running between London and Aberdeen are to be restored.

Mr. Adrian Lumley put the island of North Uist, in the Outer Hebrides, up for sale in London, but did not obtain a bid. The island has belonged to the family of Sir A. J. Campbell Orde for three generations, has an area of approximately 145 square miles, and brings in a rental of more than £5,000 a year.

The Rev. A. Hamilton Ross, who was recently appointed United Free Church minister to the new aluminium works settlement in the rugged Highland region of Kinlochleven, could not obtain a manse, but, undaunted, bought a 20-ft. yacht, and, single handed sailed her round the Clyde and used the craft as his home.

A fire originating in the heating apparatus destroyed Dumfries Town Hall, an ancient civic chair and valuable paintings, including life-size portraits of William III. and Mary II. The 'Siller' gun, presented by King James I. of England for the annual wapenshaw of the town, was rescued by one of the officials.

Glasgow University students are indignant at the action of their Senate in prohibiting converse in the cloisters between girl students and male undergraduates, and appointing a female censor to enforce the order. The girl undergraduates declare they can take care of themselves, and threaten to refuse to enter the classrooms if the order is not withdrawn.

Lord Roberts, writing to the Master of Elibank regarding Peeblesshire Rifle Clubs, says he looks forward to the day when all the able-bodied men of the nation may be not only marksmen, but trained and disciplined citizen soldiers, fitted any ready to answer to their country's call in the hour of danger, and he believes that rifle clubs are a means to this end.

The Secretary for Scotland has appointed a Departmental Committee to inquire into the operation in Scotland of the law relating to inebriates and to their detention in reformatories, and to report what amendments in the law and its administration are required. Sir Wm. Bilsland, Bart., is chairman.

The Provost and Magistrates of North Berwick have been notified that a recently deceased resident, Miss Edington, has left to them on trust the sum of £10,000, with which to provide a convalescent home for North Berwick. The residue of the estate, which will probably amount to between £4,000 and £5,000, is also left to the Trust.

IRELAND.

A Dublin lunatic complained of internal pains. He had swallowed a knife and fork, a woollen muffler, and some rags. An operation was performed, and he made a good recovery.

A serious outbreak of fire has taken place at the Asylum of St. John of God, Stilorgan, county Dublin. The dormitories and other buildings, which accommodated the hundred patients of the institution, were destroyed, but the patients were all got out without injury by the reverend fathers and brothers.

A remarkable sequel to a recent strike has occurred in Cork. During the period of the strike Messrs. Dobbin, O'Gilvie & Co., had some perishable goods lying on the quayside. Two of the firm's carters were despatched to draw the goods, but the strikers met them and succeeded in making them return without their load. They declined to go again, whereupon the men were dismissed, and are still out of employment. Sir Alfred Dobbin, the head of the firm, is proprietor of the local music hall, and the strikers, in sympathy with the dismissed men, picketed the hall, with the result that the attendance was materially interfered with. Nightly large crowds assembled outside the hall hissing and hooting at anyone who entered.

TRADES OF AN INDIA TOWN.

(New Orleans 'Times-Democrat.')

'When I was last in India,' said a traveller, 'they were taking the census. The returns were most remarkable.

'In the Allahabad census thirty-five citizens described themselves as "men who rob by threats of violence." There were 226 "flatterers for gain." There were twenty-five "hereditary thieves." There were twenty-nine "howlers at funerals." There were 145 "ear cleaners." There were seventy-six "makers of crowns for idols." There were fourteen "hereditary painters of horses with spots." There were nine "professional false witnesses."'

FOR THE WINTER EVENING.

Do you want solid comfort, profit and pleasure during the long winter evenings? Take an arm-chair by the fireside, a good stereoscope, and a collection of the splendid Tercentenary Stereographs we are offering. It will prove a most successful combination. See another page for particulars.

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SYNOPSIS OF CANADIAN NORTH-WEST HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS

ANY even-numbered section of Dominion Lands in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, excepting 8 and 26, not reserved, may be homesteaded by any person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years of age, to the extent of one-quarter section of 160 acres, more or less.

Application for entry must be made in person by the applicant at a Dominion Lands Agency or Sub-Agency for the district in which the land is situate. Entry by proxy may, however, be made at any Agency on certain conditions by the father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of an intending homesteader.

DUTIES.—(1) At least six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each year for three years.

(2) A homesteader may, if he so desires, perform the required residence duties by living on farming land owned solely by him, not less than eighty (80) acres in extent, in the vicinity of his homestead. He may also do so by living with father or mother, on certain conditions. Joint ownership in land will not meet this requirement.

(3) A homesteader intending to perform his residence duties in accordance with the above while living with parents or on farming land owned by himself must notify the Agent for the district of such intention.

W. W. CORY,
Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

The 'Witness' Pattern Service.

To obtain these patterns fill in coupon given at foot of this department, send it to us with ten cents in stamps for each pattern wanted, and they will be sent by mail to your address. Allow one week margin beyond time necessary for return of mail, as orders are handled in rotation.



MISSES' SHIRT-WAIST.

Paris pattern ..o. 2648.

Made with high or low neck and with or without Mikado sleeve-bands this is an extremely pretty style for the afternoon or 'best' waist for a young girl. The yoke and high collar are of all-over filet lace, trimmed with insertion of heavy lace, similar insertion trimming the front and Mikado bands. The long tightfitting sleeves are finished with a point over the hand and the waist closes at the centre-back. Wide tucks across the front, stitched to nearly the bust-line, give the required fullness, the tuck over the shoulders at the back being stitched from shoulder to waist. The pattern is in four sizes, 14 to 17 years. For a girl of 15 years the waist requires 3 3-8 yards of material 20 inches wide, 2 5-8 yards 27 inches wide, 2 yards 36 inches wide, or 1 3-4 yard 42 inches wide; as illustrated, 1-4 yard of net 18 inches wide, and 4 1-4 yards of insertion.



RAG DOLL AND SET OF CLOTHES.

Paris Pattern, No. 2704.

The doll itself should be developed in heavy white or cream-colored linen, on which the features can be painted or applied, and carefully stuffed with cotton-batting, bran or sawdust. The little dress is of pink or blue mull or lawn, trimmed with embroidery or lace edging, the sleeves finished with embroidery-run beading. The cap, which is made of the same material as the dress, is trimmed with wide and narrow edging. The petticoat and drawers are of cambric, nainsook or jaconet, trimmed with embroidery or lace. The pattern is in three sizes—for dolls 14, 18 and 22 inches high (measuring from crown to sole). A doll 18 inches high requires 3-8 yard of material 36 inches wide; the bonnet needs 3-8 yard 36 inches wide, 1 3-8 yard of wide edging and ½ yard of narrow edging; the dress needs ¾ yard 36 inches wide, with 3-8 yard of beading, 3-8 yard of ribbon and 1 yard of edging; the drawers and petticoat together need 3-8 yard 36 inches wide, with 2 1-8 yards of edging.



DOLL'S DRESS AND KIMONO.

Paris Pattern No. 2649.

A dainty and charming little set for a girl doll is here portrayed. It consists of a little dress developed in batiste, Persian or Victoria lawn, challis, voile, Henrietta, serge or cashmere. The square yoke is of all-over lace or embroidery, and the Mikado bands, which may be omitted if desired, are of similar embroidery. The full skirt is attached to the waist under a belt of the material, which may be of the embroidery, and the armbands finishing the short puff sleeves are made to match the belt. The little kimono is tucked for a short distance either side of the front and is finished around the sleeves and down the front with silk or flannel in a contrasting shade. This kimono should be of flannel, flannelette, cashmere, lansdowne silk or bath toweling. The pattern is in six sizes—14 to 24 inches high, measuring from crown to sole. For a doll 18 inches high the dress requires 1 1-8 yards of material 20 inches wide, or 5-8 yard 36 inches wide; as illustrated, 1-8 yard of all-over lace 18 inches wide, 3-4 yard of insertion and 3-4 yard of edging; the kimono needs 1 yard 20 inches wide, or 5-8 yard 36 inches wide, each with ⅛ yard of contrasting material eight or more inches wide.



LADIES' SHIRTWAIST.

Paris Pattern, No. 2681.

This attractive little shirtwaist, which has rather the appearance of a jumper, is developed in taupe broadcloth, with the guimpe-like portion of all-over tucked net, having an embroidered self-colored dot. The sleeves are of similar material, finished with a frill of cream-colored lace, and a band of light blue-and-white striped velvet, similar velvet trimming the top portion of the waist, and being tied around the collar, finishing in front in a short-looped bow, with knotted ends. The waist closes at the centre back, and is an excellent model for making over an old last year's waist. The front has a pretty design of hand embroidery, done with silver cord. The pattern is in 7 sizes—32 to 44 inches bust measure. For 36 bust the waist, as illustrated, requires 1 1-4 yards of material 36 inches wide, with 2 yards of tucked net 18 inches wide, 3 1-4 yards of braid and 1 1-8 yards of edging; of of one material, it needs 4 yards 36 inches wide, 3 yards 27 inches wide, 2 1-8 yards 36 inches wide, or 2 yards 42 inches wide.



CHILD'S UNDERWEAR SET.

Paris Pattern No. 2632.

This simple little set, consisting of an underwaist, drawers and petticoat, is developed in lansdowne, cambric, or flannelette. The underwaist fastens at the centre back, and is made with straps over the shoulders. A bias band of the material is stitched around the waist-line, holding the gathers in place at the front and back. To this are sewn the buttons, which hold in place the drawers and petticoat. The drawers are plain, finished with a full ruffle of lace, the petticoat being finished with a ruffle of similar lace and having four small tucks above this ruffle. It is gathered into a band at the top, worked with buttonholes, which are passed over the upper edge of buttons. The pattern is in four sizes—1 to 7 years. For a child of five years the undervest requires 7-8 yard of material 27 inches wide, or 5-8 yard 36 inches wide; ⅛ yard of edging; the drawers need 1 yard 27 inches wide, or 7-8 yard 36 inches wide, each with 1 5-8 yard of edging 2 1-4 inches wide, or 1-4 yard of material 27 or 36 inches wide for ruffles; the petticoat needs 1 1-4 yard 27 inches wide, or 7-8 yard 36 inches wide, each with 3 1-4 yards of edging 3½ inches wide, or ½ yard of material 27 or 36 inches wide for ruffles.



LADIES' SEMI-PRINCESS DRESS.

Paris Patterns No. 2666.

Made up in navy blue serge, this is an attractive little model for an every-day dress. The turn-over collar is trimmed along the edge with black silk mohair braid, a band of similar braid being used in a band over the shoulders and at the lower edge of the tight-fitting sleeves. The waist and skirt are attached, under a narrow belt of the material, and the dress closes down the centre-front with small serge-covered buttons, or black satin buttons may be used, if preferred. A small pocket ornaments the left breast, and the removable chemisette is of all-over cream-colored lace. The back of the dress has a princess panel that gives long, graceful lines to the figure. The pattern is in seven sizes—32 to 44 inches bust measure. For 36 bust the dress requires 8 1-4 yards of material 27 inches wide, 6 yards 36 inches wide, 5 yards 42 inches wide, or 4 yards 54 inches wide; as illustrated, ½ yard of all-over lace 18 inches wide, 3-8 yard of contrasting material 20 inches wide, and 1 yard of edging. Width of lower edge of skirt about 3 1-4 yards.

Weekly Witness Pattern Coupon

Please send me

Pattern.	Size.
No.....	.....
No.....	.....
No.....	.....
No.....	.....

for which I enclose.....cents

Name.....

Street and No.....

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Prov.....

For blouses, etc., give bust measure in inches.
For Skirts, etc., give waist measure in inches.
For Misses and Children, give age only in years.

N.B.—Be sure to cut out the illustration and send with the coupon, carefully filled out. Price 10 cents, in postal note or stamps for each pattern, unless otherwise specified. Costumes usually consist of two separate patterns, and hence call for twenty cents.

Address, Pattern Department, 'Weekly Witness' and Canadian Homestead,' 'Witness' Block, Montreal.

"Orange Lily Saved My Life."



These words or expressions having the same meaning are contained in hundreds of the letters I have received during the past year. Many were from women who had suffered agonies from Falling of the Womb; others from women who had escaped dangerous surgical operations, as the tumors and ulcers had been removed by the action of ORANGE LILY and others who had suffered from suppressed menstruation, leucorrhoea, painful periods, etc. For all these, and the other troubles known in general as Women's Disorders ORANGE LILY furnishes a positive, scientific, never-failing cure. It is applied direct to the suffering organs, and its operation is certain and beneficial. As a trial actually proves its merit, I hereby offer to send, absolutely free, a box worth 25c, sufficient for ten days' treatment, to every suffering woman who will write for it. Address, with stamp, MRS. F. A. CURRAH, Windsor, Ont.

ABOUT WINTER RENEWALS.

If your 'Witness' subscription expires at any time during the winter months, we would respectfully urge you to RENEW EARLY. Nothing whatever is lost by renewing a little in advance, for renewal is always made from the expiration of your present subscription; and by sending to us before the tremendous year-end rush you greatly relieve the work of our subscription department, and enable us to give your orders earlier attention—an advantage on both sides.

December subscribers who have not yet renewed, will confer a favor by using the blank enclosed in this week's issue.

For our clubbing offers see below.

The 'Weekly Witness'

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Our other clubs are as follows:—

	Regular rate per annum	Club price
Weekly Witness' and 'World Wide.'	$2.50	for only $2.00
Weekly Witness' and 'Northern Messenger'	$1.40	for only $1.30
Weekly Witness,' 'World Wide' and 'Messenger.'	$2.90	for only $2.29

The above cut rate offers are subject to postal regulations given on page 8.

Premium offers, open to old subscribers sending new subscriptions, appear from time to time in this paper. Watch for them, or send direct to us for full particulars.

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

NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS

PRESENTATION MADE BY KING GUSTAF.

Stockholm, Dec. 10.—King Gustaf this afternoon distributed the Nobel prizes, diplomas and gold medals.

The official announcement of the award is as follows:

Literature—Prof. Rudolf Euchen, of Jena University.

Physics—Prof. Gabriel Lipman, of the University of Paris.

Chemistry—Prof. Ernest Rutherford, director of the physical laboratory of the University of Manchester, England.

Medicine—Divided between Dr. Paul Ehrlich, of Berlin, and Prof. Elie Metchnikoff, of the Pasteur Institute, Paris.

Prof. Euchen, Prof. Lipman, Prof. Rutherford, Dr. Paul Ehrlich, and Prof. Metchinkoff, appeared before His Majesty in person. Each prize this year amounts to $38,565.

Prof. Rutherford is a native of New Zealand, and came to Montreal nine years ago from Cambridge. He was professor of physics at McGill until last year, when he left to take up the chair of chemistry at Victoria University, Manchester.

A HUNTING VICTIM.

Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 9.—Alfred Hann, a well-known Ancaster farmer, is dead at his home, as the result of a shooting accident which occurred on Monday night. Mr. Hann was out rabbit-shooting with a friend named Vaughan, whose gun was prematurely discharged, the contents entering Mr. Hann's thigh, inflicting injuries which resulted in his death. Mr. Hann was 64 years of age, and is survived by three daughters and two sons. Coroner Farmer investigated the case and decided that an inquest was unnecessary.

CARPENTERS STRIKE.

Brockville, Ont., Dec. 10.—Carpenters engaged in the erection of an amusement hall at the Brockville asylum have gone on strike owing to the labor of patients having been utilized. The Trades and Labor Council has appointed a deputation to wait upon the Government to protest against the conditions.

FITS Permanently cured by Dr. KLINE'S Great NERVE RESTORER

$2 TRIAL BOTTLE FREE, Through Canadian Agency.

Permanent cure, not temporary relief, for all Nervous Disorders, Epilepsy, Spasms, St. Vitus Dance, Debility, Exhaustion. Founded 1871.

Dr. R. H. KLINE, Ltd.,
931 Arch St., Philadelphia.

LONDON LETTER.

(Correspondence of the 'Witness.')

London, Dec. 4.

Since I last wrote the fate of the two great measures in whose interests Parliament assembled for an autumn session has been determined; the fate of the other still hangs in the balance as I write. As anticipated in my last letter, the House of Lords has rejected the Licensing Bill, and by the decisive majority of 3 to 1, about the proportion in which the House of Commons had approved it. A large number of serious minded people in this country have believed in the House of Lords as an agent for judicially revising the work of the House of Commons; but the latest action of the Lords is calculated to very much shake such faith. England is by no means desirous of abolishing the Second Chamber, but the question whether the present Upper House is adequate to its functions becomes a burning one now. The way in which the peers settled the fate of the great measure sent up to them, by meeting privately at Lord Lansdowne's house, seems to rank their proceedings as very much like the proceedings of a party caucus, while the fact that they champion the interests of a 'trade' (which has wealthy representatives among the Lords) against the voice of the Commons and the voice of all the sections of the nation that stand for moral advance, combine to throw grave doubt on the impartial character of their discussion. It is from this point of view that it is possible their course of action may re-act more disastrously on themselves than upon anyone else. What steps the Government will take is as yet unknown, but it is clearly understood that they are not intending to abandon the principles of the Bill, to which they have devoted so much time and attention.

Mr. Birrell, in a speech at Warrington this week, remarked that half the peerages had been made in his life time, and while he was a believer in a Second Chamber, he did not believe that the reasons why all these hundreds of peers had been made in a life-time would bear examination. Such a 'manufactured association,' at any rate, demanded criticism. Mr. Birrell ended with the assurance that His Majesty's ministers will prosecute this bill by every means in their power; this being a contest in which 'when you have once drawn the sword you have no further use for the scabbard.'

On the Education question, it is difficult to say much in the moment of crisis. It may be that terms may yet be arranged whereby contracting-out schools will get that measure of substantial aid which will satisfy their friends without a revolt on the other side, but it is obvious that the amount of the grant is not a mere question of pounds, shillings and pence. As Mr. Runciman has put it—the Government cannot concede a grant large enough to make contracting out easy for a large proportion of the non-provided schools. Their idea has always been that it should be the exception, not the rule, and if a large number of Church schools availed themselves of it a national system of education nationally controlled would be further off than ever. There is no doubt that the bishops, in favoring the compromise, so far, have taken one side and the clergy, as a whole, are on the other side. The Archbishop is, no doubt, responding to very great pressure from his own following in stiffening his terms, but it seems very plain the followers of the Government will very many of them resist any further concession. I can only repeat that every fresh delay, every new obstacle, to a settlement on the lines of the present bill, is bringing nearer and making more certain a solution on secular lines simply.

[As stated in a cable despatch, the Government has withdrawn the Education Bill.]

A very interesting meeting, at which practically every variety of social, political and economic theory was represented, was that of the Labor Co-partnership Association. Mr. Balfour delivered a presidential address. Mr. Asquith and Sir Edward Grey sent apologies for absence. The capitalist, Sir C. Furness, and the well-known Labor M.P., Mr. Shackleton, both explained their reasons for sympathizing with the Association. Mr. Balfour was not sure co-partnership could ever be applied to all industries, and they were not bound to any one scheme of co-partnership as perfect, but everything that worked towards some kind of joint management by capital and labor, they desired to encourage. The result of his own observation was that in complicated work they needed the individual. Much of the greatest work of the world was done best by the individual, but it was impossible for the individual to ignore the need for association; they needed the council of war. Sir C. Furness gave his reason for his proposal to take the 35,000 men and boys in his employ into co-partnership. In abolishing strikes, he provided real safeguards against oppression and injustice. A friendly relation between employer and employed was needed to prevent the enormous wastage now going on. Mr. Shackleton said the commercial side of co-partnership was not what he looked to. His only object in joining the association was that he believed it would bring among workingmen a wider knowledge of the conditions under which trade was carried on. Opportunities for employers and men to each learn the difficulties under which the other labored were, he thought, found in co-partnership. He also joined with the association because it did not desire to cripple trades unionism, or the working man's freedom of action.

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FIDELITY FUNDING COMPANY

BOOKS SHOW A DISCREPANCY OF $1,500,000.

New York, Dec. 8.—It was learned today that since the Fidelity Funding Co. went into the hands of a receiver, with many creditors among Catholic institutions of various states, to whom it owes $3,500,000 to $4,500,000, Mr. P. J. Kieran, the president, has been trying to induce Mr. William Nelson Cromwell, of this city, to straighten out the affairs of the company. It was stated that Mr. Kieran has visited many of the creditors and asked them to give to Mr. Cromwell the power of attorney to act for them in rehabilitating the concern. Mr. Cromwell said he had been asked by some Catholic clergymen to act as reorganizer, but he had not yet consented.

Mr. Thos. F. Gilroy, jr., the receiver of the Fidelity Funding Co., said today: 'There is a discrepancy of about $1,500,000 as shown on the books of the company which remained in the offices.'

The Fidelity Funding Company, of New York, whose extraordinary business of finding the building of churches and Roman Catholic institutions, was revealed to the public last May, went into the hands of a receiver a few weeks ago. Since then J. P. Keiran, president, of the company, has been missing from the city.

HISTORY OF TRANSACTIONS.

New York, Dec. 8.—The Fidelity Funding Company, of New York, whose extraordinary business of financing the building of churches and Roman Catholic institutions, was revealed to the public last May, went into the hands of a receiver a few weeks ago. Since then J. P. Keiran, president of the Company, has been missing from the city.

Keiran is about forty-five years old, of large physique, and came here from Toronto. He had formerly lived in Buffalo. The Fidelity Funding Company had been incorporated in 1899 for the purpose of doing a general insurance and brokerage business. An issue of $5,000,000 in stock was authorized. The company acted as broker for the Reliance Life Insurance Company of Pittsburg, and the Security Life Insurance Company of Chicago.

Keiran became connected with it and interested many priests. The Rt. Rev. John A. Lannigan, Vicar-General of Buffalo, and Father Fletcher, pastor of the Cathedral in Baltimore, acted as directors for a time. Then Keiran became head of the Columbia Construction Company, the Federal Construction Company, McBride's Studios and the Western Illinois and Iowa Railroad Company. All had offices at No. 115 Broadway, and according to Mr. Gilroy the affairs of all are involved. The studio concern was devoted to church decorating.

As explained by the receiver, most of the Fidelity Company loans were to run for twenty years. In addition to these loans the company also issued life insurance against the lives of priests and nuns. A rate of interest ranging from 8 to 9 percent was charged for both loan and insurance.

Every asset of the company was found to have been pledged to banks for discount, as collateral; and this fact will lead to suits aggregating $500,000 against banking institutions in this city and elsewhere.

'I am contemplating suits against a number of institutions which charged for loans large bonuses which we do not feel that the company should have been called upon to pay,' said Mr. Thomas F. Gilroy, jr., the receiver. Other suits will result from the fact that some bankers loaned to Mr. Keiran personally money on collateral that they must have known belonged to the Fidelity Funding Company.'

Mr. Leslie M. Shaw's claim against Keiran is based upon loans on notes aggregating $60,000, partially secured by collateral valued at perhaps $50,000. Mr. Shaw subscribed to $10,000 worth of Keiran's stock, thus demonstrating his confidence in him.

The receiver believes that the loans mentioned were 'individual advances.' As but 10 percent of the last issue of stock subscribed to has been paid in, and the balance is due and payable, Mr. Shaw has mentioned the amount of the loans less the value of securities, as an offset to any claim that the receiver may have against him.

Among the other religious institutions affected is St. John's College, of Chicago, which gave notes aggregating $300,000 over a mortgage of $200,000, and the St. Thomas Aquinas Church, of Cleveland, said to be involved to the extent of $125,000.

Toronto, Dec. 9.—P. J. Kieran, who, as president of the defunct Fidelity Funding Company, of New York, is alleged to have swindled so many Catholic institutions, was in business in this city about 12 years ago in partnership with Mr. McAdam, coal dealer. Later this firm was reorganized as The Toronto Wood & Shingle Company, which eventually failed, Kieran disappearing and leaving his creditors behind him, including the Bank of Toronto, which is said to have lost a large sum.

TORONTO RAILWAY WINS.

Toronto, Dec. 9.—According to a judgment issued to-day by the Ontario Railway and Municipal Board, the Toronto Street Railway gains a complete victory over the city in the dispute regarding new rules for car lines. The right to construct lines on certain downtown streets was sought by the company, and the Board determined that the lines may be built, notwithstanding opposition on the part of the city. In preventing the company from using certain streets the Board finds that the city has committed a breach of agreement.

MRS. MAYBRICK WINS

ACTION INVOLVING TITLE TO LAND WORTH $2,500,000 DECIDED IN HER FAVOR.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 7.—The case of Mrs. Florence Maybrick and her mother, the Baroness von Roque, of New York, involving title to land said to be worth about two and a half million dollars, was decided to-day in their favor in the chancery court here.

Under the decree deeds conveying two and one-half million acres of land in Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky, to D. W. Armstrong, of New York, former counsel for Mrs. Maybrick and her mother, is set aside, and Armstrong is ordered to give an accounting of all lands and money handled by him while attorney for them. They inherited the land from the first husband of the Baroness. They employed Armstrong as their attorney to secure deed to the enormous tracts of land shortly after the death of Mrs. Maybrick's husband, for which she served a term in British prisons, her imprisonment furnishing a famous international episode. Attorney Armstrong, they charged, sold one tract of land to a company in Kentucky for $85,000, after which he is said to have represented the whole property, comprising two million and a half acres, was worth only $10,000, and bought it himself at that price, after receiving $85,000 for a single tract, which was only one-thirtieth of the whole property.

A MANIAC'S AWFUL ACT

HE KILLS HIS TWO DAUGHTERS.

Wakefield, Mass., Dec. 8.—Hiram L. Badger, a laborer, went violently insane to-day, and, during his frenzy, killed his two little daughters, and then, running down Main street in the centre of the town, shot promiscuously into the stores that he passed. One of the bullets wounded Fred Wheeler, a grocer's clerk, in the leg. Badger was chased and finally captured by a crowd of townspeople.

From the nature of Badger's ravings at the police station, the officers were of the opinion that his sudden madness was due primarily to jealousy, and it was related that a few days ago jealousy is alleged to have impelled him to assault a man on an elevated railway train in Boston.

After the maniac had been placed in a cell the police visited his home. As they entered a sleeping room they found two bodies on the bed. Because of the horrible way in which the heads had been beaten in it was at first supposed that one of the victims was Badger's wife, but a closer investigation showed that it was the elder daughter, Florence, 15 years old. The other victim was the other daughter, Catherine, aged seven. After crushing in his children's heads, Badger had cut their throats.

A search for Mrs. Badger was then begun, but she could not be found, and it was learned afterwards that she was away on a visit.

RAILS FOR NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sydney, N.S., Dec. 10.—The 'Hektor' has completed loading six thousand tons of rails for the New South Wales Government, and will sail on Saturday for the Pacific. This is the first shipment of the sixteen thousand tons order.

BIG QUARRY MERGER.

Winnipeg, Dec. 12.—Nearly all the quarrying firms in Manitoba have united in the Garson Quarries, Limited, with a capital of a quarter of a million. This amalgamation is likely to have an influence on prices in Western Canada.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

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. The announcement of funeral appended to death notice, 25c extra; other extension to obituary, such as short sketch of life, two cents per word extra, except poetry, which is 50 cents per line extra—prepaid.

Annual subscribers may have announcements of births, marriages and deaths (without extended obituary or verses) occurring in their immediate families, free of charge, in which case name and address of subscribers should be given.

BIRTHS.

BRITTON — On Dec. 4, 1908, at 192 Park avenue, to Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Britton, a daughter.

BYRNE — At Ancaster, Ont., on Dec. 7, 1908, the wife of T. E. H. Byrne, of a daughter.

CLELAND.—At Chelsea, Que., on Dec. 7, 1908, to the Rev. A. S. and Mrs. Cleland, a son (still-born).

FRANCIS — At 205 Clemow avenue, Ottawa, on Dec. 12, 1908, to the wife of Briton Francis, Toronto, a son.

GILBERT-NOBBS — On Dec. 7, 1908, at 35 Starr avenue, South Parkdale, Toronto, to Mr. and Mrs. H. Gilbert-Nobbs, a son.

REID—At 177 Second ave., Ottawa, on Dec. 10, 1908, to Mr. and Mrs. W. Lyle Reid, a daughter.

SHUFELT — At Farnham, Que., on Dec. 6, 1908, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Fred. W. Shufelt.

SMITH — On Dec. 11, 1908, to Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Vernon Smith, Ottawa, a daughter.

TAYLOR — At Mhow, India, on Nov. 20, 1908, to the Rev. and Mrs. J. T. Taylor, a daughter.

WEDDALL — At Fredericton, N.B., on Dec. 8, 1908, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Weddall, twin girls.

MARRIED.

ARMSTRONG — SHEPHERD — On Dec. 7, 1908, by the Rev. W. Sparling, of Winnipeg, Mary Elizabeth Shepherd, of Lachute, Que., to Oliver Lawrence Armstrong, of Portage la Prairie.
Lachute papers please copy.

BESSEY — ALLAN — At Ottawa, on Dec. 9, 1908, E. B. Eddy Bessey, only son of Mrs. E. C. Bessey, to Ethel, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Allan. Both of Ottawa.

CAMPBELL — BLACK — On Dec. 9, 1908, at the manse, 540 Burrows avenue, Winnipeg, by the Rev. A. McTaggart, Dr. Cephas R. Campbell, of Whitewood, Sask., to Miss Christina R. Black, of Toronto, Ont.

GARTH — DOUGLAS — At the residence of the bride's brother, Mr. John Douglas, 38 Fuller street, Toronto, on Dec. 5, 1908, by the Rev. E. H. Shanks, of Roncesvalles Avenue Baptist Church, George Herbert Garth to Minnie E. Douglas, both of Toronto.

GETTY — BIDWELL — At Worcester, Mass., on Dec. 2, 1908, Mr. Melvin Getty, of South Stukely, to Miss Gladys Bidwell, of Worcester.

HOGG — VAN DUSEN — On Dec. 8, 1908, at No. 132 East 35th Street, New York City, by the Rev. Dr. Richards, of the Brick Presbyterian Church, Elizabeth Breese Van Dusen, eldest daughter of Samuel Clinton Van Dusen, Esq., to Frederick Drummond, eldest son of William Drummond Hogg, K.C., of Ottawa.

HOPKINS — BUCHANAN — On Dec. 9, 1908, by the Rev. Carl Alium, at the home of the bride, Miss Sarah Elma Buchanan, of South Sherbrooke, Ont., to Mr. Archibald Richard Hopkins, of Bathurst, Ont.

MARSHALL — DUNLOP — At 575 Huron street, Toronto, on Dec. 5, 1908, by the Rev. E. Fennell, Elizabeth McCallum, daughter of Robert Dunlop, Hamilton, to William Renwick Marshall, son of William Marshall, Hamilton.

WINKS — BROWNE — On Dec. 9, 1908, at the Church of St. John the Evangelist, by the Rev. Edmund Wood and the Rev. Arthur French, Ada Frederica Gault, youngest daughter of the late John James Browne, to Charles Edward Winks, of Winnipeg.

DIED.

ANDERSON — In this city, on Dec. 10, 1908, Christina Elliott, beloved wife of Wm. S. Anderson, aged 78 years.

BAJUS — At Port Colborne, Ont., on Dec. 8, 1908, Robert S. Bajus, of Kingston, aged 31 years.

BENTON — Suddenly, on Dec. 9, 1908, Isabella Ritchie, widow of the late James Benton, aged 90 years.

BOAZ — In this city, on Dec. 12, 1908, at 330 Bourgeois street, Helen Lillian, aged 5 years and 3 months, youngest and dearly beloved daughter of George Boaz.

BUCK — At Cataraqui, Ont., on Dec. 8, 1908, Thomas Buck, aged 73 years and 11 months.

BURNHAM — On Dec. 7, 1908, at the residence of his father, William L. Burnham, Cobourg, Ont., Vernon Halliday, aged 17 years and 6 months.

BOTTOME — At Black Lake, Que., on Dec. 6, 1908, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Mary Heseltine, Mrs. F. Bottome, aged 87 years.

CHEE FONG — At the Grace Dart Home (of tuberculosis), Chee Fong, aged 25 years, a native of China.

COATS — At Crestline, Ohio, U.S.A., on Dec. 5, 1908, Sarah Coats, relict of the late William Coats, Clinton, Ont., aged 74 years.
Scotch papers please copy.

COPP — Suddenly, at his late residence, 74 Jackson street West, Hamilton, Ont., on Dec. 6, 1908, William J. Copp, formerly of Copp Bros., stove manufacturers.

DAFOE — At 394 Furby street, Winnipeg, on Dec. 9, 1908, Gladys Elizabeth, infant daughter of R. G. and Mary Dafoe, aged 21 months.

DONALDSON — In this city, on Dec. 13, 1908, after a long and painful illness, borne with Christian fortitude, Mary Ellen Barrette, beloved wife of Wm. Donaldson, expressman.
Belfast papers please copy.

'Affliction sore a long time she bore,
Physicians were in vain;
Until Christ, our Chief, gave her relief,
And eased her of her pain.'

FALLE — At his residence, 50 Coursol st., on Saturday, 12th instant, Joshua Edward Falle, in his 58th year.

FERGUSON — Suddenly, at his late residence, 8 Withrow avenue, Toronto, John A. Ferguson, barrister-at-law, on Dec. 11, 1908.

FRASER — At Stratford, Ont., on Dec. 9, 1908, Donald M. Fraser, M.D.

GALBRAITH — At Toronto, on Dec. 11, 1908, the Rev. Wm. Galbraith, Ph.D., in the 67th year of his age.

GREENWAY—At Chrystal City, Man., on Dec. 11, 1908, Annie Elizabeth, fourth daughter of the late Thos. Greenway.

HEWETT — At the Western Hospital, Toronto, on Dec. 11, 1908, Robert Douglas Hewett, late commission of the Federated Malay States, after an illness of several weeks.

HILLS—At Waterloo, on Dec. 7, 1908, Frances Gennis, beloved wife of Horace Hills, in the 67th year of her age.

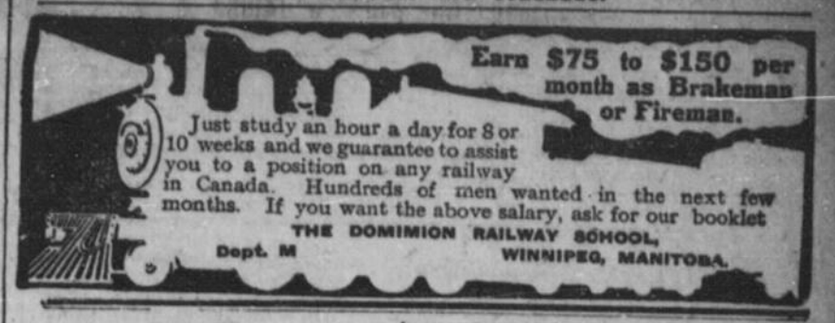
HOGARTH — At London, Ont., on Dec. 8, 1908, William Hogarth, aged 79 years, formerly G.T.R. agent at Kincardine, Ont.

JAMIESON — At Vankleek Hill, Ont., on Dec. 10, 1908, D. J. Jamieson, in his 71st year.

LAIRD — At 256 Coursol street, on Dec. 12, 1908, George Laird, at advanced age.

MARQUIS — On Dec. 5, 1908, at the Isolation Hospital, Myrtle Marquis, aged 6 years, of 342 River street, Toronto.

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MORTON — In this city, at her late residence, 392 Mountain street, on Sunday, Dec. 13, 1908, Annie Fraser, wife of Henry Morton, in her 77th year.

MORRIN — Suddenly, on Dec. 5, 1908, at Lachute, in his 58th year, David Morrin, fourth son of the late David Morrin.

MYLES — On Dec. 6, 1908, Mary Amelia, dearly beloved wife of Staff-Captain C. E. Myles, of S. A. Army Industrial Farm, Toronto, in her 39th year.

PICKENS — At South Durham, Que., Dec. 7, 1908, Robert Pickens, in the year of his age.

RAWLINS — On Dec. 11, 1908, Margaret, beloved wife of H. J. Rawlins.

STARKE — On Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1908, Isabella Smith, widow of the late George K. Starke, in her 76th year.

THROOP — On Dec. 11, 1908, at the Russell House, Ottawa, Robert Cecil Throop, in his 54th year.

WILLIAMSON — At his residence, 702 Dorchester street West, on Friday, Dec. 11, 1908, James Williamson, aged 84 years, and 4 months.

IN MEMORIAM.

BROWN — In memory of Mrs. William Brown, who departed this life on Dec. 12, 1903. 'The memory, like the ivy, clings.'

McDONALD — In loving memory of Donald McDonald, who died at his home, Ste. Anne de Prescott, Ont., on Oct. 6, 1907, aged 70 years.

McKENZIE — In loving memory of John McKenzie, who departed this life at his home, Ste. Anne de Prescott, Ont., on Nov. 16, 1907, aged 86 years.

THE 'WEEKLY WITNESS' is printed and published at the 'Witness' building, at the corner of Craig and St. Peter sts., in the city of Montreal, by John Redpath Dougall and Frederick Eugene Dougall, both of Montreal.

All business communications should be addressed 'John Dougall & Son,' and all letters to the Editor should be addressed 'Editor of the 'Witness.'