Montreal Weekly Witness.

FIFTY-FIFTH YEAR. MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 26, 1900. MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS. $1.00 Post-Paid; 5c a Copy.

LATEST FROM KITCHENER.

HAS GONE INTO CAPE COLONY TO SUPERINTEND AFFAIRS.

Capetown, Dec. 24.—Lord Kitchener has arrived at De Aar, Cape Colony, and is taking measures to crush the Boer invasion.

QUIET AT PRETORIA.

Pretoria, Dec. 24.—The Boers are displaying considerable activity near Rhenaster Kop, east of here. Paget's force is constantly in contact with them and sniping is general. The country in the neighborhood of Pretoria is quiet, but the greatest vigilance is exercised by the British. Only a limited number of the roads are open.

London, Dec. 25—Lord Kitchener, telegraphing to the War Office, under date of Naauwpoort, Dec. 24, 9 a.m., reports: 'Thorneycroft's mounted infantry have occupied Britstown without opposition. The Boers retired to the north, in the direction of Prieska. They will be followed up.'

FIGHTING AT DE AAR.

Capetown, Dec. 25.—Fighting is going on near De Aar. Particulars are unobtainable. Two hundred Boers have left Britstown, after commandeering all supplies available.

Regular railway service between Capetown and De Aar has been restored. The report of the destruction of a bridge south of De Aar, turns out to be incorrect. Only a culvert was damaged. Trains are running from De Aar to Kimberley irregularly. There are considerable delays elsewhere as the result of heavy rains.

CHECK FOR INVADERS.

REPORTS FROM LORD KITCHENER ARE ENCOURAGING.

London, Dec. 23.—The War Office has received the following despatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Pretoria, Dec. 22: 'So far as it is possible for me to form an opinion from the reports of officers on the spot, I think the Boer movement into Cape Colony has been checked. Of the two forces that entered the Colony, the eastern is still north of the Zoutpansberg range, while the one entered west appears to have been turned in the direction of Britstown and Prieska. Our troops are getting around both bodies, and a special column is also being organized, which will be despatched immediately when I know its services are most wanted. The Boers have not received much assistance in Cape Colony, so far as my information goes. We have armed some of the colonists, who are assisting our forces. Railway and telegraph communication has been much interrupted by the very bad weather.

'De Wett is in the neighborhood of Senekal. General French, in conjunction with General Clements, attacked a force under Beyers, south of the Magaliesbergs. The Boers broke away in a south-westerly direction towards Potchefstroom, and were followed by General Gordon with a column of French's force.

'Yesterday evening, about five o'clock, Clements's force was engaged south of Oliphant's Nek, but I don't know the result.'

A later despatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Pretoria, says:

'The western column of Boers occupied Britstown, and cut the railway south of De Aar Junction. The enemy is being followed up.

'General French has been in contact for two days with the commando of Beyers and Delarey, south of the Magaliesbergs. He is pursuing them. The enemy have last considerable, and Commandant Kreuz and others have been captured.

'General Colville engaged two separate commandos on Dec. 21, near Vlakfontein, with a light loss, the enemy retiring.'

SITUATION IMPROVING

BOERS RECEIVED A CHILLY RECEPTION FROM THE CAPE COLONISTS.

New York, Dec. 23.—Mr. I. N. Ford, London correspondent of the 'Tribune,' in a special cable, says:

The situation in the Dutch territories is clearing slowly. The raiding bands which have invaded Cape Colony have not made any important captures or obtained any considerable number of recruits, and will probably be headed off speedily and forced to retire. They are operating against pickets and petty garrisons, and are picking up horses, clothing and miscellaneous supplies. The welcome extended them by Dutch residents who have property to lose is chilly. De Wett is reported in the Ladybrand district with 1,000 men, and Botha is hovering about Standerton with a force of equal strength. The operations of French and Clements against Delarey are not described in detail, but the Boers have apparently been scattered. A small Boer commando is reported in the Pietsburg district and a large one in the neighborhood of Komatipoort. Small bands of guerillas are in other sections of the veldt, but they are without artillery, and are incapable of making a serious attack upon the line of communication. The Boer campaign, when exaggerated estimates of strength of the forces remaining in the field are corrected, is less formidable than is generally represented. The mobility of mounted columns prevents successful [illegible], but no permanent advantages [illegible] even from such brilliant episodes as those of Dewetsdorp and Nooitgedacht, harassing and troublesome as are the tactics employed.

An enormous British army stil remains in South Africa and requires reinforcements, but the victory has been won and cannot be undone, and there is nothing to embitter the Christmas cheer.

ONE TO THE GOOD.

JOHN BULL—'Back from Africa?'
COLONEL SIR JAMES WILLCOCKS—'Yes, sir—Ashanti.'
JOHN BULL—'Ah, to be sure! The war that really 'is' over! Bravo!'—'Punch.'

BOERS LOST HEAVILY

FORTY OF THEM KILLED IN THE ENGAGEMENT WITH GEN. FRENCH.

London, Dec. 22.—Reports of General French's engagement with the Boers say that on Wednesday he attacked a force numbering 2,500, with five guns. They are believed to have been the burghers who defeated the British at Nooitgedacht a few days ago. The engagement took place sixteen miles north-west of Krugersdorp. More than forty of the Boers were killed, and the remainder were routed. The British lost fourteen wounded.

London, Dec. 22.—The 'Evening Standard' says it hears a report has reached London that Kimberley is seriously threatened by the Boers.

CONSUL STOWE

THE UNITED STATES AGENT AT CAPETOWN'S VIEWS ON THE FIGHTING.

New York, Dec. 24.—J. G. Stowe, United States consul-general at Capetown, arrived here to-day on the steamship 'Vaderland' on a three months' leave of absence. The consul looked like a man returning from a scene of war. In his baggage were two formidable guns; an American flag protruded conspicuously from the left pocket of his overcoat; and the collar of the coat showed an ugly scar, where it had been ripped open by a Boer bullet, which, he said, had been flattened against his collar-button—a circumstance to which he thinks he owes his life.

Col. Stowe received his first information regarding the recent Boer successes on his arrival. 'This is the sort of news we may expect for a time to come,' he said. 'The war itself is practically over, but scattered Boer bands will continue harassing the British whenever an opportunity offers itself. They have every facility for carrying on successfully this sort of guerilla tactics. They are familiar with the country; as a rule they are dead shots, and can pick off the enemy from behind the kopjes without ever coming out in the open.' He declined to discuss the general question of the war in South Africa, having, as he said, taken a strictly neutral position. He seemed to be of the opinion, however, that the Boers would be better off under British rule than as an independent nation.

CHANCE FOR CANADIANS

ROOM FOR ANY NUMBER IN BADEN-POWELL'S POLICE FORCE.

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—A despatch from the Colonial Secretary states that the Imperial Government will accept under conditions laid down any number of Canadians who offer for service in the South African mounted police, commanded by Gen. Baden-Powell. If a thousand Canadians can be enrolled in the force, 10 commissions as captains and 15 commissions as lieutenants will be given to officers of the Canadian militia to serve under Baden-Powell. The British Government will furnish transportation and rations to South Africa, and the men will be remunerated at the rate of five shillings per day from the day they land at the Cape. Officers will receive pay of their respective rank. Canadians anxious to join the South African police must be single men, in sound bodily health and able to shoot and ride. The period of service is five years. Full particulars of offer of the Imperial Government will be announced in a day or two, as soon as points at which enlisting will take place have been decided upon.

ROYAL CANADIANS.

COLONEL OTTER AND HIS MEN—THEIR RECEPTION AT HALIFAX AND ELSEWHERE.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 23.—The SS. 'Lake Champlain,' from Liverpool, with the balance of the first Canadian contingent, arrived in the harbor at two o'clock this morning and later anchored at quarantine. The steamer remained there until daylight, when the port physician inspected her. At nine o'clock the steamer came up to dock at deep water terminus, when a salute was fired by the Royal Artillery from the Citadel, and church and fire bells rang out a joyous welcome.

The troops were received by Lieut.-Governor Jones, the mayor and aldermen and officers of the Royal Artillery, 3rd R.C.R.I., and militia. A special train was in waiting for the men and the baggage was quickly transferred thereto.

Thousands of citizens turned out to greet the returning heroes, and they were given a royal welcome.

Sixteen officers and 275 men arrived on the steamer, all of whom are in excellent health and spirits. Col. Otter and Lieut.-Col. Buchan brought their chargers with them.

A special train carrying the troops for the west left deep water at two o'clock. The train was made up of a baggage car, four tourists' cars, fully equipped with bedding, etc., two dining cars and one first-class sleeper.

The New Brunswick men will leave the train at Moncton and take another special for their destination. As the train pulled out the band of the 3rd R.C.R.I. played 'Home sweet home,' and thousands of citizens gave three hearty cheers. The Charlottetown men leave for home at one o'clock to-day.

When asked to explain the difficulty which arose over the return from South Africa of a portion of the first contingent, Col. Otter said: 'I really have not much to say about the matter, as I have already dealt with it in my report. But it was simply a matter of the men's employment, and I did not blame those who wished to return to keep their situations, and I so explained the matter to Lord Roberts, who was very anxious to keep the men in the field until the end of the war. It was very desirable that the whole regiment should stay out, but I want you to say that I found no fault with those who came home, and I did not endeavor to coerce any one. It was quite proper for them to ask for their discharge, although I was very sorry that all did not stay.'

Col. Otter when asked if he would give a message to the people of Canada, said: 'We all feel extremely the kindness of every one in sending us money, and comforts of all descriptions. That is a matter that we will never forget. I propose giving formal expression to our appreciation of their kindness, when the occasion offers. Although many things did not reach us, those gifts were of the greatest possible comfort.'

The Manitoba section of the contingent goes to Montreal by Intercolonial Railway, and proceeds thence by the Canadian Pacific to destination. It cannot be said when they are expected to reach there.

THE QUEEN'S HEALTH.

Speaking of reports about the Queen's failing health, in an interview before he left, Col. Otter said: 'When I saw the Queen on Nov. 30 she spoke to the battalion, and her voice was quite as strong as is mine at present. And so far as I was able to judge, having seen her in both the morning and the evening, and having spoken to her for some time, she not only appeared in perfect health, but was most keen in her interest in, and appreciation of the services of the colonials, while displaying intense regret for the loss of so many brave men. She walks feebly, it is true, having to be assisted by her Indian attendant, but her eyes are bright, and her face is quite expressive.'

The 'Lake Champlain' had a rough passage until the Grand Banks of Newfoundland were reached, and from there to this port fine weather was experienced.

QUEBEC'S WELCOME.

Quebec, Dec. 24.—The officers and the soldiers of the Canadian contingent were enthusiastically received and presented with an address of welcome by the mayor, the Hon. S. N. Parent, on their arrival at Levis at 2.30 p.m. to-day

IN MONTREAL.

Col. Otter and the three companies that remained with him in South Africa arrived in Montreal on Monday evening. They were met at the station by the Mayor and the district officer commanding the Montreal district, Lieut.-Colonel Roy. There was a very large crowd and the score of Montreal men were in the vortex of a whirling crowd in a short time. In so great a crush the men could not get out of the car doors. Some of them are said to have made their way out of the windows. Cheers and bands of music made up the welcome.

DE WETT IN THE WAY.

WERE HE CAPTURED WAR WOULD SOON COME TO AN END.

London, Dec. 24.—Lord Kitchener's despatches are almost the only available news from the seat of hostilities in South Africa, but telegrams from Capetown depict the situation in anything but roseate hues. Without believing the assertions of the Transvaal agency in Brussels that six thousand Boers have invaded Cape Colony, it is quite evident that the invasion was a serious and well planned affair. In connection with this a correspondent sends an extremely interesting letter dated Bethulie, Dec. 1, describing Gen. De Wett and his doings.

'De Wett has never been taken seriously enough,' says the correspondent. 'It is of little use to pursue him; he fights a rear-guard action, and gains twenty miles while he is being fought. He is a born military genius, whose wonderful powers have kept up this phenomenal resistance.

'Once he fails, the whole thing could be crushed in a fortnight. He has every single commando under his supervision. All his patrols and columns march and countermarch on his order. The forces under his command have been reduced by his strength of will to a properly organized army, moving at his word.

'The sooner the British rid themselves of the idea that De Wett's forces are a mere rabble wandering aimlessly, the sooner they will grasp the need of the determined effort which is necessary to capture him.'

HOW DEWETSDORP FELL

BOERS LOST MORE IN KILLED THAN BRITISH HAD IN WOUNDED.

Capetown, Dec. 22.—The siege of Dewetsdorp began on Nov. 17, the garrison was invested on Nov. 18, and the water supply cut off on Nov. 20.

It was evident on Nov. 22 that the ground occupied by the Highlanders had become untenable, and they retired.

Ten Highlanders called loudly to each other to fix bayonets. This disconcerted the enemy and gave our men ample time to retire. The Boers then occupied the Highlanders' trenches.

Sixteen out of eighteen men of the gun detachment were killed or wounded. The last rounds were fired by the sergeant-farrier, who carried the ammunition and fired the piece alone.

The enemy's fire coming from every direction, the white flag was hoisted on Nov. 23.

De Wett congratulated Major Massey on the plucky defence made by the garrison, and Steyn said that the losses of the Boers killed was greater than those of the British wounded.

FRENCH SHORE RIGHTS

MODUS VIVENDI EXPIRES WITH THE PRESENT YEAR.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 22.—On the last day of December the Anglo-French modus vivendi respecting the Newfoundland treaty coast expires. It is unlikely that the Newfoundland Legislature will consent to renew the present arrangements, in which case friction will probably ensue unless Great Britain makes another arrangement with France. The colony's position, however, is so strong with the British public that such arrangement must be decidedly favorable to the colony.

CHRISTMAS IN MONTREAL.

The day was observed very generally in the city. Many of the churches held the usual services, and there seemed to be a tremendous aggregate of happiness. Postal carriers were provided with cabs in many of the districts, with which to convey the packages that arrived by post. The weather was mild and the enjoyment of it was widespread.

PRINCE TUAN ARRESTED.

CHINESE IMPERIAL AUTHORITIES BEGINNING TO ACT.

London, Dec. 25.—The Shanghai correspondent of the 'Standard' telegraphing on Dec. 24, says: 'The government has arrested Princme Tuan and Prince Chuang, on the borders of the Shansi and Shensi provinces.

'Yu Hsien has been ordered to return to Sianfu forthwith to be executed, it is supposed.

'It is inferred from these reports that the imperial authorities are preparing to concede the demands of the joint note for the punishment of the instigators of the trouble in China.'

JOINT NOTE PRESENTED.

Pekin, Dec. 25.—The preliminary joint note was delivered yesterday to the Chinese. Li Hung Chang found that he was unable to attend the meeting of the ministers and his credentials and those of Prince Ching were presented by the latter to the foreign envoys.

Prince Ching, replying to the Spanish minister, Senor B. J. Decologan, who presented the note, said he would immediately communicate its contents to the Emperor, and assured the ministers that a speedy reply was the desire of the court, as it felt that all China wants peace and prosperity.

Paris, Dec. 25.—A despatch to the Havas Agency, from Pekin, says: 'The ministers assembled at the residence of Senor B. J. Decologan (the Spanish minister and the Doyen of the diplomatic corps), and received Prince Ching, to whom the Spanish minister handed the joint note of the powers. Li Hung Chang, who is still ill, asked to be excused. Prince Ching said: "I have the honor to accept the note concerning the re-establishment of good relations and will transmit immediately to the Emperor, and communicate to you his reply as soon as received."'

THE FIRE RECORD.

TOWN OF CALGARY A HEAVY SUFFERER.

Calgary, Alberta, Dec. 25.—The most destructive fire in the history of Calgary raged to-day, and wrought damage variously estimated, but it will not be below $100,000. Several of the finest business structures fell a prey to the devouring flames, notably the Clarence, the Sau Claire and the new Norman blocks. Senator Lougheed, who built and owns both the Clarence and Norman blocks, is the chief lose. Besides the buildings themselves, both handsome stone structures, the latter just completed last week, the Senator loses the whole of his magnificent law library and papers. The Calgary Wine and Spirit Company had just got in an immense stock of liquors, which added no little to the fury of the flames. The Alberta Music Company lost its stock of pianos and organs; the Watts Company's cigar store was one of the first to go up in smoke; Mr. G. H. Mitchell's stock of groceries and chinaware lies in ashes; the Calgary Clothing Company's splendid stock is destroyed; Glanville and Robertson lose very heavily. They were just removing to the new premises, and fortunately the bulk of their stock was still in the old store in the next block east. Crispin E. Smith and H. W. H. Knott lose their extensive law libraries, and many other volumes and papers. Dr. O'Sullivan's dentistry parlors were among the first to suffer. Mr. Eavens and Mr. Dodd and a number of others lose their household effects.

Rowland, Man., Dec. 25.—Early this morning fire destroyed the store and stock of Cameron & Co., furniture warehouse, also the general store of Shilson & Co., about two-thirds of whose stock was saved. Shilson's loss is fully covered by insurance, but Cameron & Co.'s loss on stock and building will be heavy. The loss is about $7,000. The insurance companies interested are: Lancashire Company and Victoria, Montreal.

Stevensville, Ont., Dec. 25.—The general store and dwellings combined, owned by Dr. Collver, and occupied by C. C. Harris, merchant, was completely destroyed by fire to-night. Loss about $6,000. Origin of fire, explosion of lamp.

Eau Claire, Mich., Dec. 25.—A $20,000 fire wiped out one-third of this village early this morning. The fire started in the store of Arthur J. Dean, and a high wind carried it to adjoining buildings.

LOST IN A FOG.

London, Dec. 24.—Dense fogs on the coast are greatly interfering with navigation and several wrecks have occurred. The British steamer 'Brunswick' grounded in the Bristol Channel, heeled over and sank. Seven of her crew were drowned.

TORONTO MAYORALTY CONTEST.

Toronto, Dec. 24.—Ald. Spence this morning announced his consent to become a candidate for the mayoralty. This makes five candidates, Messrs. Spence, Howland, Shaw, Woodley and Macdonald. Ald. Spence wished to continue as alderman for another year before becoming a candidate for mayor but has been so persistently urged to come out by prominent citizens and three of the six Toronto newspapers that he has complied.

BARBARA BARTON.

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

(Concluded.)

'Yes, he is a beautiful creature. Ratten and I have enjoyed many a scamper together. He understands almost every word I say. Don't you, old boy?'

At this the sagacious animal rubbed its nose against his master's coat, as much as to say, 'Of course I do, only I can't tell you so.' And this had been Barbara Barton's introduction to Graham Howard, a man of strict integrity, upright conduct, and a gentleman in the true sense of the word. Upwards of forty-five years of age, he had never married, and had lived with his mother until she died, twelve months before. Seeing the Abbey Farm advertised, he bought it, wishing to be away from old associations, for he had sincerely loved his mother, and her death had been a great blow to him. It was strange how many excuses he had found for calling at Barton Hall since that morning; sometimes it was to ask Miss Barbara's advice on farming matters, at others to bring a book he had heard her express a wish to read, or to take Alice for a drive—for he and this young lady had become great friends—and occasionally he called as he was passing, and made no excuse. On these occasions Ratten was generally taken by James to the stable, and regaled with a feed of corn, whilst his master walked round the 'low meadow' to inspect the crops, and the system of irrigation which Miss Barton had carried out to the admiration and envy of neighboring farmers. Another time they would wander down to the orchard, or linger in the garden amidst the scent of sweet peas and wallflowers, after which he would remain for the farm tea hour, 4.45 to the minute, and Alice and he would make merry over the quaint old-fashioned milk jug with its handle representing a pussy-cat, or they would tease 'Auntie Barbara' about the silver sugar tongs, because the sugar somehow always fell from them before it reached the cups. Happy times!

On 'Change and in the market Graham Howard was a puzzle to many, and soon his strange ways began to be talked about, for he was never known to clinch a bargain with a 'market glass,' or seen to take one himself. When chaffed about his teetotal fad, he merely smiled, and said, 'It was time buying and selling were conducted on sounder and more durable foundations than glasses of beer, which as often as not muddled the brain of buyer and seller, and were frequently the cause of unrighteous bargains, and to such sort of trading he would never lend himself.'

People shrugged their shoulders, and hinted that it was a cheap way of doing business, and consequently his wheat did not find as ready a sale as that of neighboring farmers, and his stand was looked upon with a certain shyness; but none of these things moved him, though he could not fail to be aware of the undercurrent against him.

These rumors reached Barbara Barton's ears, and set her pondering. What harm was there in a glass of beer? Why did he object to either take or offer it? Teetotalism was all right for those who could not take it in moderation, but for a man like Graham Howard it seemed weak and quixotic, she thought, not to conform in some slight way to the usages of society; and yet—she had formed so high an opinion of his character that she felt instinctively there must be some good reason for his action, and she resolved to ask him when a favorable opportunity occurred, which it did sooner than she anticipated. The larger question of personal abstinence from alcohol for the good of others had never presented itself to her mind. Living a somewhat retired life, and mixing in a society where home-brewed beer and home-made wines were almost a synonym for hospitality, small wonder that conduct such as Graham Howard's, who was reported to be a rich man, should be the subject of her thoughts, and be adversely criticised by others.

Alice's voice, asking her to come and look at the chickens, had broken in somewhat rudely upon her meditations in the dairy, and yet she felt glad of the interruption. The butter-making finished, the chickens were duly inspected, and the yellow one pronounced a 'beauty,' when just as the two came out of the hen-house Graham Howard appeared, walking towards them. Alice immediately ran up to him in her happy childish way, but Barbara hung back. Why she could hardly have said, and yet in her inmost heart she knew that she was thinking of what the neighboring farmers had said to her only last market day, that 'Graham Howard was a mean fellow, and he might take his corn to other markets.'

Now, if there were one characteristic more than another which Barbara Barton despised it was meanness. Her great nature revolted against littleness in any form, and yet as she looked at the man's honest, open, countenance she felt it was a libel, and was ashamed of her thoughts.

'You will wonder what has brought me here this afternoon, Miss Barbara—(somehow he had unconsciously fallen into the habit of saying Miss Barbara, as every one seemed to do, not Miss Barton)—but I have brought you, if you will accept it, a dish of fresh trout, caught in your own stream this morning,' and as he spoke he opened a fisherman's basket, and exposed the bright red-spotted fish.

'How kind of you! Now you must stay and share them.'

'Yes, you must,' echoed Alice, so all three adjourned to the house, the child carrying triumphantly the basket of fish. Supper was early at Barton Hall, and when Martha received the trout, she remarked to Alice—

'Then your friend is staying, is he, dear?'

'Yes, and I'm going to play in the [illegible], and sit up to supper to taste [illegible]sh. Auntie says I may,' seeing [illegible]'s incredulous look; 'it's quite

'Then, dearie, I think you'd better stop with me, and help to cook 'em.'

'All right,' she answered, being one of those contented happy dispositions who are satisfied to be busy and helpful anywhere.

Did Martha realize what she was doing when she asked Alice to remain with her? I fancy she did; she had not been blind to the constant visits and ready excuses, and her faithful heart was glad that at last Miss Barbara seemed inclined to like someone. But—and it was a big but in Martha's case—she was afraid any one who refused to take her home-brewed must be a bit cranky. She never remembered any person refusing it before, and she was inclined to resent it.

Meanwhile Graham Howard and Barbara had wandered into the apple orchard, and seeing a rustic seat under one of the trees, whose rich, ripe fruit was just ready to drop, he suggested that they should sit down. There was silence for a moment or two, which he broke by saying, in a low voice—

'Miss Barbara, I want to tell you something that will cost me much; it is in connection with my past life, and —'

'Oh, please don't tell me if it pains you.'

'I must; I feel it is right that you should know it. You—as well as others—have been surprised, and annoyed no doubt, at the firm stand I make against all intoxicating liquors. You think a man such as I should take a glass for the sake of fellowship, good company, etc.' Then, after a pause, in which the country sounds, the lowing of the cows, the faint hum of a solitary bee, the birds' evening songs, were heard so distinctly that each thought they would ever remember just as they sounded then, he said, slowly, 'I dare not.'

She looked at him, as though hardly understanding his meaning.

'I am afraid to taste any intoxicants lest I should become a drunkard,' he continued in slow, hard tones, drinking his cup of bitters to the full as he uttered the words.

'You afraid of becoming a drunkard! What ridiculous nonsense! I really do not understand.'

'I was afraid, in fact I knew you would not, but oh! I had hoped that somebody would,' and his face looked grey and old, and the words seemed wrung from him against his will. A great compassion swept over Barbara as she saw the man (whom she knew now had the first place in her heart), to whom she had looked up as the embodiment of strength thus before her, and she said, softly—

'Tell me about it; I begin to understand.'

Gazing on the fair scene stretched out before him, on that autumn evening, as the sun slowly went out of sight, leaving a golden, red, and purple behind him, Graham Howard told briefly and clearly the story of his life.

'My father's mother was Lady Mary Elton before she married my grandfather, James Howard, a barrister of renown, and a well-known pleader at the bar. Her father, Lord Elton, died a drunkard's death, helped by his own man-servant, who drank with him. After his daughter's marriage Lord Elton settled a thousand a year upon her. When she died, which was at the early age of 47, she had sacrificed it all. You ask how? Why? Where? All answered in one word—Drink! My grandfather was left with two sons, James and Edward. James died young; Edward was my father, as clever and brilliant a man as ever lived, also a barrister, but—the love of alcohol ruined him. He married a beautiful girl, named Eleanor Graham, my mother, a saint among women; but her life was one long agony. Why need I enter into details? Ah, I forget, you do not understand; let me tell you of one night only. I was a boy of ten; we were expecting my father home from some social function. I sat waiting with my mother. Even then, young as I was, I had begun to share her anxiety. I can hear the tone of that clock in our old hall now, as it struck out the hours, as I recall the incidents of that one night, and how many more there were like unto it I can never tell! At three o'clock a cab drove up to the door, containing my father, two policemen, and—a working man, to whom he had been very kind, for he had a fine generous nature, and who had assisted in accompanying him home. They helped him upstairs, my mother, white and trembling; but the shame of it, oh! the shame of it! She never could get over that, and all her life the memory of that night haunted her. It was the first time he had been brought home, and it was a revelation. As I said before, there were many, many nights like it afterwards, but I suppose in time she became more used to them. It is astonishing how one can get accustomed even to intense misery; but the memory of those years haunts me even now. I was sixteen when my father died, but nothing can restore to me those childhood's years of misery. Can you wonder that I, by Divine help, resolved to break the succession of inherited sin and misery, and I knew that the only way was to abstain entirely from alcohol in any form. I am now 45, and neither wine, beer nor spirits have ever passed my lips. I know that my own safety lies in never touching; thank God, I never long for it, and when one knows there's danger, why go near it? This is my position, and—I wanted you to know it. The cost has been great, but the loss to myself would have been greater if only society would make it easier for those who want to abstain but dare not, for fear of being thought mean or singular. Oh, if it would!'

As Graham Howard spoke, it seemed to Barbara as though she had been living in darkness, and that a ray of light suddenly penetrated. What a hero this man was, what silent battles he had fought unseen and unknown, except to him who sees poor human nature's every struggle upwards; and yet—they called him mean, and the hot blood suffused her face as she thought that even she had entertained the idea occasionally. For some moments there was silence, then Barbara said, softly:

'Thank you for telling me. I think I begin to understand some little; but oh, so little!' Barbara felt humble in the presence of this man, who had fought [illegible]e, for there's a power in moral victories that there's not in physical. 'Forgive me!'

'Forgive you! For what? Rather forgive me for inflicting this sad story of inherited weakness upon you; but—'

Was there something in Barbara's face that gave him courage, or did he feel that he could wait no longer? He never knew, for before he realized it he was telling her of his love. How the first time he had seen her in the garden his heart went out to her, how each time he saw her his love and admiration grew, until the pain of the uncertainty was well-nigh unbearable, and he felt he must speak, though it were useless.

'Can you give me any hope, for oh! Barbara,' it was the first time he had named her name without the preface, and he said it in a reverent, hushed voice, 'life without you will be very hard to face.'

As he spoke his hand touched a fold of her dress, a pretty grey one, relieved here and there with pink. At length she spoke.

'I think I must like you a little bit, for the days are long when I do not see you, and the time goes quickly when you are here.'

His hand no longer touched her dress, but her right one was gently taken in his as he said the one word, 'Barbara!'

Then silence, born of a great content, fell on them.

After a little she told him how for years her heart had been cold and hard, and how she had cherished the memory of the man she loved as a girl. 'And I thought I loved him still, until I saw you; and then I knew I didn't,' she added, simply.

Long they talked, until Martha, fearing the trout would be spoiled, asked Alice to go and 'tell Auntie that supper was ready.' As the child came running towards them Graham Howard said—

'Alice was my good angel. I shall owe her something all my life.

'Dear girl, and I, too; how little I thought when I hesitated about taking her what she would be to me, and that in a way your love would come to me through her.'

'Life is mysterious, and so are God's ways of leading us, darling.'

What a merry supper that was; only one thing puzzled Alice. Auntie Barbara's glass of home-brewed ale remained untasted. It was October, and Barbara was making preparations for her wedding, which was to be on the last day of the month. Ever since Graham Howard had told her of his love, one question had seldom been absent from her mind, and over and over again she kept saying, 'Do I love him enough to make this sacrifice? Can I? It would seem dreadful never to offer wine, not even home-made. No, I cannot do it. He said I must please myself. He wouldn't say I must give it all up. And yet, how I love him! After all these years, though, people all round would say it was an unheard-of thing to do. I never could face the talk and criticism.'

Thus she thought within herself.

When it became known that Barbara Barton was going to marry Graham Howard the surprise was intense, and bets were made on 'Change and in the market as to whether he would induce her to share his narrow prejudices,' and the betting was largely against her yielding. Of course, she was chaffed unmercifully, but good-naturedly—for no one had an ill-word to say of her; this she expected, and took it in good part.

It wanted two days to the wedding day, and Graham Howard was bidding Barbara good-night for the last time ere he should call her wife. It had been a solemn evening to them both. Neither being in the heydey of youth, they realized the sacredness of the tie that was to bind them together, and both had learnt lessons in the school of suffering, which perhaps teaches its children more than any other school.

'Graham,' she said, tremulously, 'there will be no wine at our wedding-breakfast, and none in our home.'

'Barbara! My darling! What is it you say? Is it true? Oh, but the sacrifice is too great for you to make on my account; oh, darling!'

A great sob shook his frame as he spoke, and then Barbara realized with a thrill of joy the reward of her sacrifice. Until that moment she had never realized what it meant to him.

'Graham, where love is we do not talk of sacrifice; it is because I love you better than life itself that I do what you would like me to do, and perhaps some day I may understand better than I do now the truth of those beautiful words you have taught me to love—'Measure thy life by loss instead of gain, not by the wine drunk, but the wine poured forth, for love's strength standeth in love's sacrifice, and whoso suffers most has most to give.'

He folded her in his arms; neither of them were inclined for words, and when he said good-night he whispered:

'God reward you, Barbara, for I never can.'

* * * * * * *

It is Christmas eve, and a large party are assembled in Graham Howard's barn to hear a temperance address, which is to be followed by a supper. Five years have gone since Graham Howard and Barbara Barton became man and wife, and a happier-looking host and hostess it would be difficult to imagine. A bonny boy of four years old toddles in and out, and seems quite at home with the assembled guests; whilst Alice, a tall, slim girl of 13, is running here and there for everyone's comfort, laughing and joking with old and young. The guests are the laborers and their wives, and in many cases families, of the neighborhood for miles round. Changes have come in both practice and sentiment during the five years, and they are owing in a large measure to Barbara Howard. The sort of woman who, once being convinced that a thing is right, went in for it in no half-hearted manner, she determined as far as lay in her power to make total abstinence popular, and, aided by her husband, who in time everyone had come to respect, though they laughed at his fad, she had succeeded beyond her anticipations. The power she exerted in the villages round, and the way in which people followed her example, more especially those in a lower social scale, was a revelation to her, and she realized as she had never done the importance of setting a safe example. In time her husband had started temperance meetings, which at first were shyly attended by a dozen or more, but he persevered, and by slow degrees the attendance increased, until the little room was often crowded; but the gatherings held in Mr. Howard's barn were the favorite ones, and many a desponding one had there gained new hope and courage. As those assembled stood up to sing the favorite old hymn, 'Christians, awake! salute the happy morn,' Graham and Barbara joined hands, and looking into one another's face, each read the happy, grateful thoughts that were in each other's mind, and she whispered—

'It's worth all, and to see Martha and James starting housekeeping without even home-brewed, why it seems too good to be true.'

'It does,' he whispered in return, 'and that dear child Alice brought us real Christmas luck, God bless her!'

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

AN EXTRA STOCKING.

One day, when Christmas was near at hand, Horace and Mabel were having a whispered consultation in a corner of the sitting room. It lasted fully five minutes, from which fact you may infer that the subject was highly important. The result was that Mabel said, as usual, 'Let's ask mamma.' Mrs. Allen, who was in her own room, was quickly found and let into the secret of the conversation. 'We've the very best plan, mamma, the very best plan you can possibly think of, and we want you to help us. Won't you, mamma?' It was Horace who spoke, and his mother answered, 'Tell me, dear, what the plan is, and then I'll know whether I can help you or not.'

'Well, then, there's a little girl in our school, a real nice little girl, but she's just as poor, as poor as anything. You'd know it, mamma, if you should see her clothes. They're not at all warm, mamma. You see, she hasn't any mother.'

'How do you know that, Horace?'

'Our teacher said so one day when Letty wasn't well and stayed at home. Miss Warne said that when she came back we must be 'specially kind to her, because her mother had gone to heaven and left her very lonely.' 'That is sad indeed, for Letty. What is it that you want to do for her?'

'I'll tell you, mamma;' Mable spoke this time. 'You know you always fill our stockings on Christmas eve when you're playing Santa Claus.' 'Do I?' asked the mother, with a smile upon her face. 'Yes, I'm quite positive, mamma, I'm very sure it's you; and we think it's very nice, and we want you to help us play Santa Claus for Letty.' 'May we, may we?' both of the eager children spoke together. 'May we fill a stocking for her?'

Mrs. Allen was pleased because the children had formed a plan for gratifying some one beside themselves; so she told them that she would call at the school that very day, and that if, after talking with Miss Warne, it should seem best to carry out their plan, she would gladly help them.

So they were not surprised when, toward the close of the afternoon session, Mrs. Allen entered the school room, and when she had a private talk with Miss Warne, after the scholars had been dismissed. Mabel and Horace waited for her upon the sidewalk, and were delighted beyond measure when told that they might at once accompany their mother to the store where articles could be purchased for Letty.

'I think the first thing to do will be to get a stocking, don't you, mamma?'

'I do, indeed. How will it answer to get two pairs, and put three of the stockings inside of the fourth?' 'O, that will be fine, mamma, provided you can pack them in very tight to make room for the other things, you know.'

'What other things, Mabel?'

'Why, we want to put in a doll, of course. Every little girl needs a doll at Christmas, don't you think so?' 'I believe that is a well-known fact.' 'And I think she ought to have a ball and a pencil and some candy,' said Horace.

'Yes, we'll give her some of our Christmas candy and some of our fruit and nuts. Here is the store where we may purchase the doll and the stockings.' Mrs. Allen led the way through the throng of Christmas shoppers to the counter where stockings were offered for sale. The two pairs for Letty were quickly bought, but when it came to selecting the doll, that was quite another matter. Such a purchase required thought and deliberation.

After a while, however, a very pretty one, with brown hair and black eyes was chosen. 'Because you know,' Mabel said, 'those are what I have, and I want the doll to remind Letty of me.'

'That's a very good idea,' said Horace, who was always ready to pronounce an opinion. 'It's a very good idea, indeed, and I think it would be almost better for us to name the doll Mabel, and write out the name and pin it on her, so that there won't be any mistake.' This plan was adopted, quite to the satisfaction of all concerned.

It was very difficult to keep the whole affair secret. Horace and Mabel were strongly tempted to reveal it to Letty during the few days intervening before the arrival of Christmas. Yet by the exercise of strong self-control they guarded their lips so well that Letty had no intimation of the surprise awaiting her. In the midst of the hurry and bustle of the afternoon preceding the great festival, Mrs. Allen continued to find time to superintend the filling of the extra stocking. Edith, too, lived up to her privilege as an elder sister, by helping not only with advice, but by contributing a pretty pen-wiper, which she had fashioned. Even Eugene, the younger brother, asked to put in a mat made by himself. So all the children, excepting baby Margaret, had a share in the filling of the stocking. She, in sweet baby fashion, tried to pull out the things as fast as the others put them in, but Edith said, 'No, no, Margaret,' and persuaded the little one to amuse herself in another way.

Finally the important work was all done, and then the quartette, Edith, Mabel, Horace and Eugene, took a brisk walk in the cold air to the house where Letty lived with her grandmother. After assuring herself that Letty had gone down street on an errand, Edith drew out the well-filled stocking from under her cloak. 'We've brought that for Letty,' Mabel announced.

'You blessed children,' exclaimed the grandmother, 'Letty'll be that pleased that she won't know how to control herself. An' sure it's no good to worry. Here was I a-worryin' and a-worryin' because I was too lame to go out an' buy anny little gift for Letty, an' now you've brought a dale more than I could have thought of buyin'. God bless you, my children. May yer all have a Merry Christmas, an' all the merrier because ye've bin so ginerous an' kind.'—Mary Joanna Porter, in 'Christian Intelligencer.'

SHARING THEIR CHRISTMAS JOY.

Two eager little girls sat on Ruth's desk one morning before school, drinking in every word of the story she was telling them about some people who lived near her, 'who were very poor and had several little children, one a tiny little baby, and who were not going to have any Christmas presents, nor any Christmas dinner, nor even anything in their stockings, because it had been such a hard winter, and work was so scarce that Mr. Roth, the father, couldn't find anything to do, and he had tried so hard to get work, too.'

'You see,' continued Ruth, 'my sister is a doctor, and she goes there often, because the little baby has been sick, and she really knows they are poor, and she knows how badly they feel about it, too, because she said Mr. Roth told her he had always had money enough to take care of his family and buy them Christmas presents until this year, but sister says times are very hard, and she feels so sorry for them. She thought,' Ruth went on, 'that maybe the girls here would each bring an apple and a potato to school, for that would make quite a big basket for Mrs. Roth, you know, and might save some money for Christmas,' and she stopped, out of breath.

'Oh, no,' cried Milly and Ruth at once, 'don't ask the girls to do that, we'll fix it.' And they did.

The day before Christmas I wish you could have seen them, they wanted to buy the store out. Of course their mother helped them choose the things, and first they bought a splendid big turkey, and cranberries for cranberry sauce, and sugar, and tea, and coffee, rice and flour, potatoes, apples, nuts and oranges; then some lovely candy, toys for the stockings, and they put in some of their own books, too, and several pairs of nice warm mittens.

But that wasn't all; their mother thought about that tiny baby, and she couldn't resist going up to the attic and taking out of the chest some of the many little garments she had stowed away as souvenirs of the babyhood of her own children; and several dainty little dresses, a pink and white sack, and a little pair of socks were put on top of the basket. Then the address was given to the butcher boy, with full instructions to leave the basket at Mrs. Roth's, no matter what she said.

It was Christmas eve, and Mr. Roth had just come in; he tried to smile as he greeted his wife's expectant look, but then he caught sight of the little empty stockings over the fireplace, and sat down and buried his head in his hands instead. She knew what it meant, and for a moment it seemed as if it were of no use to try to be brave, and she broke down and cried.

Then suddenly there came a rap at the street door. Who could it be? Mrs. Roth rose and opened it, and there on the step stood a merry, rosy-cheeked boy, with a great big basket, who said: 'Good evening, ma'am, I believe this is for you,' and with an effort he lifted it into the room, and stood smiling up at her.

'Why, no,' she exclaimed, 'you have made a mistake. I never ordered those things; there must be something wrong.'

'No, ma'am,' he said, smiling more broadly than ever; 'it's all right, they are for you, ma'am. A merry Christmas to you, and good-night,' and he was gone.

With trembling hands she took off the cover and realized in a moment what it all meant.

'Oh, husband,' she said, 'he was the Christmas angel.'

And as she lifted out a dainty, little white baby's dress, she looked toward the room where the children were sleeping, and there were tears in her eyes again, but this time they were tears of joy.—Helen H. Patton.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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SAUL AND DAVID.

'He bent back my head with kind power, all my face back, intent to peruse it, as men do a flower.'—Browning's 'Saul.'

What read'st thou, O King, fallen low from thy kingly estate,
In that bright face upturned to thine own with shy triumph elate,
As he saw in the depths of those wild troubled eyes, long forlorn,
The first dawn of a new spirit life, a grave purpose new-born,
A dim vision of strength to draw back the fixed bolts of despair,
And escape from the dungeons of gloom into sunlight and air?
As thy fingers pushed slowly their way through those clustering locks
Lying thick on the brow as the fleece on the far-away flocks,
Did'st thou read, as on tablet of marble, with deep, sad amaze,
The first lines of thy young manhood's story as through the tear-haze,
Shone enhaloed the promise and purpose of consecrate life
Unfulfilled in the long troublous years of inglorious strife?
Did the solemn blue deeps of those eyes with the love-light aglow
Reflect the lost power of thine own? Did their brightness fade slow
Into jealousy's twilight, till quenched in the midnight of hate,
Thy lone soul was left wand'ring in blackness, fierce, hopeless, ingrate?
Did the sadness lift cloudlike, a moment, which shaded the smile
That was wont with its shy lurking sweetness all grief to beguile,
Till thy being did thrill with the magic that erstwhile was thine,
To win men and hold men? Did a spark from that soul-fire divine
Set aglow all thy life's blackened embers; enkindle again
The light on Hope's watch-tower; till the doubt and the madness and pain
Rolled away like a scroll of night-mist from some morning kissed hill,
And once more left thee free all the spirit's behest to fulfil?

ERIE.

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NOTICE.

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

J. S. HODGSON, Secretary.

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LITERARY REVIEW.

GIFT BOOKS.

'Chinese Mother Goose Rhymes' is a pretty gift book, containing translations from Chinese nursery literature, for which we are indebted to Prof. Isaac Taylor Headland, of Pekin University, who believes that in no language in the world are there songs expressive of more keen and tender affection than some of these. His attention was called to the existence of these rhymes by hearing a Chinese nurse repeating them to her little boy. He has six hundred in his possession, collected in only two of the eighteen provinces of China. Mrs. McClure, of Honan, was one of those who helped in this compilation. The book is published by Revell, in quarto, with one hundred and fifty illustrations from photographs. Minister Wu Ting Fang, in acknowledging a copy sent to Madam Wu, writes to Prof. Headland: 'By collecting and translating the Chinese rhymes into English, you have added a valuable contribution to the folklore of nations, and at the same time done a great service to juvenile literature by calling attention to the fact that children have the same thoughts and tastes in China as in America.' Here are some samples of the rhymes:

SWEETER THAN SUGAR.

My little baby, little boy blue,
Is as sweet as sugar and cinnamon, too;
Isn't this precious darling of ours,
Sweeter than dates and cinnamon flowers?

OF WHAT USE IS A GIRL.

We keep a dog to watch the house,
A pig is useful, too;
We keep a cat to catch a mouse,
But what can we do,
With a girl like you?

LITTLE FAT BOY.

What a bonnie little fellow is this fat boy of mine,
He makes people die of joy!

What a fine little fellow is this fat boy of mine
Now who is this loving little boy?

BLIND MAN'S BUFF.

A peacock feather,
On a plum tree limb,
You catch me,
And I'll catch him.

(Revell Co., Toronto, $1.25.)

A very handsome gift book is a large copy in antique type of 'The Psalms of David,' on thick paper, with tinted and bordered pages, and sixteen full-page illustrations, with decorations in the text by Lovis Rhead, and an introductory study by Newell Dwight Hillis. Dr. Hillis says:

It is given to no historian to write the full story of the influence of David's Psalter. Singing the 46th Psalm Polycarp went to his funeral pile as did Savonarola. Strengthened by this psalm Martin Luther braved his enemies at Worms. Cromwell's soldiers also marched forth to their battle and victory at Marston Moor, chanting the Psalms of David. Dean Stanley tells us that with the words of a psalm upon their lips, Columba, Hildebrand, Bernard, Francis of Assisi, Huss, Columbus, Melancthon, Xavier, and Locke, breathed their last. All the experiences of human life seem to have been emptied into David's single career, that he might know how to interpret the universal elements of the human race.

(Revell Co., Toronto, in box, $2.50.)

'Our girls are taller than their predecessors, and quite overtop their mothers by an inch or two; they have a broader chest measurement, their hands and feet though well proportioned are larger than was once fashionable.' So writes Mrs. Margaret Sangster in a book entitled 'Winsome Womanhood' (Revell, Toronto, $1.25.) It consists of thirty-two papers, in three parts—'Daybreak,' 'High Noon,' and 'Eventide.' Mrs. Sangster's style is very attractive and the book is filled with suggestive thought, which makes it a most suitable Christmas present for girls. The full page illustrations are studies from life of beautiful young women reproduced in sepia.

'The Little Briton's Painting Book' is one of a set published by Dean & Son, London, to be painted by boys and girls and distributed to children in hospitals. Prizes are to be given for the best coloring. Mr. A. S. Forrest is the designer of this patriotic series, and president of the committee of judges for the competitions.

CANADIAN VERSE.

Mrs. T. Sterry Hunt, known to readers of the 'Witness' as the author of various poems of a high literary quality signed 'Canadienne,' has now, in good time for the holidays, published a volume entitled 'In Bohemia, and other studies for poems.' It opens with the present day dramatic sketch, from which the book takes its name, the theme of which is treacherous dealing among so-called friends. The rest of the volume contains some half hundred poems of different epochs, one of the earlier ones being 'Lines on the visit of Prince Jerome Napoleon to Canada in August, 1861,' while among the later verses we find an address to Madame Alfred Dreyfus and stirring lines upon the struggle in Manitoba in 1895-97. The Christmas song, which comes first, opens with the pretty verses:

Again! the skies are chilling now;
The snow is on the ground;
Winter, with sullen, old-time brow,
Looks haughtily around.
But faces gay and hearts as light
As sunbeams tell at last
We dare to hope for something bright
Before the year is past.

Upon these days the sunlight gleams
More peaceful and more fair;
Can it be fancy? but there seems
A fragrance in the air;
That subtle brightness quivers through
Skies grey with winter's cold;
That fragrance—'tis the same we knew
On many a morn of old!

That is descriptive of the Canadian winter. In the poem on 'Montreal in Autumn,' we find the following fine lines:

My walks lie now among the leaves,
Crimson, and gold and brown;
For Nature her sweet broidery weaves
O'er all the dreary town.

Slow wandering, in some nook I stand,
And linger—while the grace,
Now spreading broadcast o'er the land,
Shines 'in a shady place!'

The mountain from these slopes is seen,
A rain-bowed, dazzling height,
As if the summer's sombre green
Had lost itself in light.

Quite a section of the book is given to foreign lands. In this the longest poem is 'The Prisoner of the Hunger Tower,' an ancient tower still shown to visitors to Prague, in Bohemia, where prisoners were put to death by starvation. Mrs. Hunt tells the pathetic story of one who had nearly succeeded in making his escape when his attempt was discovered. The book, however, is essentially Canadian in tone, and its numerous pictures of Canadian scenery have a special value. Here, for instance, is a passage from 'A First View of Quebec':

Nearer—nearer yet we came;
Rose dark her heights of fame
Against that field of flame,
The morning sky;
Frowned down embrasures deep,
Gleamed cannon on the steep,
Flew stern above her Keep
One flag on high!

The book is illustrated. (W. Briggs, $1.00.)

Some time before his death the late Dr. Theodore H. Rand, author of 'At Minas Basin,' prepared the material for a new volume of poems, which has just been published in Toronto. 'Song Waves,' the poem which gives its title to the book, is in eight parts, each occupying a page. There are also a number of shorter poems, such as the following:

THE WHITETHROAT.

Shy bird of the silver arrows of song,
That cleave our Northern air so clear,
Thy notes prolong, prolong,
I listen, I hear:
'I—love—dear—Canada,
Canada, Canada.'

O plumes of the pointed dusky fir,
Screen of a swelling patriot heart,
The copse is all astir,
And echoes thy part! . . . .

Now willowy reeds tune their silver flutes
As the noise of the day dies down;
And silence strings her lutes,
The Whitethroat to crown. . . . .

O bird of the silver arrows of song,
Shy poet of Canada dear,
Thy notes prolong, prolong,
We listen, we hear:
'I—love—dear—Canada,
Canada, Canada.'

A portrait from an oil painting by Mr. J. W. F. Forster forms a frontispiece to the book (W. Briggs, Toronto.)

BY CAPTAIN MAHAN.

'The South African War' is a narrative of the Anglo-Boer war, from the beginning of hostilities to the fall of Pretoria, by Captain A. T. Mahan, author of 'The Influence of Sea Power on History.' (P. F. Collier & Son, publishers of 'Collier's Weekly,' New York.) It is a large volume, with eighteen full-page illustrations in color, and thirty-four in black and white, besides a great many smaller ones. The history of the war is tersely given in eight chapters, and there is an introduction by Sir John G. Bourinot, K.C.M.G, LL.D., clerk of the Canadian House of Commons, and president of the Royal Society of Canada, who says:

While President Kruger's unfailing confidence in himself and people, his stern determination to maintain and strengthen the independence of his state, merit the admiration of even Englishmen, his sullen refusal to conciliate the troublesome element of disaffection around him, his inability to appreciate the consequences of his obstinacy, show he was not a great statesman. He was still the Boer of 1836, who would not live amicably with the British, or yield to the irresistible march of modern progress. He was the very embodiment of Boer isolation—a Boer Canute, thinking he could make the tide of modern advance stay at his command. From his own point of view, the Boer asks our sympathy, but from the point of human progress, he is an object of pity.

A HISTORICAL ROMANCE.

As the Boers at the present time talk of the brutality of the British and of their own saintly heroism, so for a century and a quarter it has been the American custom to enlarge, in revolutionary stories, upon the evil deeds of British officers and soldiers and the excellence of the Americans. Even at the present day no subject is more popular for a story. To allow for a moment that there might be another side to the question would be considered unpatriotic in the extreme, and yet it might be supposed that American experiences in the civil war and in recent conquests would have made cultured people ashamed to take the old, childish, one-sided view of the contest. 'Alice of Old Vincennes,' by Maurice Thompson (W. Briggs & Co., Toronto; illustrated), is a recent story of considerable literary merit, which yet runs upon the old lines of thought. It is a historical romance dealing with traditions about the Roussillon family and their property at Vincennes, on the Wabash. Among the characters are Beret, a kindly, cunning and warlike French priest; Long-Hair, the Indian brave; Roussillon, the aristocratic French trader from Canada; Lieut. Beverley, the Virginian officer, and Hamilton, the 'brutal' British commander. The heroine is the brave and beautiful Alice, a Virginian girl of good family, brought up in an Indian tribe, and afterwards adopted by Roussillon. The story centres round a flag, an American flag, made by Alice, which the story makes her wave dramatically over the head of the English general, saying:

'I said, as you will remember, Monsieur le Gouverneur, that when you next should see this flag, I should wave it over your head. Well, look, I am waving it! Vive la republique! Vive George Washington! What do you think of it, Monsieur le Gouverneur?'

The valiant Alice finally rewards the heroic Beverley with her hand. It was unfortunately the custom of those days to swear freely, but a book in which profane language is given in full is vulgar and vulgarizing to young readers. On the subject of historical novels our author moralizes as follows:

History would be a very orderly affair, could the dry-as-dust historians have their way and doubtless it would be thrillingly romantic at every turn if the novelists were able to control its current. Fortunately, neither one nor the other has much influence, and the result, in the long run, is that most novels are shockingly tame, while the large body of history is loaded down with picturesque incidents, which if used in fiction, would be thought absurdly romantic and improbable.

A FAMOUS DUTCH WORK.

'The work of the Holy Spirit,' by Abraham Kuyper, D.D., LL.D., M.P., translated by the Rev. Henri de Vries, and authorized and approved by the author, has been recently published by Funk & Wagnalls, New York. (Price $3.) Dr. Kuyper's work on the Holy Spirit was first published in Amsterdam for the instruction of the people of the Netherlands. He is Professor of Dogmatics, or 'Systematic Theology,' in the Free University of Amsterdam, Holland. He also holds the chair of Hebrew. He is a member of the Second Chamber of the States General, the legislative body of Holland, in which he leads his party, the Anti-Revolutionists. In 1897 men of all parties united to do him honor on the occasion of his quarter-centennial of editorship of 'De Standard.' This work is a ponderous volume of 650 pages, with an introduction by Dr. Warfield, of Princeton, which may be looked upon as a guarantee of its orthodoxy from a Calvinistic point of view. The style is simple, clear and earnest. In the preface to the edition of 1888 Dr. Kuyper says:

Even though we honor the Father, and believe on the Son, how little do we live in the Holy Spirit! It even seems to us sometimes that for our sanctification only, the Holy Spirit is added accidentally to the great redemptive work. This is the reason why our thoughts are so little occupied with the Holy Spirit; why in the ministry of the Word He is so little honored; why the people of God, when bowed in supplication before the Throne of Grace, make Him so little the object of their adoration. You feel involuntarily that of your piety, which is already smal. enough, He receives a too scanty portion.

ON CHINA.

We have received advance sheets of an important work, 'The Siege of Pekin,' by Dr. W. A. P. Martin, the president of the Chinese Imperial University, and author of 'A Cycle of Cathay.' Dr. Martin went to China under the American Board of Missions in 1850, and his learning has won him respect through the whole empire. His chapter on reconstruction will no doubt attract great attention. There will be two maps and sixteen full-page engravings in the book. (Revell Co., Toronto.)

AMONG THE MAGAZINES.

'Ainslee's Magazine' for December contains an illustrated article on Sir William Van Horne, the builder of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Mr. H. H. Lewis, the writer, says of him:

In his palatial home in Montreal this product of Illinois soil has a magnificent collection of paintings, ancient and modern. The Dutch seventeenth century school is largely in evidence, while modern French, English and Spanish are represented. In addition to the engrossing cares of a railway magnate, having under his supervision a gigantic corporation valued at two hundred million dollars, Sir William has found time to become a prosperous amateur farmer in two provinces, and to cultivate special species of mushrooms. To-day he is still comparatively young—only fifty-seven years of age—and from all appearances he has barely commenced to employ his talents.

A short time ago a special writer visited Montreal for the purpose of securing material for several magazine articles. One was on the Canadian Pacific. To obtain this he interviewed Sir William Van Horne. The next subject on his list was the paper pulp industry. He applied to a Canadian paper company, and met with this reply:

'If you want anything on that subject see Sir William Van Horne. He is at the head of the largest paper pulp concern in the country.'

The third item called for information about the new coal and iron developments at Sydney, Cape Breton. A visit to a Montreal trade review resulted in this response:

'Better see Sir William Van Horne. He has the largest interests there.'

The special writer finally returned to New York. A commission from a prominent weekly figured in the mail awaiting his return. It called for an article on a new Cuban commercial syndicate, one recently organized on a stupendous financial scale. The letter from the weekly paper ended with these words:

'The information, in all probability, can be obtained from Sir William Van Horne. He heads the syndicate.'

The Christmas number of the 'Canadian Magazine' (Toronto. Price 25 cents) contains an article on the Bank of Montreal, by J. Macdonald Oxley, B.A., LL.B. R. W. McLachlan writes on the token coinage of this bank. A series of papers on government ownership of railways, by R. L. Richardson, M.P., is concluded in this number. Amongst the special poems is one by William Wilfrid Campbell. 'Mooswa,' a story already famous, reaches its fourth chapter as a serial. There are several short stories, and reproductions of several characteristic Canadian scenes.

In 'The Westminster' (Toronto) Dr. J. M. Wilson, of Glasgow, contributes an account of the 'Union of the Scottish Churches forming the United Free Church.' The editor tells of the 'Finding of Ralph Connor,' and Ralph Connor himself gives the story of 'Ould Michael,' a soldier of the Queen. The Rev. Hugh Pedley, of Emmanuel Church, Montreal, tells of an interview 'With the Apostle on the Tower of Notre Dame,' in which he obtains the views of St. Paul upon modern denominational conditions in Montreal.

'The 'Globe' (Toronto) Christmas number is filled with fine reproductions of photographs and short stories. The brightly colored picture on the cover is very attractive.

The 'Home Magazine' (New York, price $1) has a Christmas cover designed by Grant Wright. An article by a handwriting expert is of great interest as showing that it is impossible to conceal forgery.

'Saturday Night's 'Christmas number (Toronto, price 50 cents) offers two large pictures, the 'Sistine Madonna' and the 'Modern Madonna.'

OTHER MAGAZINES AND PAMPHLETS.

'Manitoba College Journal' (Winnipeg, $1 per annum), the Dalhousie 'Gazette' (Halifax, N.S.), 'Orphan Homes of Scotland and Consumption Sanatoria of Scotland,' by William Quarrier (Glasgow), an illustrated account of much good work done; 'Health Culture' (New York. Monthly, $1 per year); 'Suggestive Therapeutics (Psychic Research Co., Chicago, $2 per annum); Catalogue of Christmas Books, published by Copp, Clark Co., Ltd., Toronto.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSONS.

Arnold's 'Practical Commentary on the Sunday-school Lessons for 1901' (Revell Co., Toronto, 50 cents.) 'The plan for this year's work is to give our readers the best thoughts of some of our best people,' says Mrs. T. B. Arnold in the preface. The associate editors are the Rev. W. B. Olmstead, Mrs. A. C. Morrow and the Rev. E. C. Best. 'The Gist of the Lessons,' by the Rev. R. A. Torrey, is adapted to 'furnish busy men and women with the text of the Sunday-school lessons and suggestive comments upon them in such a form that they can always carry them with them, and thus improve spare moments.' (Revell, 25 cents.)

READABLE PARAGRAPHS.

Squire's Daughter—'Do you think it is quite healthy to keep your pigs so close to the cottage?'

Hodge—'I dunno, Miss. Noan of ther pigs ain't ever bin ill!'—'Punch.'

A LARGE HAND.

Perhaps the largest hand on record is that of a policeman who went into a haberdasher's lately and asked for a pair of gloves.

'What number?' asked the salesman.

'Number 763!' said the policeman, a little taken aback by the question, and thinking, no doubt, that the salesman wished to identify him as a member of the 'force' with an intention to present him with the gloves.

Free and easy expectoration immediately relieves and frees the throat and lungs from viscid phlegm, and a medicine that promotes this is the best medicine to use for coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs, and all affections of the throat and chest. This is precisely what Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup is a specific for, and wherever used it has given unbounded satisfaction. Children like it because it is pleasant; adults like it because it relieves and cures the disease.

THE WHY OF IT.

'I don't understand why you like a little short creature like me,' said Miss Sawedoff, the millionairess.

'Oh, I do,' said Hardup. 'I've often been a little short creature myself.'

For Inflammation of the Eyes. — Among the many good qualities which Parmelee's Vegetable Pills possess, besides regulating the digestive organs, is their efficacy in reducing inflammation of the eyes. It has called forth many letters of recommendation from those who were afflicted with this complaint, and found a cure in the pills. They affect the nerve centres and the blood in a surprisingly active way, and the result is almost immediately seen.

SOLVED.

Miss Columbia Heights—'I wonder how they come to call some shades of red "automobile vermillion"?'

Miss Putnam Avnoo—'I suppose some times it runs and other times it don't.'

Mother Graves's Worm Exterminator has the largest sale of any similar preparation sold in Canada. It always gives satisfaction by restoring health to the little folks.

HAD ALL HE COULD ATTEND TO.

'Will you love me when I'm old?' she whispered.

'Well wait till you are old,' he said, practically; 'it is as much as I can attend to just now to love you while you're young.'

The Brightest Flowers must fade, but young lives endangered by severe coughs and colds, may be preserved by Dr. Thomas's Eclectric Oil. Croup, whooping cough, bronchitis, in short, all affections of the throat and lungs, are relieved by this sterling preparation, which also remedies rheumatic pains, sores, bruises, piles, kidney difficulty, and is most economic.

A little boy having broken his rocking-horse the day it was bought, his mother began to rebuke him and threatened to box his ears. He silenced her by inquiring, 'What's the good of a hoss till it's broke?'

WHY NOT MAKE MONEY BY USING YOUR BRAINS

Instead of laboring day after day for a mere existence? If you are disposed to try to invent and take a good chance of making money rapidly, you ought to get a few ideas from our new and very instructive book, giving hints and helps how to do it, entitled: 'The Inventor's Help.' A complete exposé of patent laws, containing cost of patents in every country, and how inventors have made money. Full information about inventions and patents, and also pointing out the pitfalls laid for unwary inventors. It will help any one interested in patents and inventions; 120 pages, bound. Sent by mail to any address, securely sealed, on receipt of a ten-cent stamp. Order a copy at once, as this notice may not appear again. Marion & Marion, patent solicitors, Montreal, Canada, and Washington, D.C. 26

Visitor—'What's become of old Sam Bungs.

Longshoreman Billy—'Dead, sir—died of 'art disease. A visitor gave him a shillin' very sudden. My 'art's werry strong, sir.'

They Drove Pimples Away.—A face covered with pimples is unsightly. It tells of internal irregularities which should long since have been corrected. The liver and the kidneys are not performing their functions in the healthy way they should, and these pimples are to let you know that the blood protests. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills will drive them all away, and will leave the skin clear and clean. Try them, and there will be another witness to their excellence.

A few years ago there was a man in Devonshire who had six or seven very corpulent daughters. When asked how many children he had his answer was generally something of this kind: 'I have three boys and about 13 cwt. of girls.'

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

It is only necessary to read the testimonials to be convinced that Holloway's Corn Cure is unequalled for the removal of corns, warts, etc. It is a complete extinguisher.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

CADBURY'S
COCOA,
ABSOLUTELY PURE, THEREFORE BEST
NO CHEMICALS USED.
Wholesale Agents for Canada,
Frank Magor & Co., 15 St. John St., Montreal.

The Boys' Page.

Baden-Powell's 'Aids'

KEEPING YOURSELF HIDDEN AND DODGING THE ENEMY.

(Continued.)

Last week we read some of Major-General Baden-Powell's interesting remarks on the necessity of the scout's using his eyes. But, our author says, at the same time, it is very essential to keep hidden as much as possible from the enemy who otherwise will take measures for stopping, capturing or killing him.

'All your movements should be carried out as far as possible under cover, keeping along under hedges, banks, water-courses, low-lying ground, etc. If in open country you should make your way quickly from one clump of bushes to another (or rocks, or hollows, or such other kind of cover as exists) moving rapidly while on the open ground, halting under cover while you look about. If you dawdle across the open you aremuch more likely to be seen by the enemy. If you are one of a patrol, the patrol should in open country keep together, with one or two scouts out to guard against surprise. If you have to be in the open, when within view of the enemy, remember two things, 1st, to choose an object or ground behind you of the same color as your own kit; 2nd, to remain still, without a move, so long as the enemy is likely to see you. These two principles should be remembered whenever you are hiding, whether by day or by night.'

In illustration, Baden-Powell gives some of his own experiences, which vivid personal touches constitute much of the peculiar charm attached to the 'Aids to scouting':

'For a long time I used to sit dressed in khaki among rocks of the same color and watch the enemy, and I was not noticed so long as I kept still; but on two days I went with a red cummerbund round my waist, and each time this bit of color caught their eye, and I was seen.

'Wild animals, such as elephant, bison, bear, etc., seldom notice a man provided he keeps perfectly motionless, unless they get the scent of him; and a man in the same way fails to see any one who remains still, and having no power of smell, is, therefore, not likely to discover him in any other way.'

Giving directions for choosing a look-out, the author says:

'It is often best when watching an enemy to hide your horse in some well-concealed cover, and then go yourself into a better place for looking out.

'In selecting your look-out place always be careful to see that there is more than one way out of it, so that if an enemy cuts you off at one you can escape by the other. Thus a tower is a tempting place to look out from, but if an enemy comes and stands guard at the foot of it you cannot get away, whereas the roof of a house will give you an almost equally good view, and possibly several different ways of getting to the ground again.

'Trees, for the same reason as towers, must be used with caution. They make excellent look-out places, and afford good hiding places. Remember that men are very apt to forget to look up in trees for you—unless they see your footmarks on the ground leading to a tree. So in using a tree take care to leave no footmarks, and when up in it either lie close along a branch or stand close alongside the trunk, so that your body looks like part of it. I have stood under a tree with an enemy up in it and never noticed him till he fired down at me—he was standing on a branch with his body close against the tree trunk, and had to fire down between his feet at me.

'I once used a small rocky hill as a look-out place. There was only one path up it, but I could also get down by another way. On this other way I left my horse. After a time the enemy saw me, and creeping down under cover, they made a rush and got on to the path, intending to cut me off there. They seemed considerably annoyed when I went down the other way and jumped on to my horse and was away before they could touch me.

'Don't always select as a good look-out place the first one that strikes you, because probably that would be the first one to strike an enemy as the likely place to find you. Choose rather some unlikely spot not so conspicuous, and yet affording concealment, good look-out and a 'back door' or second way of escape.

'In making use of hills as look-out places, be very careful not to show yourself on the top or sky-line. This is a fault that is continually being made, not only at all manoeuvres, but also on service in the field.

'Time after time it has happened in recent campaigns, and the enemy have had full warning of our presence by our men showing themselves up on the sky-line. On reaching a high place, it is a great temptation to get on to the top of it and to take a good look round, especially when you see no signs of an enemy beyond. But this is the mistake generally made by beginners, viz., that because they do not see an enemy, they jump to the conclusion that there is no enemy about. But the most of the enemies we have to encounter are trained soldiers from their boyhood, and they habitually keep themselves hidden, unless they see good reason to come out into the open; whereas we, on the other hand, are too apt to disdain concealment, unless we see a special reason for availing ourselves of it. This, particularly in the case of a scout, is an absurd course of action. In war, always keep yourself and your intentions as much concealed from the enemy as possible.'

Baden-Powell thus commends the practices of the Zulu scout:

'It is quite a lesson to watch a Zulu scout making use of a hill-top or a rising ground as a look-out place. He will crawl up on all fours, lying flat in the grass; on reaching the top, he will very [illegible] he can see the view. If he sees the enemy on beyond, he will have a good look, and if he thinks they are watching him will keep his head perfectly steady for an immense time, hoping that he will be mistaken for a stump or a stone. If he is not detected he will very gradually lower his head, inch by inch, into the grass again, and crawl quietly away. Any quick or sudden movement of the head on the sky-line would be very liable to attract attention even at a considerable distance.

PRACTICE IN PEACE TIME.

We are sure many of our readers will like to make experiments after reading the following advice and directions given by the author. He says: 'It is a useful practice to learn the art of concealing yourself in peace-time, when a failure or two at first will not cost you your life, as it might easily do on service. After one or two attempts you will see how easily you can place yourself so as to be unnoticed by passers-by, or can pass over a country unseen. Take, for instance, some well-frequented road and imagine that the people passing along it are enemies whose numbers you wish to count, or whose talk you want to overhear.

'1. Select a spot where they are not likely to look for you and which has a line of escape from it.

'2. Select such part of it and such background as matches your clothes in color.

'3. Hide your horse, and keep quite still yourself.

'4. Note how many passers-by notice you.

'Try similarly without concealing yourself but by merely sitting still. I tried this experiment myself the other day, and took up my position amongst some rocks overhanging a path, and so close to it that with a fishing rod I could have touched any one passing by. I was about eight feet above the ground, just above the height of a man's eye. I did not hide myself, but merely sat still. Of the 54 men who walked past me in the space of two hours, only 11 looked up and saw me.

'Practice the same at night, riding your horse in bridoons only—the bit jingles too much—on soft ground, and see how close you can come to people without their noticing you. Also, especially, practice moving on foot past people, and also sitting in trees, or near a path, and letting them come close past you.

'If at any time you are discovered, try and see what point attracted attention to you, and correct it for the next attempt.'

(To be continued.)

Should any of our readers like to make experiments some holiday afternoon, either separately or in numbers, similar to the one Baden-Powell made, we shall be glad to have the details and results for publication.

THE DEATH OF THE OLD YEAR.

Full knee-deep lies the winter snow,
And the winter winds are wearily sighing,
Toll ye the church-bell, sad and slow,
And tread softly and speak low,
For the Old Year lies a-dying.
Old Year, you must not die;
You came to us so readily,
You lived with us so steadily,
Old Year, you shall not go.

He lieth still; he doth not move;
He will not see the dawn of day,
He hath no other life above,
He gave a friend and a true, true love,
And the New Year will take 'em away.
Old Year, you must not go;
So long as you have been with us,
Such joy as you have seen with us,
Old Year, you shall not go.

He frothed his bumpers to the brim;
A jollier year we shall not see,
But tho' his eyes are waxing dim,
But tho' his foes speak ill of him,
He was a friend to me.
Old Year, you shall not die;
We did so laugh and cry with you,
I've half a mind to die with you,
Old Year, if you must die.

He was full of joke and jest,
But all his merry quips are o'er.
To see him die, across the waste
His son and heir doth ride post haste,
But he'll be dead before.
Every one for his own.
The night is starry and cold, my friend;
And the New Year, blithe and bold, my friend,
Comes up to take his own.

How hard he breathes! over the snow
I heard just now the crowing cock.
The shadows flicker to and fro,
The cricket chirps; the light burns low;
'Tis nearly twelve o'clock,
Shake hands, before you die,
Old Year, we'll dearly rue for you,
What is it we can do for you?
Speak out before you die.

His face is growing sharp and thin,
Alack! our friend is gone,
Close up his eyes, tie up his chin;
Step from the corpse, and let him in
That standeth there alone,
And waiteth at the door.
There's a new foot on the floor, my friend,
And a new face at the door, my friend,
A new face at the door.

—Tennyson.

NEW YEAR'S MOTTO.

Dean Farrar once suggested the following lines from Fletcher for a New Years's motto:

'Man is his own star, and the soul that can
Render an honest and a perfect man
Commands all life, all influence, all fate,
Nothing to him falls early or too late.
Our acts our angels are, or good or ill,
Our fatal shadows that walk by us still.'

The Last of the Pirates.

(W. L. Alden, in the 'Saturday Evening Post.')

'No, sir!' said the doctor of the American liner, as we sat together on the deck of the steamer on the first night out of Shanghai. 'I'll never sign another certificate of lunacy, for I've quit dividing men into sane persons and lunatics. There isn't enough difference between the two to warrant making a distinction between them. I've known men who were perfectly sane, but who would some day break out and do the maddest sort of things. We're all more or less sane and more or less mad. My friends think I am mad because I took this berth as ship's surgeon, and I don't doubt that they are right.'

'By the by,' said I, 'are there any pirates in these seas nowadays?'

'That's an odd question for you to ask

'Well!' says Smith, 'I'm going to be a pirate.'

me, considering that we were just speaking of lunatics,' he replied. 'Why, I was once a pirate in this very part of the world myself, and my chief was a sane lunatic. I'll tell you the story, if you're not in a hurry to turn in.

'If I don't tell it after what I've said, you'll be sure that I am stark mad, which isn't at all a good reputation for a doctor to have.

'When I was in practice in New York I knew a man whom we'll call Smith, seeing as I don't care to mention his real name. He was a bookkeeper in an insurance office, where he had a responsible place and a lot of hard work and just pay enough to keep body and soul together. You see the president of the company had a salary of twenty-five thousand dollars, and consequently there wasn't much money left for his subordinates. Smith was a single man who had very few acquaintances, and was considered by the other men in the office to be a meek, bashful, timid fellow, who neither knew nor cared for anything except his official duties. But I knew him better than they did. I was his only intimate friend, and we used to spend at least two evenings a week together, except when I was sent for by a patient. The man was meek and modest, but he had a soul above bookkeeping. He was about the most romantic chap I ever met. He spent his leisure time reading novels, and he lived in a world of imagination. He was always putting himself in the place of the hero of the last story that he had read. One day he felt that he was an Indian chief, and he would walk down Broadway in the morning to his office with a stealthy sort of tread, keeping a bright look-out up and down every cross street for fear that Indians of a hostile tribe might be lying in wait for him. Another day he would be one of the Three Musketeers, and he would handle his umbrella as if it was a sword and he might have to whip it out at any minute, and set his back against a lamp-post and defend himself against a dozen armed brigands.

'There isn't a girl in any girls' school who is more chuck full of romantic fancies than was meek little Smith. That was the reason why he was a happy man in spite of the bookkeeping, which was a thing that he naturally detested. But mind you! he was as sane as they make them. I never detected the slightest sign of anything abnormal about his brain so long as he was a poor clerk, adding up figures by day and dreaming of adventures by night. The only thing I ever knew him to do in those days that seemed inconsistent with his steady, sensible way of life was his purchase of a lottery ticket in the big Soldiers' Home lottery started two or three years after the end of the Civil War, and he was, so to speak, bullied into buying it by the other clerks, who told him that it was a patriotic duty to help forward a scheme for the relief of the suffering soldiers.

'Now, when that lottery was drawn Smith won the first prize, which was five hundred thousand dollars. He had paid five dollars for his ticket, and had told me at the time that he considered it a waste of money, and that in his opinion any man who expected to draw a prize in a lottery was no better than a professional idiot. But he won the prize all the same, and they say that he was far and away the coolest man in the whole insurance office when he heard the news and boys came to congratulate him.

'Smith gave notice that he would resign his place as bookkeeper at the end of the month, and he kept on adding up his figures just as he had always done, and giving no sign that he considered himself a capitalist. I was out of town when he drew the prize, and I didn't see him until a day or two before his time at the insurance office was up. After I had congratulated him on his good luck and told him how glad I was to see him take it so coolly, I asked him what he calculated to do when he left the insurance company for good and all.

'Smith answered in a general way that he expected to travel for a while and see the world. I saw plainly enough that he wasn't telling me all that he meant to do, and I told him so, and said that, considering what old friends we were, he ought to make a clean breast to me and let me advise him about the future. I could always fetch Smith by an appeal to our old friendship, and when he began to say in a hesitating sort of way that he hoped I wouldn't judge him too harshly if I didn't altogether approve of his plans, I knew that I was going to have the truth.

'Presently he said: "Doctor, if you had a longing to do something particular all your life and couldn't do it on account of not having enough money, and if you should suddenly come into no end of money, wouldn't you naturally think of carrying your old longing into effect?"

'"Of course I should," said I; "that is, provided it wasn't something which an honest man couldn't do."

'"I'm going to have a yacht," says Smith.

'"That's all right," says I. "Only I can't make out why you should have any hesitation about mentioning it to me."

'"I haven't told you all yet," says Smith. "If I tell you what I mean to do with the yacht you'll not give me away, will you?"

'"You can trust me," I replied. "In my profession I have to be a sort of well of dark and deadly secrets, and I'll regard you as a patient, confessing something to me as a doctor."

'"Well!" says Smith, "I'm going to be a pirate."

'"Rather late in the day for that sort of thing," says I, humoring him, for I began to think that his brain had been turned, after all, by his sudden good luck.

'"Doctor," says Smith, "I've longed to be a pirate ever since I was a boy. Of course I don't mean that I wanted to make people walk the plank, or to do anybody any injury, but there was always a tremendous fascination for me in the thought of scouring the seas in my own vessel and making the war on the whole world. I don't expect you to understand it, but I've fancied myself a pirate thousands of times, and it has been one of the chief comforts of my life down at that insurance office. Often when I was adding up columns I would fancy that I was adding up the pieces of eight and the treasure generally that I had captured, and when I lay in bed at night I would feel my schooner rising and sinking on the swell of the Pacific, and would say to myself that I should be sure to overtake the Spanish galley in the morning. I have led boarding parties without number with my umbrella, and rushed aft along the bloody deck on a captured ship to pull down the flag with my own hands. No, I'm not crazy. I'm only a peculiar sort of ass. But I'm telling you the truth when I say that the dream of my life has been to be a pirate, and now that the chance has come to me I'm going to realize that dream just long enough for me to know what it feels like."

'Well! we talked a lot more that evening, and I made up my mind that Smith was just as sane as he ever had been. The only difference between him and other men was that he meant to carry out a longing that lots of other men have had, who lacked the courage to carry it out. I gathered that Smith meant to fit out a yacht as a pirate vessel and to cruise with her until he had captured one ship. He said that he would then abandon piracy and would make good to the owners of the ship all the loss that he might have caused them. He said he should need a doctor on board his yacht, and he wanted me to take the place. As he assured me that nobody should be killed or hurt in the least by him or his pirate crew I said I would accept his offer. You see I wanted a holiday and had always been fond of the sea. Besides, I calculated that if I went with Smith I could keep him from carrying his scheme any further than arming the yacht and occasionally flying a black flag when nobody was in sight. There was where I was wrong, as the result showed, but I never really supposed when I accepted the post of doctor on board Smith's yacht that I was going to be a genuine pirate and run the risk of a halter.

'The yacht was built in accordance with Smith's plans. He didn't know much about boat-building, but he told a builder what he wanted and the man went ahead and turned out a craft that suited Smith down to the ground—or perhaps I should say down to the water. She was of about four hundred tons and she had two screws, one on each side of the keel, so far forward of her stern that they were completely out of sight. So far as I know, she was the first twin-screw boat ever built, and nobody has ever since tried the plan of putting the screws where Smith had them, though I've always thought that it had its advantages over the usual plan. The lines of the boat were those of an ordinary sailing yacht instead of a steamer, and when her telescopic funnel was out of sight, and she was under sail, no one would have dreamed that she was a steamer. Smith had her rigged as a fore-and-aft schooner, and painted her white. She was as handsome a boat as you'd care to have, and a good sea boat besides. She would do fourteen knots under steam, which in those days was considered fast, and when her screws were disconnected and she had a good leading breeze she would do nine knots under sail.

'When the yacht was ready for sea, Smith and I went aboard her, and we started for China, by way of the Suez canal, which had just been opened. He had a captain who was a first-class sailor and an intelligent, gentlemanly companion, but I knew the man had once been tried for having run a cargo of slaves from Africa to Florida, and had escaped hanging by the skin of his teeth. The mate was a stupid sort of chap from Nova Scotia, and the crew were rather a rough set who had been selected by the captain himself. Smith hadn't said a word about piracy to me for a long time, and I had almost forgotten that he had ever proposed to turn pirate. He talked as sensibly as ever about other things, and so far as I could see he was bound on a regular yachting cruise like any other rich and idle man.

'We started under steam and kept under steam all the way to Shanghai. I'm not going to bore you with an account of the passage out to China. We stopped at the regular places, such as Bombay and Colombo and Singapore; and we had a look at Batavia, Bangkok and Canton. Smith seemed to enjoy himself, and I'm sure that I did the same. Everything went smoothly with the machinery and the crew, and I made up my mind that living on board a first-class yacht was a great sight better than practicing medicine in New York. I suppose that was what made me take this berth that I have now. It's an easy, comfortable life, and now I've got used to it I seldom feel sorry that I gave up living ashore.

'When we reached Shanghai I noticed that Smith seemed to have something more on his mind than mere sightseeing and, as you know, there isn't very much of that to be done at Shanghai. He and the captain used to talk a good deal together by themselves, but as it wasn't any business of mine I didn't take the trouble to ask Smith what it meant. But one day there came aboard eight Chinese sailors, and a hard crowd they were. As I afterward found out, they were professional pirates to a man, and the captain had hired them for a job of piracy.

'After we had shipped the Chinamen, who, I ought to say, lived by themselves, and weren't called upon to do any work—same as if they had been passengers—we steamed out of Shanghai harbor and headed about south-west. I knew that wasn't the course for Japan, which I had supposed would be our next stopping place. Smith told me that he wanted to have a look at some of the Pacific islands, and as he might meet with cannibals who would attack the yacht he had taken along the Chinamen to add to our fighting strength. As soon as we were clear of the land the men went to work and got up a six-inch rifled gun and two howitzers and a Gatling gun from the hold, where they had been stowed under the ballast. That startled me considerably, for it convinced me that Smith hadn't given up his notion of playing pirate; and the fact that he had shipped that gang of Chinamen looked as if he meant to play it seriously. However, I didn't say much to him, for he hinted to me pretty plainly that he didn't care for my advice except in a medical way, and so I let things drift along, calculating that Smith wouldn't have the cheek to commit a genuine act of piracy, but would content himself with owning an armed vessel, and with overhauling and searching an occasional Kanaka fisherman or Japanese junk.

(To be Continued.)

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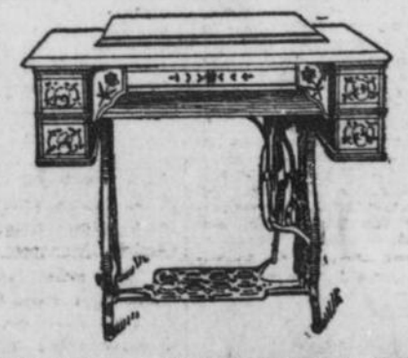

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CHESS

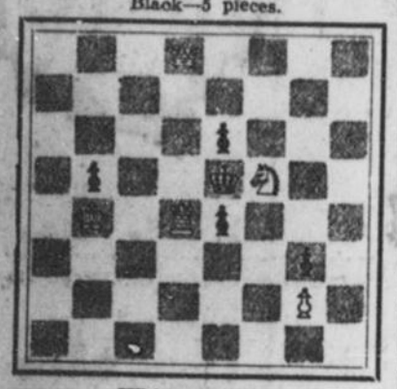
Communications should be addressed to the Chess Editor, 'Witness,' Montreal.

Wednesday, Dec. 26, 1900.

PROBLEM NO. 100.

Composed for the 'Witness' by Dr. S. Gold, New York, N.Y.

Black—5 pieces.



White—5 pieces.

Mate in TWO. Solution Jan. 15.

SOLUTIONS AND COMMENT.

Solution to Three-move Problem No. 97, by George Slater. White K at Q Kt 8; Q at K Kt 3; B at Q R 8; Kt at Q Kt 7 and K 3; pawns at Q R 5, K B 6, K Kt 5 and K R 4—nine pieces. Black K at K 5; B at Q 8; Kts at Q R 6 and K R 6; pawns at Q R 5, Q Kt 5, Q B 7, Q 7 and K R 4—nine pieces. Key move, 1 Kt—B 4. Variations:

Black.	White.
1 Kt x Kt	2 Kt—B 5 ch
2 K—Q 5	3 Kt—K 6 mate.
2 K—B 4	3 B—K 4 mate.
1 K—B 4	2 Kt (B 4)—Q 6 ch!
2 K—Kt 3	3 Q—Q 3 mate.
2 K—K 3	3 Kt—K 5 mate.
1 K—Q 4	2 Q—Q 3 ch.
2 K—B 3	3 Kt—B 5 mate.
2 K—K 3	3 Kt—Q 8 mate.
1 B—B 6	2 Q—Q 5 ch.
2 K—Q 6	3 Kt—Kt 2 mate.
1 Else	2 Kt—Q 6 ch.
2 K—Q 5	3 Q—K 3 mate.

Correct from Geo. Patterson, Winnipeg, and Henry Duane, Ogdensburg, N.Y. Correct to Problem No. 96 (additional), from Lewis F. S. Hawes, Haulton, Me.

Criticism.—A good example of how advanced defensive forces can sometimes do lots of curing. The White pawn at R 5 is a lesson to the student. It shows that when a composer has to choose between inevitable duals, he ought to stop the dual second, even if it costs a dual mate. — St. Maurice. A masterpiece, with a brilliant leader, and eight exquisite and entirely different mates. Th forcing of certain difficult continuations is very skilful. In fact, the only weak point is the obvious necessity for moving the Kt as the key.—Barry. The fact that this was accidentally given as a two-mover (although described as a prize-winner in the three-move class), accounts for the most of our solvers missing it.—Ed.

Ottawa, Dec. 13, 1900.—Thanks for Pocket Chess Board, which came duly to hand.—A. K. Blackadar.

THESE WILL PLAY.

The following have entered in our correspondence tournament to date:

Bear River, Nova Scotia.—The Rev. I. W. Porter.

Brandon, Manitoba.—Rev. E. Archibald.

Lachute, Que.—The Rev. A. B. Given, Mr. T. Pallister.

Lancaster, Ont.—Mr. Thomas Bolster.

Montreal, Que.—Messrs. John Durthie, H. Girard, Ian McLeish, S. M. Munn, G. P. Nelson, H. J. Rose, Jos. Sawyer, and C. E. St. Maurice, jr.

Ottawa, Ont.—Messrs. A. K. Blackadar, J. E. Narraway and L. C. Wilson.

Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que.—Dr. H. Valois.

Syracuse, New York.—Mr. T. W. Beakbane.

Toronto, Ont.—Mr. M. J. Sisley.

Webster, New York.—Mr. K. S. Howard.

Westmount, Que.—Dr. McArthur.

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It belongs to health, for a baby, to eat and sleep, to laugh and grow fat.

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Wolfville, Nova Scotia.—Mr. L. Lyman, Mr. J. Lyman.

Any further entries should be made with as little delay as possible, as the list wil shortly close.

THE GAME.

An entertaining example of the From Gambit, played by correspondence between two Lancashire players, and won by Mr. J. Wrigley, of Shaw, is given by a London paper. The notes are by Mr. L. van Vilet.

Game 85—From Gambit.

Bolton. White. — J. Wrigley. Black.

1 P—K B 4 — 1 P—K 4
2 P x P — 2 P—Q 3
3 Kt—K B 3

White may just as well play P x P at once, unless there is no intention of taking the pawn with Kt.

3 Px P
4 Kt x P — 4 B—Q 3
5 Kt—K B 3

If 5, P—Q 4, then B x Kt; 6, P x B, Q—R 5 ch; 7, P—Kt 3, Q—Kt 5, etc.

5 Kt—K B 3
6 P—K 3

Better is P—Q 4, and if then 6..Kt—Kt 5; 7, B—Kt 5.

6 Kt—Kt 5
7 P—Q Kt 3

Apparently oblivious of the opponent's immediate intentions. It was, however, not easy to save the pawn. If, for example, 7, P—K Kt 3. Black might still venture Kt x R P; followed by B x P ch, with a fine attack.

7 Kt x R P 1
8 R x Kt

If Kt x Kt, Black, replies 8..Q—R 5 ch; 9, K—K 2, B—Kt 5 ch; 10, Kt x B, Q x Kt ch, and wins the Queen atleast.

8 B x R
9 Q—K 2 — 9 B—Kt 6 ch
10 K—Q sq — 10 Q—B 3
11 Kt—B 3 — 11 B—Kt 5
12 B—Kt 2 — 13 Kt—Q 2
13 R—Kt sq — 13 Q—Q B 3
14 P—Q 4 — 14 Castles Q R
15 Kt—Q Kt 5 — 15 K—Kt sq
16 P—B 4 — 16 K R—K sq
17 P—Q 5 — 17 Q—K R 3
18 B—B sq — 18 Kt—K 4
19 Kt—B 3 — 19 Q—R 4
20 Kt—K 4 — 20 Kt x Kt
21 Kt x B — 21 R x P ch

White here resigns. Black's last move would win the Queen, at least, as follows: 22, P x R, Q x P ch; 23, K—B 2. Kt—Q 4 ch, etc. The game was admirably conducted by the winner.

WHAT KIND OF FRUIT

Hangs Upon the Branches of the Liquor Trade Tree?

THE ARTICLE SOLD AS LIQUOR IS NOT A FOOD.

The Rev. R. Hewton, M.A., rector of St. Paul's Church, Lachine, preached to a large congregation in Trinity Church, Montreal, on Sunday, Dec. 9, on the evils attending the liquor traffic. He chose for his text Habakkuk ii., 15. 'Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him and maketh him drunken.'

After introducing his subject he asked what was the effect of the liquor traffic on the community? We judge a tree by the fruit it grows. The rum trade tree for many years has struck its roots deep into the soil of this old earth and spread its limbs over many countries, it is but fair to ask what kind of fruit hangs upon its branches. He then pointed out the necessity of all other callings and professions and the benefits which they have conferred upon mankind. But the liquor traffic imparted no knowledge, promoted no virtue, prevented no evil, consoled no sad heart and comforted no desolate soul. It is an outrageous insult to every other industry in particular and to trade in general. That it is an evil no one denies, because it cannot be questioned. We compel it to pay a license because it is an evil and needs regulation. No other business needs such supervision, because no other business is an unmixed curse. It is a traffic that tends directly to impair health, dethrone reason, inflame passion, deaden conscience and ruin body and soul. It is the most universally acknowledged evil in the world, and one of the greatest blotches upon our modern civilization. It hesitates at no demand, and threatens society, church, state and personal character if any man or body of men dare oppose its impudent exhibitions. It fights the enactments of laws to control it. Much of our politics to-day are under its control. Why we saw the shameless assertion boldly made in the public newspapers the other day that no government can stand in this country that is opposed to the liquor interests, and that the present government, strong as it is, will be turned out next election if the interests of the rum trade be interfered with in any degree. Have things come to such a pass as this, that we cannot elect and keep in power a government that the liquor men oppose? If this is true, and not merely a vain boast of King Alcohol, it is high time that we knew it. This much we do know, however, which is bad enough in all conscience, and that is, that the liquor interests corrupt our ballot boxes, lurk about in our legislative halls, ready to take our legislators by the throat to strangle every measure that is opposed to the liquor traffic. Some time ago, the people demanded an opportunity to vote upon the question of permitting it to exist at all, but after an overwhelming majority declared against it, it thwarted their will and stalks abroad boldly to-day, red-handed as ever, with the blood of its many victims.

We are still a young country. As a young country, we are perhaps free from some of the sins of older countries. But we are fast growing into a great nation. If ever ruin comes to us it will come through our national sin whatever that sin may be. Alas! we are rapidly learning many sins and bid fair soon to rival many older nations in wickedness. But if there is any one sin that seems to gain ground more widely than others and so take up its position as a national sin, I believe it to be the sin of drunkenness. When we look at the many-sided effects of this sin we are driven to the conclusion that it is the most terrible evil of modern times. No nation is free from the unholy trail of this poisonous serpent. No family is not somewhere hurtfully touched. There is not one life that it does not directly or indirectly limit. There is not a human being who is not in some way wronged or injured by this ubiquitous curse.

But what is the article sold? It is not a food. It is acknowledged to be in no way necessary to preserve life. It is an intoxicating poison. Sir Wm. Gull, one time physician to the Queen, said in his evidence before the House of Lords: 'Alcohol is a most deleterious poison. I do not mean in large quantities. I mean to say that a very large number of people in society are dying day by day, poisoned by alcohol, but not supposed to be poisoned by it. A great deal of injury is done to the health by alcohol in its various shapes, even in so-called moderate quantities.' I could give a long list of medical testimony equally emphatic, but I must limit myself to this one. Alcohol contains no nourishment for the human system. Being a foreign element there is nothing in it that the human organs can assimilate. On the contrary, its continued use produces various kinds of disease and so shortens human life. Considered in its relation to disease, the power of alcohol to produce either temporary or permanent insanity is well known to all of us. Alcohol worshippers should pay a visit to the padded rooms of our inebriate asylums, where those suffering from delirium tremens are confined, to be convinced of the falsity of their mistaken creed. The 'Science Monthly' is responsible for the statement that out of 1,271 maniacs whose previous histories were investigated, fifty percent lost their reason through excessive drinking. But this is not all, nor the worst. Even suppose that we grant that upon the moral point of view it is allowable that for the gratification of a mere animal desire, we may risk both our health and reason, there can be no doubt that to risk the entailment of the above terrible afflictions upon those who are to come after us, is among the most wicked and unjustifiable of deeds. Yet this is the guilt of those who indulge in the fatal vice of drunkenness. Many diseases are well known as being capable of transmission by inheritance, so that the wickedness of one individual may literally cause the iniquity of the fathers to be visited on the children and upon the children's children, even to the third and fourth generations, entailing such results in future upon the innocent unborn that even the most hardened sinner might turn in horror from the prospect of such a crime. In one of the asylums in the United States the habits of the parents of 300 of the idiots were ascertained, and 149, or nearly one-half, are reported as known to be habitual drunkards.

Considered in its relation to crime, alcohol is the fuel of all the baser animal passions, and the most powerful agent of vice in the service of the devil. Under its influence four-fifths of the convicts committed the crimes for which they are serving their terms in our penitentiaries, and nine-tenths of them freely confess, 'It was the drink that did it.' I might bring forward a long array of facts, of which the night would be too short to tell the half, concerning the liquor habit in its relation to murders and suicides, accidents and premature deaths, the leprous social evil and the destruction of infants and children, and many other crimes, but what I have said must suffice for the present.

The preacher then went on to describe at some length the sad picture of a besotted drunkard, the horrors of his home and the terrible condition of his wretched wife and unfortunate children.

Continuing, he dealt with the liquor traffic in its relation to the public revenue. It is a source of tremendous revenue to the government, and therefore it is claimed to be a benefit to the country. This aspect of the case requires examination. The question for us to consider is simply this: Do the liquor men add anything to the public wealth? Certainly not; they are all mere consumers, living on what they draw from the pockets of their fellows. All statistics show that a very large percentage of the inmates of prisons, lunatic asylums and penitentiaries have been brought there by rum, thus causing a very large increase in the expenditure. It is well known that the drinking class do not work and are therefore a great loss to the country. The trade is not a producing trade. No quantity of liquor enriches a country in any degree if consumed in it. Hence a large loss of available labor, which should go to make wealth for the country at large. Sir A. T. Galt said that the traffic in liquor as a beverage might be done away with, and no loss of revenue follow. Lord Salisbury said that it inflicted greater losses on England than war, pestilence and famine combined. The late Wm. E. Gladstone called it the greatest curse of the age.

And the fact is that you and I, and the sober, industrious, toiling portion of the community pay for all this. The drunken sot who is injured in a street fight or saloon brawl is cured in the hospital at our expense; the drunken beggar is fed from our table; his hungry children come to our doors for bread; and we cannot refuse assistance to his broken-hearted wife; and when at last, having wasted his substance in riotous living, he comes to the 'home,' the asylum, the hospital, or the prison, honest, sober, industrious men pay the bills for supporting him there. You cannot escape it. You may protest and object, but pay it you must. There is no doubt a vast amount of revenue is derived from the liquor traffic, but place against this the cost of collecting, the cost of crime, indolence, accidents, pauperism, idiocy, prisons, hospitals, asylums, and where does the tremendous profit come in? It seems to me we pay pretty dear for our whistle. Liquor costs more than our flour, meat, books, magazines and newspapers combined. But, it is urged, if the liquor traffic were abolished, the amount of property now invested in it would be lost to the country. Surely not. It would simply be directed into other channels of trade, which would be a greater benefit to the public at large, though possibly not so remunerative financially to those engaged in the traffic. Just think of all the money now spent on liquors being used for developing the resources of this Canada of ours, for the cause of common education, science, religion, morality, charity, and who can doubt the tremendous benefit to society? Take the capital invested in the liquor trade here in your own city of Montreal, and spend it on improvements and you would require to borrow no money to make it the most beautiful and best kept city on the continent.

The preacher's peroration was devoted to an earnest appeal to the congregation to think of the number of drunkards in the world who stagger into a drunkard's grave every year; to think of their unhappy wives and wretched children. The sermon was concluded with a description of the condition of things in the world should we ever have the happiness to be rid of this terrible curse.

A GOOD CITIZEN.

Another instance of Mark Twain's practice of good citizenship is given by a Chicago newspaper:

Just before Mark Twain sailed for Europe five years ago he entered a formal complaint to the officers of one of the street corporations here against a conductor for using insolent and profane language, and at that time Twain said that, as for himself he could have put up with the abuse, but he thought the American people were too patient, too easy, too neglectful of their rights, and that he had, therefore, a public duty to perform in that case. His complaint led not only to the discipline of the offending conductor, but to a marked decrease in roughness of speech and action on the part of street-car conductors.

BRITISH NEWS.

ENGLISH.

News has reached London of the sudden death of the Rev. E. W. Stenson, at Stukley Vicarage, Bedfordshire. The deceased went to South Africa as a military officer in the war of 1851, and at the close of hostilities took holy orders. He was appointed first Vicar of Mafeking.

Sex is no bar to the professional life in the Fen country. The grave-digger of Crowland, who is also the custodian of Crowland Abbey, having recently relinquished both his life and his office, the local vestry has appointed his sister to succeed him. The sextonship has been in the same family for 200 years.

The Isle of Man, like the soldier in Jacques's familiar speech, is 'full of strange oaths.' Mr. Shee, Q.C., before beginning his judicial duties as special commissioner in connection with the Dumbell case, was required to swear that he would administer justice as impartially 'as the herring's backbone doth lie in the middle of the fish.'

Of the late Sir Arthur Sullivan's charitable doings many instances are forthcoming. One secretary of a Sunday school in a poor Westminster district relates that he risked a penny stamp on an appeal to Sir Arthur for a subscription to the school's annual day in the country. There was no special claim on the musician, but the latter sent half a guinea, and thereafter never forgot to repeat the gift year by year.

A worthy School Board candidate, seeking re-election for the united district of Bishop's Castle, makes a novel claim on the support of the electors: 'Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have again been nominated as a candidate for re-election on your School Board. I have attended every meeting during the last three years (and always sober). . . . .'—'Truth.'

A remarkable occurrence took place recently during a stag hunt which started at Pentraeth, Anglesey. The stag ran for several miles in the direction of Menai Bridge, the hounds being close behind. Close to the Menai Suspension Bridge, the animal jumped into the water, and despite the strong tide flowing at the time, it reached the Carnarvonshire side in safety. The hounds then crossed the Suspension Bridge, but they failed to trace the stag.

A memorial tablet to the late Major-General A. G. Wauchope and the officers and men of the Second Battalion Black Watch, who fell at Magersfontein on Dec. 11, 1899, has been erected in the Presbyterian Church at York, where the deceased officer and his regiment worshipped during their stay in the city between the autumn of 1896 and the early part of 1898. The tablet is of white Carrara marble, on a black ground. The crest of the regiment in colors surmounts the design, which consists of a sword, a bugle, and colors, with a scroll bearing the words 'South Africa.' There is an inscription setting forth the reason for its erection.

On March 31, 1901, enumerators will begin taking the census of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. The schedule of statistics will be uniform, except that Ireland will have a religious census and the rest of the kingdom will not. England and Wales have been parcelled out into 40,000 districts, 6,000 more than in 1891. In 1891 England and Wales were shown to contain 29,002,525 inhabitants; Scotland, 4,025,647; and Ireland, 4,704,750 (only about 200,000 less than the number of inhabitants of the County of London), giving a total of 37,732,922. According to the Registrar-General's estimate, the population of England and Wales at present amounts to 32,091,907; Scotland, 4,313,993, and Ireland, 4,515,471 representing an aggregate population of 40,921,371. It will be noticed that the official estimates show a falling off in Ireland and an increase in the other divisions.

Some interesting details are given in the 'Chronicle' concerning the recent reception by the Queen of two nuns, Mother Teresa and Sister Evangeline, who nursed the sick and wounded soldiers at Mafeking. Her Majesty, we are told, who was accompanied by the Princess Henry of Battenberg, put a variety of questions as to the experiences of the sisters during the siege. 'You are both English?' was one of her inquiries, and the answer, 'Oh, no, Your Majesty, we are both Irish,' delighted her greatly. She laughed heartily, no doubt at the naturalness of the reply. She was concerned about the risks of the bombardment, which the nuns had to run, saying once, 'Oh, that was dreadful.' Again, she showed deep emotion when a sympathetic allusion was made to the death of Prince Christian Victor. The audience being ended, Her Majesty once more held out her hand to be kissed by the visitors. The nuns (belonging to the Community of Nuns), of whom there are eight, with Mother Teresa at their head, were given the opportunity of leaving before the siege began. They decided, without a moment's thought, to remain at the post of duty, and the rest we know.

IRISH.

Many people expect that the advent of Mr. Wyndham on Irish scenes is likely to be followed by a much more vigorous treatment of the United Irish League than when his predecessor, Mr. Gerald Balfour, held the office of Chief Secretary.

Belfast is greatly elated over the intended visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to lay the foundation stone of the Royal Victoria Hospital. The exact date is not yet fixed, but their Royal Highnesses will be the guests of the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry at Mount Stewart. They will probably pay a visit to the great ship-building yards of Messrs. Harland & Wolff. A grand ball will be given either in the Ulster Hall or the County Court House.

The salaries attached to the members of the Cabinet holding office in Ireland are very respectable, to say the least of them. For instance, the best paid of all the ministers is the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, who receives £20,000 per annum, but in the case of the 'vice-king' it is not nearly enough to cover the expenses of the post. The Irish Lord Chancellor is better off with £8,000 a year and the Chief Secretary for Ireland cannot complain with £4,425, and a lovely residence in the Phoenix Park.

A case of interest to farmers generally has just been decided by Judge Wightman Wood in the Grantham county court. An action was brought by a farmer to recover the value of a heifer which had died from yew poisoning, the result of eating hedge trimmings left on the road by the defendant. The judge held that the defendant had no right to put these trimmings on the highway, and if he did he was responsible for any damage which resulted. Judgment was entered for plaintiff with costs.

The village of Dunfanaghy, in Donegal, according to an English paper, is the only town in the United Kingdom lit with acetylene gas. It is stated that when a local land agent was retiring, the villagers desired to make him a presentation to mark the treatment they had received at his hands. When asked what form he wished the offering to take, his desire was for the place to be lit with acetylene gas. So Dunfanaghy can now set an example to many towns in municipal lighting, and demonstrates that in Donegal there is more enterprise than has been imagined.

BEE STINGS CURED HIS RHEUMATISM.

Mr. George L. Hart, a member of the Worcester County (Mass.) Beekeepers' Association, is confident that he has discovered a specific for rheumatism in the sting of the common honey-bee. He says:

'I know what I am talking about when I say there is no medicine on earth like the sting of a bee. It is more than twenty-five years since I found out what a blessing to suffering mankind the bee sting can be, and for twenty-five years I have been an almost constant patient of my little physicians.

'I was taken with rheumatism in the wrist one day and though I was in pain, I went from home and visited a man who had a couple of colonies on his place. It was swarming time, and the little fellows were not in the best of humor. I was a stranger, and they resented my presence in a way I shall never forget. My face was covered; but when one fellow got on my hand the others came in a cluster and they dug in hard and deep. I was a pretty sight. Both hands swelled to twice their size, but when the pain of the bees' stings died away, I noticed that the rheumatism was gone. It didn't come back for a good while, and it at last struck me that perhaps the bees had something to do with it.

'I thought it was worth an experiment, and the next time I had a bad attack of rheumatism I went over to my neighbor's and allowed myself to be stung in the same way again.

'When the thing worked a second time I labelled it in my mind a cure. I bought a colony for myself, and from that day to this I have never been without them.

'I use the greatest care when I take my medicine. I cover my face up with the ordinary beekeeper's veil. It is not that I would object to a sting there any more than I would in any other part of the body, but I would not care to be stung on the lips and have a swollen mouth, and a sting in the eye might blind me, while one immediately near would, I suppose, swell me up so that for a time I could not see. So I take the stings always on my hands, where the swelling is little, and the discomfort and inconvenience are nothing.

'I not only have the proof that bees' stings have done me good, but I have the absolute proof that they are necessary to me to keep me from rheumatism. I tested this. Some years ago I began to put some belief in the talk of my neighbors, that perhaps I was doing something unnecessary, and that I might be taking my medicine and having a cure all to myself, when there was not a trace of rheumatism in me. Everything went along all right for a year, but in the second the old twinges came back. I paid little attention to this till I was laid up once more, and began to suffer as I had in the years before I made my discovery.

'There was only one thing to do, and I did it. I tried the old cure and it fixed me up in a short time, just as it did before. You may depend upon it that I have never neglected my bees and bee stings since.'

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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WEEK OF PRAYER.

ARRANGEMENT OF TOPICS SUGGESTED BY EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

Following are the topics suggested by the Evangelical Alliance, with special reference to the opening of the new century, for the week of prayer, Jan. 6 to 12, 1901:

Sunday, Jan. 6—Texts for sermons, Ps., xxvii., 14; Matt. xxviii., 19-20.

Monday, Jan. 7.—The Church Universal. Praise for the love of God in Christ and the gift of the Holy Ghost. Confession of slothfulness and worldliness amongst Christians; failure of faithful witnessing for Christ. Prayer, for clearer views of truth amongst all ministers, teachers and evangelists; for more consecration and zeal in soul-winning; for recognition of the unity of all believers. Ps. cxxxix., 1-12; cxlv., 1-13; Eph. i., 3-12; Col. i., 9-20; II. Pt., iii., 11-14.

Tuesday, Jan. 8.—Our Own Land. Confession of national sins; praise for national mercies; prayer for the revival of family religion and the preservation of the young; for schools and colleges; for the special blessing of the Holy Ghost in the work of all the churches and for those in authority. Ps. xxxiii., 12; cxliv., 15; Rom. xiii., 1-7; I. Tim. ii., 1-8.

Wednesday, Jan. 9.—Other Nations. Praise, for the extension of the Gospel, for the wide circulation of the Word of God, and the recognition of the oneness of true believers.

Prayer, for righteous government, liberty, peace, for the power of the Holy Ghost in all Christian churches; for the founding and growth of evangelical churches in all lands. John xvii., 13-26; Eph. iii., 14-21.

Thursday, Jan. 10.—Heathen Lands. Confession of past neglect in evangelization of those in spiritual darkness. Praise for the opening of the world to missionary enterprise, for a revived interest in foreign missions, especially in colleges and universities. Prayer, for a truer missionary spirit in all the churches; for an increase of spiritual life among missionaries and native Christians; for the blessings of the Holy Spirit in all foreign mission work. Is. lv.; Ps., xcviii.; Acts i., 6-11; Rom. i, 18-32.

Friday, Jan. 11.— The Mohammedan World. Confession of past neglect. Praise for the blessings to workers and converts in Persia, India and Palestine. Prayer for Mohamemdans throughout the world; for all Christians and missionaries in Mohammedan countries. Ps. ii.; Rom. x., 4-15; I. Pt. ii., 1-12.

Saturday, Jan. 12.—The Jews. Confession of apathy and neglect in the past of the false presentation of the Lord Jesus Christ. Praise for the awakening interest, for converts and open doors. Prayer that Christians may take a deeper interest in Israel's spiritual good; for all Jewish missions and missionaries; that Hebrew Christians may stand fast and that God's designs, as to the Jews, may be accomplished. Is. lxii.; Luke xi., 35; Rom. xi., 5, 25-36; Titus ii., 12-15.

Christians of all denominations are affectionately requested to observe this first week of the new century as one of special and united prayer for the outpouring of God's spirit upon all flesh. It is also recommended, by the executive of the Montreal branch of the Evangelical Alliance, that, where deemed advisable, the week of prayer shall be followed by united evangelistic services.

HOME DEPARTMENT

THE KNIGHT OF CASTLE CHRISTMAS

Games for Festive Evenings---A Lesson for the Year-Seasonable Recipes.

THE KNIGHT OF CASTLE CHRISTMAS.

BEING ONE OF THE 'LATER LOVE LETTERS OF A MUSICIAN,' BY MYRTLE REED.

The day of days, My Lady—and I away from you? It does not seem possible! The dear memories of a fivefold happiness cluster round my heart and make me realize my loneliness to-day. But it is only for a little while now.

The air is filled with music and rejoicing when the Knight of Castle Christmas takes the world by storm. The light of stained glass windows shed its radiance afar upon the snow, and distant voices blend with the rhythm of the bells.

The ever-living green of the forest bends with unaccustomed bloom, and pearls and rubies shine amid the depths of mistletoe and holly. The beat of hidden strings and the tap of light feet, the melody of childish voices and the sounds of laughter, echo back from the stillness in reverberant joy.

For the Knight of Castle Christmas has come back again. With arched neck and fiery breath, his white charger bears him on with the swiftness of the wind. The holly gleams anew, and his silver spurs set the depths of ice alight with crystalline flame.

His lance is aimed at Selfishness and Pride, and Envy hides in its own darkness when his sword flashes from its scabbard.

Chivalry is not dead nor dying. A woman may make a knight of the man who loves her, if she only will.

For I, my Queen, have won your token since the day I first looked into your eyes. With your gage in my hand, and your love in my heart, there is no knightly thing I could not do. White as the driven snow your colors are, and I have tried to keep them above the dust and to carry them back to you unstained.

For no reward of knighthood is so precious as this—to keep a woman's trust untarnished and in the answering light of her eyes behold a new heaven of belief.

See how the Knight of Castle Christmas awakes the world. Hatred dies, malice is forgotten, and distrust is dead. The discords of life are resolved into harmony, and the spirit of giving sets the soul alight with generous fire.

In the frosty heavens shine the midnight stars. Long ago they sang together, but the music has been lost, and to-night, from the round earth, comes the melody of the Christmas song.

The leafless trees in the forest are awake with wonder. The lofty pines, that rear cathedral spires against the white hills, are listening, too, but they know and understand.

Thin, childish voices swell the cadence to a higher key. The words are all the same—in the palace of the king or in the little hut in the wilderness.

Christmas, and I away from you! But the memory of your sweetness is ever in my heart, and I should choose for my gift above all things to see you again.

Oh, best loved face in the world, the days pass by on leaden wings when only in memory your dear eyes shine for me. Though by the calendar it is not long, by the heart it is a century. But you and I will be together once more—you and I and our little Springtime Gift—when the Knight of Castle Christmas comes again.

FOR FESTIVE EVENINGS.

UNIQUE DINNER PARTY.

At a recent entertainment, which was both novel and original, the guests were requested to represent in some manner, their birth month.

Most of them wore the birth stone suitable to the month which, as old legend tells is, is sure to protect against misfortune, the jewel acting as a talisman.

A few substituted flowers appropriate to their birth month. One young lady, whose birthday was in January, wore a string of tiny silver beads, which tinkled wherever she went. Another, claiming January also, as her birth month, wore a brooch, showing an old man and an infant, representing the old and new year.

February's children were decked in red paper hearts, pierced with arrows.

Many puzzled their brains over a young girl wearing a white apron, with several bars of music on the hem, until one discovered it to be a March.

April was represented by a paper fool's cap, and May by a pretty spring gown, decorated with violets and lilies of the valley.

It was an easy matter to guess July, with her tri-colored streamers and numerous flags.

August wore a white organdy and carried a palm leaf fan.

September was adorned with golden rod and purple asters.

October's daughter wore a rich yellow gown, nearly covered with glorious autumn leaves, and on her head perched a cap of the same brilliant leaves.

November's costume was most striking, being a poster design, representing Thanksgiving.

December's was a picturesque suit of white elder down flannel, ornamented with holly berries and running pine.

A BOOK PARTY.

The librarian of one of the large institutes in Philadelphia verbally invited the students of the Library School to an informal 'at home,' adding, 'Please come as books.' On the evening designated the drawing-room was made to look very literary. Across one corner of the room the hostess had strung a line, upon which large, grey cards, similar to those used for mounting photographs were hung. On these cards were arranged pictures, each one of which represented the title of a book.

Among the pictures one of the 'Chased' Huntress, and the words 'scales crossed' became 'Diana of the Crossways.' An advertisement of kitchen ware, flatirons, iron spoons and forks made 'Life's Little Ironies.' 'Far from the Madding Crowd' was represented by two persons in a balloon.

Upon one card were written the names of Washington, Jefferson, Madison and Harrison, representing 'The Virginians.' On another the names of Baroness Burdett-Coutts and Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett suggested 'The Amazing Marriage.'

One girl carried a volume of Shakespeare from which hung simulated tails. She, of course, was Lamb's 'Tales from Shakespeare.' A portrait of the Queen of England, made the wearer 'A Lady of Quality.' A large silver 'N' and 'E' on each side of another girl's bodice was Fiske's 'Beginnings of New England.'

'Por' is the library catalogue abbreviation for portrait. One girl wore this cut out of white paper, and pinned to the velvet bows of her bodice, and 'The Portrait of a Lady' was the result. Another girl had a number of cards, visiting cards in size, on each side of which were pasted pictures, of men, boys and boy babies of these and past days. These cards were strung together with black ribbon and hung down the side of her gown. Everything was guessed, 'All Sorts and Conditions of Men,' being the most popular, but the book really represented was 'Hymns Ancient and Modern.'

One girl came without any evidence of a book, and was, of course, 'In Silk Attire.' Over the shoulders of another were strings upon which were catalogue cards, sheets, and all the paraphenalia of a library assistant; it was 'The Day's Work.'

Other than this the evening was the same as all others, except more entertaining perhaps, as it left the hostess more time to enjoy her guests and to be enjoyed, as each one of her guests had unconsciously become an entertainer.

LEFT-HANDED.

Have you heard of a left-handed party? Guests are requested to come with their right hand securely bound up. They must register their names, play the piano, make all gestures, and eat with the assistance of the left hand.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS

MUFFINS.

The following muffin recipes are given in answer to the request of Mrs. J. H.

Warm a pint of new milk, add to a tablespoonful of fresh yeast, a pinch of salt, the white of two eggs, frothed, and a little lump of saleratus, the size of a pea, dissolved in warm water. Put these ingredients into a bowl, and add sufficient flour to make a soft dough. Put it in a warm place to rise for two or three hours, being careful to cover the bowl. Take out on the end of a spoon enough dough for one muffin at a time. Drop it on a floured board, and shake it until it is the proper form. Let the muffins rise again, then place carefully on a hot plate, previously oiled; when one side is slightly browned, turn on the other. When done, divide the edge of the muffin all round with the thumb and finger; toast it gently, first on one side, then on the other, pull it open, place two or three lumps of butter between; cut into quarters, and send hot to the table. It will take about twenty minutes to bake properly.

English Muffins.—Make up one quart of flour with cold water as soft as you can handle it; put in a teaspoonful of salt and a tablespoon of yeast and set it in a moderately warm place. In the morning beat up the white of an egg to a stiff froth, put it in the mixture and beat it well with a spoon. Bake in large muffin rings.

General Rule for Muffins.—Sift together one cup, each, of meal and flour, or two of flour, half a teaspoonful of salt, three and one-half level teaspoonfuls of baking-powder, and from two tablespoonfuls to half a cup of sugar. Beat an egg until light without separating, add one cup of milk, stir at once into the dry ingredients. Add also from one tablespoonful to one-fourth a cup of melted butter; beat thoroughly and bake about twenty-five minutes in a hot, well-buttered muffin or gem pan.

POOR MAN'S PLUM PUDDING.

A friend in Woodbridge kindly sends the recipe recently asked for:—One lb. of each of the following: Seeded raisins, well washed currants, finely chopped suet, flour, red carrots and potatoes which have been boiled and mashed through a collander, ½ lb. brown sugar, ½ lb. molasses and candied peel, put into well greased dishes and steam for from 8 to 9 hours. If large sized dishes are used the pudding will keep for three months if put in a cool cellar.

NOT ALL AT ONCE.

A LESSON FOR THE YEAR.

Not all at once, but day by day
Our debt of gratitude we pay
To Him whose care for us exceeds
Our knowledge of our daily needs.
As sun and showers
Enrich the flowers
That bud and bloom in yonder vale,
Nor dream it ill
To drink their fill
Of fragrant incense they inhale:
So we who gather good receive
That we more noble lives may live,
As sweet acknowledgments may pay,
Not all at once—but day by day.

Not all at once may we attain
To any good we hope to gain,
Nor soar by rapid eager flights
From darkest depth to sunnier heights.
The little rills
That skirt the hills
And breathe a trembling melody,
May join ere long
The solemn song,
The anthem of the sounding sea.
Through dark ravine, down mountain slope,
Through all the labyrinths of hope,
They journey on their devious way,
And gather courage day by day.

Not all at once does heaven appear
To those who watch with vision clear,
And eager longing to behold
Its pearly gates and streets of gold.
But from the wheel
Of life we reel
The silken thread so finely spun,
Through light and gloom,
Nor leave the loom
Till death declares our task is done.
And if the heart with love be filled,
And if the soul with joy be thrilled,
Then heaven will shine upon our way,
Not all at once—but day by day.

—Josephine Pollard in the 'Fireside.'

Selected Recipes

CHRISTMAS DESSERT.

With Christmas dessert it is well to have a surprise pie. Fill a large tin or earthen pan with small presents, preferably things inexpensive, funny or absurd, and cover the whole with tissue paper pasted tight over the edges. To each present is attached a white cord, the end of which emerges through a slit for that purpose. If the presents are odd and inexpensive for the various members of the family and guests, the strings may be pulled at random by each person at the table, as the surprise pie is passed around.

Where no Christmas tree is set up for bearing its joyous load of presentation fruit, the pie may contain gifts to the attaching cords of which are fastened cards bearing the names of respective recipients. Especially is this pie enjoyed by the youthful members of the family.

Lemon Drops.—Grate the rind of two lemons, and cut the middle very fine, discarding the thick white part. Add one cup of sugar, one-half cup of butter, two eggs, a small pinch of soda, and flour to make a stiff batter. Drop it in large balls on a buttered tin and bake twenty minutes. Serve with lemon sauce.

Christmas White Cakes.—Three whole eggs and four yolks, with one pound of sugar, stir for thirty minutes. Add enough flour to make a stiff dough. Lay on a baking tin with a spoon. Favor with vanilla or lemon.

Caramelled Candies.—Caramelled candies are those which are dipped into syrup, boiled to the caramel degree; warm your nuts or fruit before dipping, and be very quick in doing so. Caramel candy can be only warmed twice, for it will harden or break the third time. For your syrup use two pounds of sugar, with half a pint of water; boil five minutes, and then add half a cup of vinegar; let the whole boil until it hardens at once when dropped into cold water. Then take the pot from the fire at once; drop your fruit or nuts into the syrup, using a prong fork to take them out and lay them on an oiled tin, which must be ready when you dip the fruit. When the syrup gets stiff, warm it, but do not boil it, and do not stir it or it will not remain clear, but become white and opaque. This mixture, when made of almonds or chopped nuts, is called nougat. Almonds should be 'blanched'—that is to say, dipped into boiling water, to remove the skin; dry them thoroughly before using them for candy. Walnuts may be halved and dipped in syrup, or oranges may be sliced or divided into sections, and then dipped into the liquid.

Cherry Cups.—Stir together and sift a pint of flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and half a teaspoonful of salt. Make it into a soft dough with some water. Having buttered some large cups, drop into each a little dough for a foundation, then a tablespoonful of stoned cherries, covering with dough to half fill the cups. Place them in a pan of hot water, set that in the oven, cover it and steam it for half an hour. Cherry sauce or sweet cream may be used as a dressing.

Christmas Orange Cake—Two-thirds cup of butter, two small cups of sugar, one cup of sweet milk, three teaspoonfuls of baking powder, the yolks of five eggs, three small cups of flour sifted with the baking powder. Stir all together five minutes. Add two tablespoonfuls of hot water, and stir again; bake in jelly cake tins. Filling: Whites of three eggs beaten to a stiff froth, juice and grated peel of one orange, sugar to sweeten. Put this between the layers, with white frosting for the top.

Salted Nuts.—Almost everyone knows how to prepare the popular salted almonds, but few realize that the pecan, hazlenut, peanut, and in fact nearly all nuts may be prepared in the same manner. To blanch almonds and filberts throw them into boiling water for a few moments and then turn cold water over them and the skin should rub off readily.

Put the nuts in a moderate oven on a bright tin plate, with a small piece of butter, just enough to make the nuts shine when they are well shaken over it. Shake them frequently until they are a light and even brown, then take out, sprinkle fine salt over them, and set them aside to cool.

MOTHER'S METHODS

The quiet child is usually the 'good' one who dies young. He does not die because he is 'good,' but because he is quiet.—'Health Culture.'

Boys' Pockets.—Denim is a good material for a boy's pockets, as it does not easily wear out. Many mothers reinforce the pocket with an outside covering of the denim, making it double, and lessening the chance of its miscellaneous contents being lost through wearing it into holes.—'Ladies' Home Journal.'

A common disease of the eye is granular eyelids, or inflammation of the mucous membrane, covering the eyeball and lids. We now know that the trouble is contagious, and may be spread from one person to another. A child who suffers from it should have his own wash basin, soap, towels, napkins and handkerchiefs. He should sleep alone and be prevented from coming into close contact with others until the discharge from the eye ceases. Prompt treatment may prevent the disease from becoming chronic.—'Congregationalist.'

No matter how tiny the child, how unskilful his fingers, how common or valueless his working materials, these facts should never be permitted to dwell in his remembrance. From the very beginning he should be impressed with the idea that he is neither too small nor too untaught to be capable of good work—that nothing is too cheap or too common to be glorified by cheerful endeavor.—'Designer.'

The excellent health of the Queen is in no small degree due to the very simple diet and daily exercise in the fresh air to which she has always adhered from her early childhood, when the Duchess of Kent took care that the little Princess Victoria should be brought up on the plainest food and take the breath of life in pure air.—'The Sketch.'

One does not need to be a very profound student of play to discover that play is not the doing of easy things, as some have supposed. The amount of energy put into hunting, fishing, skating, bicycling, ball playing, solving puzzles, and playing of checkers, chess, etc., proves to the most casual observer that play is not always easy. Closer observers readily discover the truth that the charm of many plays depends upon their difficulty.—'Babyhood.'

REMEDY FOR BURNS.

A burn caused by a hot iron will cease to pain almost immediately if baking soda slightly moistened is put on. A scald or burn, if the skin is not broken, can be cured by placing the burnt part in strong soda water.

A LESSON IN TABLE MANNERS.

In these enlightened days, when Mother Goose, and nonsense songs are frowned on, it will probably be considered rank heresy to advocate the use of such rhymes as moral teachers. The writer has no doubt, however, that a verse like 'The Goops' in the November 'St. Nicholas' would be more efficacious than fifty ordinary instructions in teaching children table manners. Slang phrases, too, may be a remedy worse than the disease, but a round-shouldered boy has straightened perceptibly under the influence of 'Throw out your chest, the ice man's coming.'

'The Goops they lick their fingers,
And the Goops they lick their knives;
They spill their broth on the tablecloth—
Oh, they lead untidy lives!

'The Goops they talk while eating,
And loud and fast they chew.
So this is why I am glad that I
Am not a Goop. Are you?'

—'Congregationalist.'

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

Sir George White was so pleased with the work of the Salvation Army during the siege of Ladysmith that he has given leave to the soldiers connected with the Salvation Army now stationed at Gibraltar to play their instruments and sing in the open air.

It is commonly thought,' says the 'Episcopal Recorder,' that Eliot's translation of the Bible is now a sealed book, from the fact that the Algonquins, for whose benefit the apostle labored, have been long extinct. But Mr. John Fiske, in an address delivered at Middletown last summer, and republished in the 'Atlantic' for December, asserts that the language is perfectly understood by the Ojibways, of Lake Superior, proving the wide distribution of the once great Algonquin nation, and the general use of its tongue.

An attempt to enforce the prohibitory laws in Maine is apparent, such as has not been witnessed before for a long time. While not affecting all sections alike, its influence is so extended that it may be called epidemic. The cause cannot be far separated from the recent state election. Of the sheriff nominees of the regular parties the Republicans fell nearly 7,000 votes and the Democrats about 1,800 behind their respective nominees for governor. This independent vote of nearly 9,000 is the handwriting on the wall seen by Maine's astute political managers. A power for righteousness that has been quietly breaking up the ground and sowing the seed is the Christian Civic League, a non-partisan and non-denominational organization, which has existed about three years, but has had a paid executive officer in the field but about a year and a half. Its first aim has been to 'educate the people in all that pertains to good citizenship.'

At a recent Woman's Board prayer meeting in Boston Miss Newton, of Foochow, gave Miss Garretson's latest word from that field. It sent a shiver through the audience to hear that in July the Dowager Empress sent an order to Foochow to kill all the foreigners. Two Chinese officials, foreseeing that the carrying out of such an order would bring gunboats to the scene of such disaster and would, moreover, prove a great detriment to the commercial interests of the empire, ventured, at the risk of their own lives, to change the order from 'kill' to 'protect,' and so this wanton cruelty, with its train of sorrow, was averted. It was probably the rumor of some such order, not known in Foochow till later, which caused the destruction of property at Shaowu, about that time. In Foochow not a hair of one's head has been harmed, and the work of the missionaries goes on. Even women are offering themselves for admission to the church, and these not only simply from the lowest classes. Miss Newton said, with emphasis: 'There is nothing in the way of your pushing the work in Foochow, except lack of men and women and money.'

A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR CHINA.

(Dr. Griffith John, in the 'Christian World.')

Looking at the interior of China from a missionary point of view, it presents at this moment a most heartrending spectacle. I find it difficult to think of it without shedding the bitter tear. Think of ten provinces, to say nothing of Manchuria, having been swept clean of all its missions and missionaries! Think of the denuded condition of all the other provinces! Think of the work as being at a standstill everywhere, with the exception of a few centres along the seacoast and the Yangtse Valley! Think of the converts as being hunted, plundered and murdered all over the land! Think of hundreds, nay, thousands of churches and chapels as being burned to ashes or levelled with the ground! And think of all this as having taken place within the short space of four months! It is almost incredible, and yet it is true. The Dowager Empress has succeeded wonderfully; but, thank God, she has not succeeded to the extent of her evil intentions. Had her wicked decrees been carried out, every foreigner in China would have been dead before this, and all the native Christians would have been massacred or compelled to recant. Her measures were not half-measures; they were radical, thorough and relentless. The missionaries owe it to God's mercy that they themselves and their work have not been utterly consumed by the insatiable wrath of that unscrupulous woman.

But we have not been consumed and the work has not been consumed. I believe that all that has transpired will be made conducive to the furtherance of Christ's kingdom in this land. I believe that there is to be a new China, and I believe that the agonies through which China is now passing are mere throes preceding the new birth. The new China will be a very different one from the old. It will be all athirst for western love and western methods. The Chinese will turn to the west for instruction and guidance as they have never done before. There will be a full an

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complete opening of the Empire to foreign intercourse. Mines will be opened and, in the language of H. E. Chang Chih-tung, railways will interlace the Empire like spider-webs. And, above all, the hitherto closed doors will be thrown open to the gospel, the hearts of the people will be better prepared than ever for the reception of the truth as it is in Jesus, and the demand for Christian literature will continue to grow as the years roll on. I do not take a discouraging view of the present situation. We are on the eve of a new day, and a brighter day than the people of China have ever known. This has been a dark hour, but the darkest hour is just before the dawn.

A friend writes me from home to say that a gentleman had just called on him to ask him if it was not his opinion that the troubles in China would effectively prevent the resumption of mission work in China for a very long time to come. What a strange question to put! Think of any one asking if these troubles are not likely to effectively prevent the resumption of trade for a long time to come! Missionaries resume their work? Of course they will resume their work, and will do so with as little delay as possible. I am hoping that within a very short time most of the mission stations will be reoccupied, and that before a very long time all will be in full working order.

My friend adds the remark that it would really seem as if many people had got the idea that the government should step in and forbid missionaries to enter China again. The 'many people' spoken of by my friend are, I suppose, Christian people, friends of missions. They feel, I imagine, that mission work in China is carried on at too great a risk, and that the sacrifice of so many lives in the cause of Christ on behalf of China is too costly. What about the thousands of lives sacrificed on the battle-field in South Africa in the cause of the Queen and on behalf of the Empire? What would the Christian Church in Europe have been without her confessors and martyrs? Was it to be expected that the conquest of China would be achieved without the cross and the crown of thorns? Was there not a needs be for this terrible baptism of blood and fire with which the native Church in China is being baptized? One thing is certain—namely, that we shall have in China, as the result of this fiery trial, a much purer, stronger and nobler Church than we had before. We shall have also a Church better qualified for witness-bearing than we had before. 'All your converts are rice Christians.' That is a remark often made by the heathen Chinese. It will be more difficult for them to look upon the converts in that light after the splendid proofs of their sincerity which they have given, and are giving, in the midst of these dire persecutions. 'Are there any genuine converts in China?' That is a question often put to the missionary by his fellow-countrymen, both here and at home. I don't see how that question can ever be asked again by any intelligent, honest-minded man. Thousands of our converts have suffered the loss of all things rather than deny the faith, and thousands have faced death in its most cruel forms rather than deny the Lord that bought them. Yes, the Church in China can stand up to-day before the whole world, Christian and heathen, and say, 'From henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear branded on my body the marks of Jesus.'

DEATH OF DR. GODET.

Switzerland has lost its 'grand old man.' In his home at Neuchatel, at the patriarchal age of eighty-eight, the venerable Dr. Frederic Godet, doyen of Continental Protestant theologians, and for a large part of the century a foremost figure in Swiss religious and national life, passed away. Since his return from his summer holiday, which he had spent near Thun, Dr. Godet had been suffering from severe neuralgic pains, and had become sensibly weaker. His intellectual power, however, was in nowise impaired by the physical exhaustion, and he worked to the last at his 'Introduction to the New Testament' and at the fourth edition of his Commentary on St. John. The end, as his son, Prof. Georges Godet, informs us, was 'perfect peace.' Born at Neuchatel in 1812, the son of a barrister who died young, Frederic Godet was educated first by his mother, studied classics at the Academy of his native town, and then, having determined on the Christian ministry as his career, went to Germany for his theological training. At the Universities of Berlin and Bonn he had amongst his teachers Hengstenberg and Tholuck, and, above all, the great Neander. He was ordained in 1836, but between that event and the taking up of definite pastoral work there came an interim period which was not the least interesting feature of his career. His high character and abilities had brought him to the notice of the Prussian court, and he was appointed as tutor to Prince Frederic William of Prussia, future Emperor Frederic III., with whom, as well as with the Empress Augusta and other members of the imperial family, there were formed ties of greatest esteem and affection which were maintained to the end. The tutorship lasted till 1844, when the young pastor took up church work in his native town. In 1850 he was elected Professor of Theology, Exegesis and New Testament Criticism in the Neuchatel Theological College. He worked in his professorship till his retirement in 1887, combining with it pastoral duty for the greater part of the period. In 1873, he was the leading figure in the great disruption controversy which rent Protestantism in twain in the Canton, occupying in this very much the position which Dr. Chalmers took in the similar movement in Scotland in 1843. As in Scotland, so in Switzerland, the question was fundamentally one of Evangelicalism versus Rationalism. Prof. Godet, like Alexander Vinet, was a child of the evangelical revival which took place in Switzerland in the earlier part of the century, and his action in 1873 was a protest and revolt against the attempt to enthrone what was regarded as scepticism in the National Church by the vote of irreligious outsiders. Like Chalmers, he led a great secession, and was virtually the founder of the Eglise Independante. He was the founder also of many charitable institutions in the Canton, and took a leading part in the Continent in forming the International Sunday Rest Association. As a religious thinker, Dr. Godet's is to-day perhaps one of the best-known names in Europe and America. His commentaries on the Gospels of John and Luke, and on the Epistles to the Romans and the Corinthians, have become classics of New Testament exposition. His 'Biblical Studies,' less known, perhaps, amongst English-speaking readers, are of the highest order of devotional writing. He was the editor also of the 'Annotated Bible,' a popular commentary on the Old Testament, which, to his joy, he just lived to see completed. His 'Introduction to the New Testament,' the monumental work at which he was laboring with untiring energy to the last, is left unfinished. It is to us specially interesting in this connection to note that the last piece of work appearing from him in English was his contribution to the symposium on the Atonement which recently appeared in our columns and has since been published as a volume by Messrs. Clarke & Co.

Dr. Godet, who received degrees in divinity both at Basle and at Edinburgh, was distinguished in appearance, with features that closely resembled Mr. Gladstone's. He was brilliant as a conversationalist, and his manner, in its old-fashioned and somewhat stately courtesy, had in it a flavor of the aristocratic and royal circles in which in earlier years he had been accustomed to move. It was impossible to know him without realizing the depth and fervor of his religious life. Passionately attached to that evangelical faith which every line of his works reveals he was at the farthest remove from narrownes or bigotry. The breadth and range of his studies gave him the widest mental outlook, and to the end he was in the fullest 'rapport' with all the intellectual movements of the time. His death removes one of Switzerland's noblest figures, and leaves the whole world of Christian belief and life the poorer.—'Christian World.'

WAR ON IMPURE LITERATURE.

('Christian Herald.')

There are few men in New York, or indeed anywhere in the Union, who are better known than Anthony Comstock, president of the Society for the Suppression of Vice. This society, which has accomplished inestimable service in the protection of the youth of the nation, by hunting out and prosecuting disseminators of vile literature, is now to be placed upon a firm and permanent basis. It is proposed to celebrate its thirtieth anniversary by raising a fund before March 2, 1902, and all who have the welfare of the children and the protection of their moral purity, at heart have been invited to contribute.

During those thirty years of active duty on the moral 'firing line,' Mr. Comstock and his associates have had many remarkable experiences. Intimidated, assaulted with knife and fist, shot at, arrested, maligned, and in a thousand other ways obstructed in the performance of duty, they have not wavered, but pressed the warfare against vice and immorality. Since March 2, 1872, 2,450 arrests have been made by the society, and more than 156,000 pounds (or 78 tons) of vile literature and contraband matter have been seized or destroyed. The disseminators of such things as destroy both the body and soul of the young have been traced, tried, convicted and placed behind prison bars.

The work of the society has led it into schools and academies, in the effort to trace the circulators and the source of bad books. A letter by mail sent to a minister's daughter, a student in one of the New York State Normal schools, led the society's officers to an academy of over 140 boys, among whom they discovered and arrested the sender. Following up the case, they arrested a man at Hurleyville, N.Y., and seized over 12,000 books, pictures and circulars in his possession. The same afternoon, a mail contractor was arrested, and about the same quantity of books and prints found in his home. Shortly afterward, two men were arrested at Lancaster, Pa., with 16,000 contraband books and over 3,000 pictures in their possession. These are only a few of hundreds of such cases, typical of the energy, fidelity and work of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice.

THE JEWS IN NEW YORK.

The attempt to colonize Jewish immigrants had two objects: to relieve the man and to drain the Ghetto. In this last it failed. In eighteen years 1,209 families have been moved out. In the five months from October to March last 12,000 came to stay in New York city. The number of immigrant Jews during these months was 15,233, of whom only 3,881 went farther. The population of the Ghetto reaches already 250,000. It was like trying to bail out the ocean. Within a year the projectors of Woodbine have taken the bull squarely by the horns with a proposition to reverse the programme entirely. Instead of arguing with unwilling employers to take the step they dread, they are trying to persuade manufacturers to move out of the city, depending upon the workers to follow their work. To that end they have formed an alliance with various reputable suburban land companies in Jersey, on Staten Island, and elsewhere, and offer to build homes for the families thus weaned from the tenements. Their plan, under which the operatives are able to become owners of their homes, at little more than one-half the outlay for rent in the tenement, includes a cash payment of ten percent. The Hirsch fund takes a mortgage for 60 percent of the purchase price at four percent, the builder the remainder at five percent. Thus the owner of a $1,100 cottage, with five rooms and bath, paying off the builder's mortgage in ten years, would be at a monthly outlay of $8, including taxes and insurance. At $10 a month he might have a six room cottage, and at $12.50, the rent which he would ordinarily pay for a dark, three room flat in Essex street, a little mansion of seven rooms and bath. Farming does not enter into this scheme. It aims only at restoring the home.—From 'Making a Way Out of the Slum,' by Jacob A. Riis, in the 'American Monthly Review of Reviews' for December.

CANON W. HAY AITKEN.

The Rev. William Hay Macdowall Hunter Aitken, M.A., says the 'Christian Herald,' has recently been offered, and accepted, the cononry of Norwich Cathedral, vacant by the death of Archdeacon Nevill. Mr. Aitken, who is widely known both in England and America as a distinguished mission preacher, entered on his first curacy in 1865, at St. Jude's, Mildmay, his vicar being the Rev. Mr. Pennefather, who originated the conferences which have been continued ever since at Mildmay. In 1871 Mr. Aitken became Vicar of Christ Church, Everton, but, possessing such remarkable evangelistic gifts, he decided to devote himself to mission work, and in 1875 resigned his living. Two years later he was appointed general superintendent of the Church Parochial Mission Society, a position which he still holds. Some years ago a round-robin signed by bishops and other influential clergymen was addressed to the government, drawing attention to the great services rendered by Mr. Aitken to parochial missions, and urging his unique claims to high promotion. As a result, he was offered a canonry at Gloucester, with a huge house and microscopic income, which he felt compelled to decline, as being 'a stall without provender.' The present appointment is one which has given great satisfaction to Mr. Aitken's many friends and well-wishers.

THE SAILOR'S NEW TESTAMENT.

The Soldier's New Testament, issued by the Scripture Gift Mission, has gone far and wide; into thousands of knapsacks it has been given a place, and men of all ranks have read it, and noted the preface, in which Field Marshal Lord Wolseley says that the soldier who possesses such a book will have 'something of far greater value to him than the proverbial marshal's baton.'

Now we have a corresponding book for circulation among the marine forces. The internal features are the same as the singularly beautiful Soldier's book; the cover displays a design emphatically patriotic, distinctively nautical—the central object being a British ironclad, set in symbols of world-wide interest. There is a neat little inscription by Admiral Sir F. Leopold McClintock, in which we read: 'Our ancient mariners were devout, God-fearing men, guiding their actions by God's Word as carefully as they steered their ships by the compass. Let us, sailors of to-day, also take the Bible as our compass through life, and God will guide us with his counsel, and finally bring us to the haven where we would be.'

There are fifty pictures in this little book, which is sure to be widely disseminated by workers among our sailors. Those who would help in this work may learn particulars from Mr. W. Walters, office of the Scripture Gift Mission, 15, Strand, W.C.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON

Jan. 6, 1901.

JESUS ANOINTED AT BETHANY.

(Matt. xxvi., 6-16.)

BY JOHN R. WHITNEY.

Golden Text—She hath done what she could.—Mark xiv., 8.

For the next three months our attention will be fixed exclusively on incidents belonging to these 'six days' before the Passover, and yet not one-half of them will be brought before us. They are very important incidents, demanding our most careful and prayerful study. For these 'six days' are the most momentous days in the whole history of the world's redemption.

Beginning with the incidents of these days we also find that the four Gospel writers make a marked change in the character of their narrations. Concerning Jesus's ministry in Galilee and Samaria and Perea, they are by no means a unit in their records. It is very seldom, in fact, that more than two of them report the same events, and it often happens that what one records the others pass by entirely unnoticed. But just as they united in declaring the incidents belonging to the beginning of Jesus's ministry, His birth, circumcision, baptism, and temptation, so now they again unite in declaring, with marked unanimity, the closing incidents of that ministry. They are the incidents of these 'six days.'

And it is not strange that St. John should introduce the story of this incident, just at this point, and in this way, in his narrative. Of all the apostles, he—the most loving, earnest, growing and spiritually minded—was the one to whom was given the clearest visions of the person and work of our Lord. To him, Jesus was far more than a mere man, although he probably had not as yet learned to know truly how much more. But every manifestation of Himself drew John—as it did not any of the other apostles—closer and closer to Him. Matters, therefore, which deeply interested the other evangelists, so that they dwelt upon them in their narratives with great fulness, to him were of comparatively little importance. They interested and helped men—to the human mind they were marvels of wisdom and love—they clearly revealed what Jesus was able to do and teach—but if they did not reveal in some superior way, what He was in Himself, as a rule, John took no notice of them.

It was, however, with just such a manifestation that Bethany and Lazarus were associated in his mind. Some three or four months before he had visited that town under very peculiar circumstances. Martha and Mary were then in the deepest grief because of the death of their brother. When he was taken sick word was sent to Jesus, but He 'abode two days still in the same place where He was' (John xi., 6), and when at last He did go to them, Lazarus 'had lain in his grave four days already.' (John xi., 17). All this must have seemed particularly strange to John, for he knew that 'Jesus loved Martha and her sister, and Lazarus.' (John xi., 5.) But, then, he saw his Master stand at the mouth of the grave, and with irresistible authority say, 'with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth,' and at once 'he that was dead came forth.' (John xi., 43, 44.)

Long before that he had seen Jesus in Capernaum stand at the bedside of a young girl who had just fallen asleep in death, and, taking her by the hand, He had said, 'Talitha-cumi! Damsel, I say unto thee, Arise.' At once she awoke from her sleep, and 'arose and walked.' (Mark v., 41, 42.) On another occasion, at Nain, he had stood with Him by the bier of a young man whom they were taking to the grave to bury, and at His command, 'Young man, I say unto thee, Arise, he that was dead sat up and began ot speak.' (Luke vii., 14, 15.) Neither of these scenes, however, made the impression upon him that was made by the resurrection at Bethany. They attracted the attention of the other evangelists, but not his, and he makes no mention of them whatever, but this which so deeply impressed him they omit altogether from their narratives.

What he had seen and heard at Bethany, coupled with the instruction given by Jesus as they journeyed that he must suffer and die at Jerusalem, absorbed his whole attention. It is not strange, therefore, that now on his return to Bethany, 'six days before the Passover,' that the only incident of those 'six days' which connected his Master with that place and with Lazarus, should be the very first to be recorded, no matter when it occurred. For when he wrote his narrative, this incident, under the teaching of the Holy Ghost, must have shed a flood of light upon the death and resurrection of Jesus Himself.

And truly it was a very unique scene that was presented at that supper in Bethany, such a scene as was never witnessed before or since, anywhere on the earth, but through all eternity it will be the constant scene presented in heaven to the eyes of the redeemed. For there reclined Jesus with Simon the leper on one side, and Lazarus who had been dead on the other. The one He had cleansed, the other He had raised, and now they were feasting in His presence and with Him. It was a beautiful foreshadowing of 'the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.'

The sight must have been very impressive to John, for whilst others took notice that this supper was given, 'in the house of Simon the leper,' he alone calls attention to the fact that 'Lazarus was one of them which sat at meat with Him.' When he was in Bethany a few months before Lazarus was dead and buried, and his body was so corrupt that even his own sister shrank from looking at it. But now, in full health, and strength, and joy, he was sitting at the side of Him whose voice had called him back from death, and who had said of Himself, 'I am the Resurrection and the Life.' Lazarus, death, life, Bethany, and Jesus, his Master, were all strangely, but indissolubly bound together.

And all this must have been greatly intensified as the meal proceeded. For John alone tells us, not only that Lazarus was there, but also that his grateful sisters vied with each other in doing honor to Him who had done so much for them. The other evangelists say nothing about this, but only that 'a woman' came in, 'having an alabaster box of ointment.' John, however, says that with attentive care 'Martha served,' and saw that every want of her beloved Friend was supplied, and that Mary could not be content with merely serving. Gratitude like hers must express itself by the most costly offering she could make, even if it were her all. So he says that it was she who 'took a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair' (v. 3.) Thef ragrance of the ointment filled the house, but the fragrance of her deed filled the world, and 'shall be spoken of for a memorial of her,' Jesus Himself said, 'wheresoever this Gospel shall be preached.' (Mark xiv., 9.)

When Mary poured out this ointment upon Jesus the fragrance revealed its costliness to all who were at the table. But it did not awaken the praise of all. Judas, who at heart 'was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein' (v. 6) for the common welfare, saw nothing in the act of Mary but a needless waste of money. With a pretended sympathy for the needy, he openly said that the ointment 'might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor' (Mark xiv., 5), as if ministering to the poor was of more importance than ministering to Christ! But Jesus rebuked the interference. 'Let her alone,' He said. 'Why trouble ye her? She hath wrought a good work on Me. For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good; but Me, ye have not always.' (Mark xiv., 6, 7.)

Apparently stung by this reproof, Judas watched his opportunity to leave the house and go to Jerusalem. There he found 'the chief priests and captains' not only ready, but glad to receive him. For whilst the feast to Jesus was going on in Bethany, plottings against Him were going on in Jerusalem. In the palace of the high priest His enemies, greatly excited by the popular demonstration when He entered the city a few days before (Luke xix., 47), were assembled together and 'sought how they might kill Him; for they feared the people.' (Luke xxii., 2.) So when Judas came into their assembly, 'and said unto them, What will ye give me and I will deliver Him unto you?' (Matt.), 'they were glad, and promised to give him money. (Mark.) 'And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And from that time he sought opportunity' (Matt.) 'how he might conveniently betray Him' (Mark) 'in the presence of the multitude.' (Luke.)

Thus this covenanting, according to St. Matthew and St. Mark, followed immediately after the reproof at the supper. 'Then,' says St. Matthew, 'Judas went unto the chief priests.' (xxvi., 14.) But, according to St. Luke, who says nothing about the supper, it was when the plotting was going on that 'then entered Satan unto Judas, and he went his way and communed with the chief priests and captains how he might betray Him unto them.' (xxii., 3, 4.) Thus the supper, and the plottings, must have been coincident, and the anointing at Bethany must have been closely connected with the betrayal at Jerusalem. This betrayal, as we shall see more fully hereafter, was consummated within the next two days. Thus the anointing declared and emphasized, the 'burial' which followed so closely upon the betrayal. It was an important link in the completion of Jesus's work as our Redeemer. Its object was not to exhibit Mary's love for Jesus, but to honor Him for His love to us all.

TOPIC

Jan. 6, 1901.

A FORWARD LOOK.

Phil. iii., 12-14

'The things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.' (II. Cor. iv., 18.)

With the forward look of hope must come the inward look of examination, that the good resolutions with which we begin the new year—the new century—may not be nipped in the bud by our own innate unwillingness to fulfil them. The keeping of good resolutions is the making of character. The breaking of good resolutions, the lowering of standards, the slipping away from high ideals, these are the great steps in dissolution of character. The old proverb which says that the road to hell is paved with good resolutions is false and deceitful in that it contains a half truth. No well-kept resolution for good has ever been found on that road; it is the useless, old, broken resolutions that go toward that paving; it is their gleaming, jagged edges that cut the feet of those who toil thereon. The making of good resolutions is honorable, the breaking of them is disloyal to truth and honor, but the keeping of them requires divine power because the enemy of our souls is constantly seeking for new pavement for his well-trodden roads. There are many paths to hell, but only one path to God; that way is Christ, who, through the blood of the everlasting covenant is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. (John xiv., 6; Heb. xiii., 20; Jude 24.)

Good resolutions cannot be made and kept by our own power. Every resolution which is formed without the intention of relying on God for its carrying out has a flaw in it from the beginning. Ask the Lord Jesus what he would like you to do with this new year—this new century—and then seek his abiding presence in your heart to work out his own will in you.

'What is the great impulse of your life? Why do you work so hard, early and late? What is the underlying motive of it all? I believe that if each one of us would truly answer that question we should be startled to find how largely we are living in that which is purely carnal, and never touching the spiritual sphere. A man may have all the accompaniments of what men call refinement and culture, and yet be living wholly within the carnal sphere of life. . . . . Unrest is a proof of carnality. All your worry and unrest in service, the perpetual sense of rush which robs you of power. What is it? Carnal nature, self-life.'

'The most revealing searchlight of the age is the searchlight of love.' Remember this: God sees and knows that thing in your life which you have tried to persuade yourself did not matter. That thing is not only working your own ruin; it is a part of the clog in the wheels of the chariot of God. You are hindering righteousness to the nation in proportion as you are living on some low level of backsliding life. . . . It does matter, men and women, children of God—it does matter whether you and I are what he wants us to be, or whether we are dragging down his ideal to some poor level of our experience.'—Campbell Morgan.

VIEWED FROM THE EMPIRE'S CONFINES.

We in India who are far away from the great mint of party watchwords and shibboleths have noticed with some interest the growing use of the word 'imperialism' to denote a certain phase of our present national policy, and have marked more curiously the strange aversions to it evinced in no halting fashion by some sections of the British public. To us it seems to be a harmless word, signifying a tardy recognition by the 'man-in-the-street' of those many lands beyond the sea which we in our innocence have always considered to form an indissoluble portion of the British realm and dominion.—'Times of India,' Bombay.

CAMERAS AS DETECTORS OF CRIME.

USES TO WHICH THEY ARE PUT IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

(New York 'Evening Post.')

It is only within the past decade that photography has been used to any considerable extent in legal proceedings. For a long time after their discovery photographs were not permitted in the courts as evidence; now, however, a photograph of a document, if visèd by a notary and declared a true copy, has almost the same value as the original exhibit. Many photographers do more or less legal work; at least they photograph letters or documents for the use of lawyers.

The proprietor of a shop on Fulton street, however, is the only photographer who confines his business entirely to this class of work. A look through the piles of negatives on his shelves gives one a pretty complete idea of the uses to which lawyers have put photography. Perhaps the most common use is in accident cases, where the photographs are introduced to show the spots where catastrophes took place, or the defects in machinery or construction that were responsible. Some of these pictures have interesting histories. In one case a railway train had run into a loaded coach at a grade crossing, killing every one on board, and carrying the bodies nearly a thousand feet. By making all haste a photograph of the spot was obtained the same day. It showed that the 'Look out for the engine' sign was at one side of the road, surrounded by shrubbery, and scarcely to be seen from along the road. Before the next morning employees of the railway had cleared away all the débris, cut down the shrubbery and trees, and moved the sign into a conspicuous place. The photograph was the most important piece of evidence in a successful suit for heavy damages against the company.

In another case, a marble-cutter had set up a monument in a certain cemetery. When he presented his bill for the work, however, it was refused, owing, he believed, to religious prejudice, and the owners of the plot alleged that the work was miserably done, that words were mis-spelled, and the stone was full of cracks. The proprietors of the cemetery, apparently 'in the deal,' refused to grant permits for photographing the stone, saying as an excuse that the plot was so crowded that it was not possible to focus on the stone with a camera. At three o'clock, on a winter afternoon the attorney for the marble-cutter called on the photographer and asked him to try a snap-shot. Camera and tripod are always packed in a valise ready for instant use, but it was a long drive to the cemetery, and it was perilously near sunset before the cemetery was reached. Admission was refused at the gate, so the photographer drove half a mile along the wall, and at last, though a portly man, managed to squeeze through the fence. He soon found the monument, near which three men, apparently grave diggers, were loitering. The camera was ready for a snap-shot before the plan was detected. The men rushed for it, and one of them had his spade in the air to smash it when the bulb was pressed. Then there was a race between a heavy man with the camera and three others with spades. The camera was thrown over the fence and the picture was safe. Next day, in the court room the picture, showing a very creditable piece of stone-work, without the mistake of a letter, was put in evidence, after half a dozen witnesses had sworn that the monument was a botch and full of mis-spelled words. The jury gave a verdict for the stone-cutter in less than five minutes. A case in which a camera was strikingly useful for preserving evidence until the forgery could be detected is that of a man who had forty checks, of which he knew only twenty could be genuine. He was entirely at a loss to identify the forged ones, but, having recourse to the photographer, obtained perfect images of the whole collection and kept them until, by having them greatly enlarged, certain individual peculiarities appeared, and he was able to pick out the bad from the good.

It is in forgery cases that the camera does some of its most effective work. Dozens of cases could be cited where handwriting enlarged twenty or thirty times has shown unmistakably either the guilt or innocence of an alleged forger. The ability of the camera to detect alterations not visible to the naked eye is not so generally known. A certain release from a mortgage, for example, was brought to the expert to be photographed. There appeared to be nothing suspicious about it. The photograph, however, showed a few faint marks over one of the signatures. Enlarged thirty times these marks could be connected to form plainly the name 'Sullivan.' Suffice it to say, the whole document was a forgery, and most of the names on it were fictitious. Bogus coins are often found out in this way. An '1804 dollar' was bought by a collector in this city and appeared to be without a flaw. A photograph, however, showed plainly that the figure '4' had been cut from another coin and pasted on a dollar coined some time in the first decade of the century, but not so valuable as the prized '1804' issue.

Much of this work, as can be imagined, is of an extremely delicate nature, and a good deal of special apparatus is used. The camera and the object to be photographed are always placed on a long wooden frame-work with diagonals and cross-pieces, like a miniature bridge, every part glued together and perfectly rigid. This is hung from the ceiling, so that all vibration between camera and object may be avoided. The very finest work has to be done on Sunday, to avoid the shaking from the traffic on the streets. One of the lenses used can include 110 degrees in the picture. With this, the walls of even the narrowest passages can be photographed.

'I never was offered but one job that I couldn't do,' said the photographer to-day. 'That was when a man wanted me to take in one exposure all six sides of a fancy tea-caddy.'

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ALL IN ADVANCE.

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

All the above papers sent postpaid to the Dominion, Newfoundland and United States.

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

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MORMON EXPLORERS.

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 24.—Three months ago a party of Mormon students began a three years' trip into South America to search for traces of the last survivors of the Nephites, believed by the Mormons to have been the first people of this country. Benjamin Gluff Pott, of the Brigham Young Academy, Provo, Utah, who is in charge of the expedition, in a letter to a friend he states that many prehistoric ruins have been examined by the party, and evidences unearthed which tend to uphold the Mormon traditions.

DEATH AMONG THE FISHERFOLK.

London, Dec. 24.—A despatch from Aberdeen says that five Shetland fishing boats have been missing since the storm that raged last week, and it is feared that twenty-seven fishermen have been drowned.

TO BE TRIED FOR MURDER.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 24.—Joseph Hazleton was committed for trial at the Police Court this morning on a charge of murder. He is alleged to have killed Mrs. Martha Milne by an illegal operation.

HALIFAX PROHIBITIONISTS.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 18.—Steps are being taken by the temperance bodies of Halifax to introduce a prohibitory liquor law in the Provincial Legislature at the approaching session. The temperance people say they think this an opportune time, for it will likely be the last session of the legislature before dissolution and a general election.

The Witness.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1900.

New Year's Greeting 1901.

The year that is just closing could not fail to be memorable as the year which puts the mark 'finis' to the most wonderful of all the centuries. Human progress has never before been so marked, nor the average of human happiness so great as during the past century, and much of its greatness and glory has been contemporary with the life of our beloved Queen. Hers has truly been a wonderful reign, in which the great British Empire has grown every year more powerful, more just, more generous, and among the many great blessings of the present time, one of the greatest is that Her Most Gracious Majesty is still preserved to rule over us. The material prosperity of Canada has increased greatly during the past year, as all sorts of statistics could be quoted to prove, but one of the best proofs of it is the fact that the public deposits in the chartered banks have been increased by forty million dollars, or more than fourteen per cent. The part that Canada has taken in the Transvaal war has increased her importance in the eyes of the world more than any other single event in her history, and so far as the British Isles are concerned, 'There is nothing too good for a Canadian.' With a splendid past and a glorious present, and with a wonderful future opening out before us, we close the old year and the old century and begin the new. May the new year be a very happy one to all our readers.

A batch of full colonels is announced—the first under the new law—a number of officers who had the responsibility of getting our contingents off. They are all very worthy men, and the work was done no doubt very well on the whole, considering how new everything about it was to the men who had it to do. There were the cruel mistakes and miscalculations that were no doubt to be looked for under such circumstances. Those who have initiated this distribution of colonelcies should remember that a purely honorary title carries honor with it exactly in proportion to the parsimony with which it is distributed.

Nooitgedacht, the scene of the 'unfortunate incident' to General Clements's force, is not the Nooitgedacht near Belfast, east of Pretoria, on the line of the Delagoa Bay Railway, where the Canadian Mounted Infantry were during October and November. It is west of Pretoria, among the Megaliesberg mountains, between Krugersdorp and Rustenburg. Heckpoort, to which General Clements retreated, is about half way between Nooitgedacht and Krugersdorp. Warmbath, from which General Delarey was reinforced, is a station north of Pretoria, on the railway running to Pietersburg. It was there that General Baden-Powell defeated General De Wett preventing him from joining General Botha at Belfast, and driving him back into the Megaliesbergs, from which he made his way south again to the Orange River Colony.

That arbitrary power may be exercised wisely and to good purpose has been shown recently by the King of Italy. For some time previous to his interference, the city of Naples was ruled by an organized gang of rascals, somewhat similar to what Tammany and other like institutions are accused of being in American cities. By a stroke of the pen Victor Emmanuel III. dismissed the whole combination, deprived them of office and replaced them with men of his own selection. There was an immediate change for the better in city government. Life and property became safe, affairs were honestly administered, and sanitary conditions improved. It was a drastic but successful method of reform, and it might not be a bad thing if governors had the same power in America.

Tennessee stands third in the list of tobacco-producing states, yet its legislature passed a law restricting and regulating the sale of cigarettes. The constitutionality of the law was contested in the Supreme Court of the United States, but a decision just given confirms the right of the state to pass such laws. The result has been that the American Tobacco Company has accepted the decision as also validating the Iowa law and has withdrawn all cigarettes and wrappers from both states. This may be admitted as proof that legislation can reach and suppress a vicious habit which all competent authorities agree in saying saps the moral and physical powers of young men and boys addicted to it. The records of the United States War Department, showing the rejection of volunteers because of weakness induced by the use of cigarettes, should alone convince the public that some defence is needed by law to protect the young against an insidious and injurious habit.

The death of Mr. D. O. Bourbeau, of Arthabaskaville, recalls an incident in Canadian politics which is not without a moral to those who know how to apply it. When he defeated Mr., now Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in 1878, the Conservatives of Ottawa organized a grand reception for him on his arrival at the capital. He was met at the railway station and escorted to parliament house by a great crowd, with bands and torchlight procession. Introduced to the speaker in the usual way, he took his seat and was never heard of afterwards. A quiet, retiring, kindly gentleman, he was not born to shine in the stormy arena of politics, and, after serving his term, he retired without ever having opened his lips once in parliament. That reception was a very considerable tribute to Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Cardinal Vaughan does not mince matters in affixing the blame for the Boxer uprising in China. He says that while the upheaval was primarily a revolt against Christianity, its most recent phase was roused into activity by the encroachments of foreign powers, notably Germany and Russia, on Chinese territory. This deliverance by the highest Roman Catholic dignitary in Britain is the more remarkable from the fact that the pretext on which the Germans seized the port of Kiaochau and the province of Shantung was the murder of two Jesuit priests. The German Government can, it appears, condemn to exile German subjects who are Jesuits, yet claim jurisdiction in their behalf in foreign countries. The destruction of missions, colleges, schools and churches, the slaughter of bishops, priests and native converts throughout China are a terrible sequel to the long continued, patient and measurably successful missionary efforts of the Roman Catholic Church among the Chinese. These disasters give poignancy to the cardinal's charge, but he may have had in his mind a memory of the accusation, previously made, that the Roman Catholic missionaries were themselves to blame for rousing native hatred by their arrogant assumptions and system of fortifying their mission stations. Two wrongs, however, do not make a right, and it may be presumed that the horrible fate of the missionaries at the hands of native fanatics would not have occurred at this time had not the seizure of territory exasperated the Chinese to fury against all foreigners.

A flippant, egotistical writer in the 'Mail,' having appealed to all Conservatives in the province of Ontario to vote only for Conservatives in the coming municipal elections, Mr. Dawson, the Liberal organizer for eastern Ontario, takes advantage of his irrepressible chatter to issue a formal appeal to the Liberals of the province to follow 'the Flaneur's' advice and 'in self defence' run the municipal elections on purely party lines. Canada has hitherto been spared this last degradation of partyism, which has long been an admitted principle in the United States. It is perhaps too much to hope that machine politicians like Mr. Dawson will not take every advantage they can take, still less that they will look on while their opponents take an advantage; but we are pretty well convinced that the average Liberal of Ontario is still a pretty independent sort of person, who is not yet prepared to accept the word of command as to how his village or township shall be governed from any fugleman whom a party organization may set up to give him his instructions. Our advice to the Liberals of Ontario is to vote for the best men they know of for municipal councillors, whatever their politics, and if they can see their way clear to give a Conservative the preference as a rebuke to this effort to saddle and bridle them, so much the better.

The Conservatives won both seats in the city of Victoria, B.C., although the Liberals confidently counted upon winning at least one of the two. The 'Colonist,' of Victoria, a Conservative newspaper, tells how it was done. In the course of an article, reprinted elsewhere in this paper, on the 'anti-French campaign,' which was waged by the Conservatives in the British provinces, the 'Colonist,' after denouncing it and ascribing the utter defeat of the Conservatives to it, goes on to say: 'The 'Colonist' can 'speak very freely upon this point be'cause it refused to join in the anti-'French cry. Day after day election 'material came from the east, most of it 'decrying the French. We refused to 'use it. . . . We think the result 'establishes the wisdom of our course. 'Victoria elected the Conservative can'didates, and neither they nor the 'Col'onist,' which supported them, have to 'apologize for having any part in a cam'paign policy which has made the Con'servative party in Quebec little more 'than a memory.' The 'Colonist' is quite mistaken in supposing that the Conservative party in Quebec is only a memory. It is a big, substantial, popular body, which held remarkably well together in view of the campaign carried on against the French race. That campaign, however, together with the natural admiration and esteem for Sir Wilfrid Laurier by his own people, by turning a few thousand votes from one side to the other gave the Liberals the necessary majority in all but a few constituencies in the federal elections. In the provincial elections the Conservatives practically lay down instead of making a good fight for the existence of the local Opposition. They even contemplated withdrawing all their candidates as a sort of protest against the dissolution of the legislature a year and a half before the expiry of its term which naturally under the circumstances seemed to them very unfair, though it is a very common thing in British politics.

It looks as though our government ought to be considering whether it should not offer another mounted regiment or two for the South African war. There is no doubt that Canada has the material that is most needed for the service. Even her raw men have proved, man for man, as good, if not better, stuff for the kind of war now going on than the machine-made article that it has cost so much training and dragooning, to deprive of his natural powers of initiative and individual action. There is no doubt that Canada has not yet risen to anywhere near her due share in the cost of imperial defence. Our cost even in connection with our own regiments has been small in comparison with what has been borne for them by insular fellow-citizens. It is a question indeed if the Australian colonies have not in proportion to their strength outdone us. If not, they may do so, as we learn that New Zealand is now sending another contingent. This would seem to indicate that the imperial authorities would welcome such an offer from us. There is every appearance that the need of this particular arm is as keenly felt now, if not more keenly than ever. We do not make such propositions as this from any liking for the duty. Every day's news from South Africa has bred a new horror of and disgust for war not only as a physical scourge, but as a degrader of morals. The lawlessness of spirit naively revealed by many of the men is simply horrifying. We should not want our country to have anything to do with the war for any glory there may be in it. We blush when we hear some recitals which are not published. These are no doubt in many cases mere swaggering exaggeration, but they imply at least an unwholesome contempt for the ten commandments. The only reason for making the suggestion is that we have not yet done our whole duty in the matter, and it therefore remains to be done.

The Boston Associated Board of Trade has not been carried away by the jingo spirit which has been invoked with such success by the railway interests opposed to the construction of the Nicaragua canal on any terms. At a full meeting held last week the board adopted a resolution urging Congress to take speedy and favorable action upon the report of the Isthmian Canal Commission and also strongly advising the ratification of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. By adopting this course, the board declared, no flaw will exist in the right of the United States government to exercise legitimate supervision over the construction and maintenance of the Nicaragua canal, and that, under such conditions, the government would accord to other nations no more than the United States as a great commercial country should claim for itself if the project were one entered upon by another government. This practical, sensible view should be acceptable to all who regard the enterprise as it really is—a great undertaking in the interests of commerce. It seems puerile in the statesmen of a nation so powerful and unassailable as the United States to elevate this canal affair into a war issue. It has been clearly shown by that section of the press in the United States which does not indulge in hysterics that, if canals are to be thought of only as military measures, others can play at that game. Britain or any other nation would be justified in finding means for the completion of the Panama canal if the Nicaragua canal were to be constructed and fortified as a kind of threat to them. In that event the United States should cease to possess an exclusive line of communication between the Atlantic and the Pacific, after having spent two hundred millon dollars in a canal which could not possibly be made to pay as a commercial venture in competition with another canal.

A model city charter, prepared by the American Municipal League, is now before a committee appointed by the mayor of Buffalo with a view to offering suggestions for the revision of the city charter. This model was framed by men who have studied municipal government, and who have had practical experience with its workings. It may be said to contain the result of the combined wisdom of those in all parts of the country who have devoted themselves to the discovery of a solution to the problems of city government. It is, therefore, worthy of particular attention, these problems being admittedly most difficult in matters of practical detail. The model charter divides the city into four districts, doing away with the ward system altogether. Each district is to elect one alderman, and three more are to be elected by the voters at large, these seven to constitute the legislative body for the city. In reply to the objection that bribery and other corrupt influences would manage seven men more easily than thirty or forty, the advocates of the change say that the manner of election would ensure a better class of men than the ward plan which long experience has shown to be inherently bad. The narrowing of responsibility to a few would also have a good effect. The mayor, elected by the citizens of the whole city, should, according to the model charter, have the right to appoint all administrative officials, except a comptroller, who would be selected by the Board of Aldermen. The mayor is also given power to remove all appointees, thus making him and the whole system directly responsible to the people. To further ensure the selection of good officials and to offset the extra power granted the mayor, it is recommended that the people have the right of passing directly upon all important legislation, as, for example, the granting of public franchises or the expenditure of any large sum of money. We heartily commend the system here outlined to our citizens, but how to reach it through a city council composed chiefly of men whom it would entirely dethrone it is hard to see.

We all went crazy over the return of the first men from the war, even men who took ill before they had smelt powder. They had been to Africa and came home in khaki, and that was enough for us. All very well, but it should not rob the warriors who 'stuck it out,' the heroes of forty 'scraps,' of their proportionate meed of praise. Nay, proportionate would be impossible, but after bouncing sick men to the ceiling and feting them and receptioning them until they were half dead before allowing them to go home to see their mothers, are we going to let these sound veterans pass, as many of them, we doubt not, would like to do, straight to their homes and Christmas dinners? That will no doubt be the kindest thing; but has our ebullient patriotism all boiled away? There is talk of calling them back later from their civil apparel and occupations to take part in a general ovation, but many of the best of them it will perhaps be hard to get. If the men returning to-day deserve honor at our hands for their deeds of daring and endurance in the presence of the enemy, they deserve it still further for the credit they have done us in England. We have the competent testimony of Major Bond to the fact that they passed the dangerous fire of British hospitality unscathed, and thereby won for their country the respect of the English people, as they had before won for us their love and admiration.

A GREAT YULETIDE.

Christmas is the more real New Year's day of the two whose names are so often instinctively coupled in a single salutation. It is the New Year's of the soul. In saying this we are not asserting for it the dominant place in Christian worship, which some churches accord it, and which others as unreservedly deny it. The sentiment goes back of all rituals. The peoples of the northern hemisphere have immemorially given religious expression of one sort or another to the exultation which seizes on the soul of man at the turn of the year. What is mythological is at bottom a truth, if we can only interpret the truth. When we find a general consent in mirthful or gloomy sympathy with the annual movements of nature we realize that the soul of man has some subtle relation with creation, and affords it the voice it lacks both in its gaiety and in its groanings. To do this is not unholy, although the manner of it may be, as was the weeping for Tammuz at the summer solstice denounced by the prophet, or as were the Saturnalia of Rome at the winter solstice, the festival which has happily given place to Christmastide, with its incongruous combination of kindly goblin myths with the celebration of that great event upon which all history turns. Christmas is closer to nature's beginning of days—the midnight of the year—than is New Year's. As we date everything from our Lord's birth, it would seem more appropriate that the beginning of the year and the reputed anniversary of that birth should coincide. There is therefore a fitness in the way we have of resolving the two holidays into one in our annual good wishes.

This dual observance must this year be accounted in more than the usual sense a beginning of days unto us. For, although our division into centuries—differing in this from most of our divisions of time—is an absolutely mathematical and arbitrary one, having no sort of relation to any natural occurrence, yet the idea of the centuries has through long generations so burned itself into our consciousness that the human race has, though on a larger scale, the same sense of ending and beginning, of dying and resurrection in connection with the turn of the century as with the turn of the year. There is at the 'fin de siècle' the same pessimistic abandonment to hopelessness of bettering the record which accompanies any departing era and with the opening of the new century there is the same exhilarating bracing up to newness of life. Sated with prosperity, distracted by crowding acquirements and opportunities of knowledge, and unbalanced by questionings of everything that has been believed, the world is greatly in need to-day of some bracing up of its moral fibre. There are those who prophecy the approach of a great religious movement. The foresight of true prophecy is largely due to insight, and those who utter this forecast have no doubt read it in the need that appears for a renewal of spiritual relations with God and the unseen. Is it, indeed, unreasonable that what the philosophers call a spiritualistic development should follow the astonishing materialistic development of the boastful century, greatest of all the centuries, that is about to be gathered to its fathers. The nineteenth century has been one of wonderful revelations and realizations in the material sphere. The powers of nature have come in procession and done obeisance to human genius and offered themselves to man as his willing and efficient slaves, and he has waxed proud and boasted how his own wisdom had got him all these conquests. Would it be strange to nature if there should follow a soul hunger for equal revelations and realizations in the neglected region of the unseen?

All the discoveries and inventions of the past century have been in the direction of making men known to men. A world of segregated peoples, ignorant of each other, and entertaining towards each other nothing but the contempt which is the necessary offspring of ignorance, has changed into a world of peoples rapidly becoming mutually acquainted and rapidly assimilating and becoming one people. Is it not in the order of nature that out of the flux, with its affinities and its antagonisms, should come larger and higher thoughts than man has thought before with regard to the brotherhood of man, and its necessary corollary, the fatherhood of God? The past century has dethroned many of the idols of those who had this or that theory for the redemption of man from his sorrows. Is it not to be looked for that more lofty and truer conceptions of the way of human regeneration will be welcomed? The passing age has been one of emancipations from hoary superstitions, of the surrender of cherished sanctions, of the undoing of traditional beliefs. Are we to believe with men of short sight that this process will go on till all belief is sloughed

nated, or may we not rather accept from history the teaching that God has never left himself without a witness in the human heart, and that the cruder faith departing only makes way for the greater. The greatest revelation of God to man that ever was or ever will be is that which came through Jesus Christ, and which continues to come through him. The first Christians knew Christ 'after the flesh' better than the Church of to-day, but the Church of to-day knows the real Christ better than they. Shall not the Church that is to come know him better still, and better show him forth? May we not hope that the twentieth century, satiate with material discovery, will seek out and find as no century before has found 'the Christ that is to be'?

THE BOERS.

It is pleasing to hear Principal Grant lifting a sane voice on behalf of the Boers and appealing to the better nature of Britons to ask themselves just what they would themselves have done under the circumstances. This should always be the first question when we are judging of other peoples. Yet though it seems so obvious a one, we are convinced that the very most elementary application of it would reverse many of our judgments. We are, let us say, in our own view, a good sort of people to whom the Almighty has assigned a certain portion of the earth. That territory is invaded by hordes of godless prospectors who come to carry off treasures that underlie our soil. These are all as alien at heart and are as contemptuous of us and of our ways as, let us say, the first American prospectors of the Klondike were of everything Canadian. They are full of swagger and even make attempts to tear down our flag and set up their own. They are, moreover, increasing in numbers so fast that should they get the vote they would easily do what they liked with our country. What would we do under such circumstances—we British? Why, we would do what we could by royalties, duties and what not to toll the treasures that these invaders were carrying off and we would give them as little share in the rule of our country as we could. We should be especially anxious about our language holding its own and should put every difficulty we could in the way of its being displaced. We should be the last people in the world to recognize the manifest destiny that we must sooner or later yield to a power a hundred times as strong as ourselves, and we should be a little proud of our blindness on that score. We might not indeed have been so ignorant in the position in which these republics found themselves a year ago as to think we could have driven such a superior power into the sea or have had such simple faith in the justice of the world as to think its contending powers would immediately coalesce for our vindication. But had we ventured on so desperate a course as to invade the invaders we should at least have plumed ourselves on the splendor of our desperation.

We look on the war in South Africa as one that probably had to be. Had the Dutch farmers been better informed they might have realized the hopelessness of it before it began. Had they been larger-minded they might have coalesced with their kindred the English more easily. As it was, the clash of arms seems to have been inevitable to determine which race and which conditions should rule in South Africa. That clash has come and has been a terrible surprise to both parties. It has taught both parties needed lessons. It has probably revolutionized Great Britain's military and even her social system. It has taught her the greatest lesson she has learned since the American Revolution, and its era will be looked back to as that at which she became a new empire, the old things of hired aristocratic militarism and of colonial dependence having passed away and a new sisterhood of nations and brotherhood of warriors, hating war, having supervened. Shall it also be looked back to as the era of an achievement, the like of which has not yet been known? Shall it be said that a Teutonic people like the Dutch and like ourselves, crushed after a heroic and unparalleled resistance, learned to love their conquerors and to acquiesce in the new order of things which war forced upon them? The Normans were, except in language, the closest of kin to the English, and were the noblest development of the great Norse expansion. Yet it took centuries before the English coalesced with the Normans, and then only when the Normans became English as we do not propose to become Dutch. The Highlanders of Scotland transferred their loyalty allegiance in less time to the House of Hanover, because they are a tribal people and only their chieftains needed to be dealt with. We have in the Boers the most stubborn and uncompromising of all peoples. We have hardly conquered them yet, but we mean to. The great question now is, How are we going to win them to love and hearty allegiance? What, short of this, will pay for the life expended, and yet to be expended, on this war? What comes of the command to love our enemies? What bodes the Christmas message of peace and good will?

ROME HAS SPOKEN.

We have received one subscription of one dollar to defend before the courts the civil and religious liberty of Canada, imperilled in the Delpit case. The patriot is Mr. Norman Murray. We have had recent intimation that it is 'exceedingly objectionable' to discuss anything that is before the courts, no matter how enormously it may affect the public interest and safety. Until a matter has become ancient history and is largely forgotten all discussion must be left to the private interests that happen to be concerned, and these can do it only before the courts. We are not sure that such ideas of right and wrong will always prevail, but they are law at present. Our information leads us to believe that the celebrated Delpit case is not before the courts at the moment. Whether or not we shall do our best to avoid going beyond a simple statement of what hangs upon it. Madame Delpit was a Miss Coté, and was married at the age of seventeen to a Frenchman who came to this country in the suite of the late governor of this province, Mr. Chapleau, as private secretary. Mr. Coté, her father, is not a Roman Catholic. He left that church finally many years ago, but never took any legal steps to declare himself other than a Roman Catholic. Such a declaration is required by law to release a man brought up in the Roman Catholic Church from ecclesiastical assessments, but the law requires it for no other purpose. As a matter of fact, Mr. Coté had made abundantly plain that he was not a Roman Catholic in connection with this very daughter by sending her to a Methodist college, and afterwards to a school carried on by a Mrs. Marchand, with the express condition that she should not be taught or required to take part in the Roman Catholic religion. It was further made manifest that the father repudiated the Roman Catholic faith when he had his daughter married by a Unitarian minister. The parties were both ostensibly, according to their own acts and choice, non-Catholics. Further we need not inquire.

This man, after living for a time with his wife and having some children, sought in the courts of the province release from the engagements he had solemnly and formally entered into with her, on the score that as the parties were Roman Catholics the marriage was no marriage at all. The civil court referred the question whether there had been a marriage or not to a tribunal of the Roman Catholic Church. By so doing the Canadian court recognized a court which has its headquarters at Rome, and whose final decision on this particular case has just been rendered at Rome as one of the courts of the land. By so doing, moreover, the Canadian court either passed judgment that the parties to the suit were both Roman Catholics or it left it to the Roman Catholic Church to decide whether they were or not. The latter alternative seems too preposterous to be credible. The question whether X is subject to the rule of the Roman Catholic Church or not is referred to the authorities of that church to decide. This would be an abrogation of one of the primary rights of the British subject, namely, religious liberty. There is another tenet involved with which we have less to do, namely, that persons professing themselves Roman Catholics are not free to marry except on the church's terms. If Roman Catholics generally are willing to submit to such control it is chiefly their own affair. It, however, makes it all the more objectionable that any class of the Queen's subjects should be forced to account themselves Roman Catholics against their will.

The Roman Catholic Church absolutely forbids all divorce, yet a case reported in this paper shows what wonderful things her courts that deal with matrimony can do in rendering a marriage null. Here was a marriage sacramentally entered into in Paris with every sanction of that church which has proved unhappy, and both parties to which desire release. It is found that because the man who was married was a Canadian, and did not elect his domicile in Paris before he was married there, and did not get leave from the clerical authorities here to get married there, therefore he never was married. The courts of Canada are understood to accept this ruling without dispute. What a lot of persons must be unmarried in such ways as this! It is announced that steps are to be initiated in a day or two to secure the civil annulment of the Delpit marriage, as the natural sequence of the decision obtained at Rome. By this the lady would be declared unmarried and her children illegitimate, and a great many other virtuous women and their children as well. It is not for us to anticipate the decision, but if it goes against Mrs. Delpit there is the probability of appeals as far as the Privy Council. Mrs. Delpit has no means to fight it. What is to be done?

THE TREATY SMASHER.

A more unsatisfactory way of making treaties with other powers than that which the United States constitution demands could hardly be devised. A British government has power to make treaties. Only after they are made need it be responsible to parliament. When the ratification of a treaty is reserved for parliament, as, for obvious reasons, is usual in dealing with countries like the United States, which keep a string upon their treaties, the government still knows with an assurance of a hundred chances to one that its actions will be sustained by parliament. British governments are responsible to parliament. They cannot exist without command of a majority in parliament. As government acts, parliament acts, for government is essentially a committee of parliament. It is entirely different in the United States. Foreign treaties are made by the administration, and have to be ratified by the Senate. The administration and the Senate are separate creations of the people. From the same fountain head of popular approval they emerge in the most different ways possible. The President is practically chosen directly by the people, and chooses his ministers. Senators are usually chosen either by political or other influences brought to bear on state legislatures. Apart from thus springing, in the last analysis, from the same mutable fountain head, and having the same interests in charge, these two powers have no solidarity between them. The result is that the administration seldom makes a foreign treaty which is not stultified by the triumph of buncombe bluster in the Senate.

The irresponsible recalcitrancy of the Senate is largely due to the fact that the United States people have been from the birth of their federation the most isolated of all the powers. On a continent apart, with a continent to subdue, with a multiplicity of states to weld into an empire, with a multiplicity of peoples to fuse into a nation, it has been the best of policy on their part to follow the advice of Washington, made superlative by Jefferson, by shutting themselves up within themselves and shutting out all foreign interests and issues. With the exception of the annual recitation of the fourth of July mythology, in which Great Britain has played a far more hateful rôle than the devil did in the miracle plays, and, with the exception of loading all their schools books for a century with this same mythology, out of which each successive generation was suckled on envy, wrath, malice, and all uncharitableness towards the mother from which the nation sprang, and which has contributed to it all its best blood, this advice of being dead to the outer world was well and truly carried out. The result has been an incredible ignorance of and contempt for conditions outside of themselves and a phenomenal callousness to the contempt of other peoples. To claim everything in sight as their right and proclaim all and every claim of others to be an outrage on their rights has been the uniform attitude of the mass of the United States press and people in all dealings with foreign peoples—certainly in all dealings with Canada. The interest of senators lies in championing these popular sentiments, while the more sordid interests which occasionally govern the Senate can always gain their ends by appealing to it. The Senate has thus become the very opposite of what the constitution created it to be. It has become a buncombe body, which plays chiefly to the pit.

The time of retribution has come, however. The wall of ignorance behind which the light of the outer world has hitherto been shut out from the American people have been pierced by war and by rapidly developing foreign interests, as well as by growing intercourse. The Senate has been called upon to pronounce upon a treaty every part and clause of which is a concession to the United States, and which includes practically everything in the way of concession which the McKinley Government asked for. It is a piece of pure acquisition on the part of the United States, and of pure generosity on the part of Great Britain, which values the good will of the American people more than her treaty rights in the Nicaragua canal. The only thing that Great Britain stipulated in consenting to the agreement was that the administration with which it was dealing should first assure itself that the treaty would not be rejected by the Senate, a thing which the administration of course did its best to do, and thought it had done. This stipulation was not made because Great Britain was anxious about anything which the treaty secured other than a cordial understanding with a kindred people. The rejection of the treaty would only throw the parties back on a treaty which gives her more. She only wished to avoid the customary indignity suffered by peoples who seek to deal diplomatically with the great republic, of showing what she was willing to do only to have it made use of by a grasping body as a basis for further demands. The rejection of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty by the Senate does Great Britain no harm. It is the United States that is the sufferer. It is the McKinley administration that is snubbed. It is the American nation that is discredited and whose eyes are now sufficiently open to realize this. How it is to escape, however, from a repetition of such humiliations it is hard to see. There will always be the administration living in the very presence chamber of the nations, with a responsible sense of the proprieties and the courtesies due between people and people, and there will always be in the Senate the quintessence of the nation's clownishness, members vying with each other to make national names for themselves by mischief-making and defiance of decency in international dealing.

In reprobating these unreasonablenesses, however, we have to keep in mind that the law of nations still is that he should take who has the power, and he should keep who can, and that the Senate, in throwing aside every question of right or honor in dealings, is merely asserting in a blunt way a fact which cannot very easily be denied that the United States is a giant and impregnable power that can demand pretty much what it likes, as no one proposes to quarrel with it. It knows perfectly well that Great Britain will not, if it can possibly help it. And we Canadians, who have no choice as to our neighborhood, will act the part of wisdom to take a leaf out of Great Britain's book in the matter. We may as well remember that the American people are bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh; that what they are is exactly what we would be in the same circumstances, and that whatever good there is in us is also in them, to be made the best of. Just as we should live as pleasantly as we could with a brother or sister in the same household, so it is to our interest, as well as the highest righteousness, as much as in us lies to live in peace and love with them. As for the treaty which has been practically repudiated, it may be followed, if senators have their way, by the denunciation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. That is the only logical issue to the course the Senate has pursued. Even that, however, would do Great Britain no harm. It would in no way hurt Great Britain if the United States did enrage all Spanish America by making this canal United States territory. It would do her no harm if the United States should be its exclusive owner, with a sad lack of revenue and a great hungering for British traffic. It would do her no harm if the United States should stand before the world as the Senate wants to have her do, as a country with which it is impossible to negotiate on any but disadvantageous terms. In all these things it is the United States that would be the sufferer.

THE DEMAND OF THE WEST.

The North-West Territories returned a complete delegation of Liberals to represent them in the new parliament. Three of the members are Liberals who occupied seats in the last parliament, and one, Mr. Scott, the editor of the Regina 'Leader,' is a new member who defeated Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin. Both before and since his election Mr. Scott has carried himself as a very independent Liberal, and he declares that he will pursue an independent course at Ottawa, that is he will not feel bound to refrain from urging reforms which the government does not see its way clear to carry through. This was the attitude of some of the ablest and most prominent of the Liberal members from both Manitoba, the Territories and British Columbia during the late parliament. Mr. Oliver, of Alberta, Mr. Douglas, of Assiniboia East; Mr. Richardson, of Lisgar, Manitoba, as well as certain of the British Columbia Liberals, were far from satisfied with the government's course in the last parliament in regard to the tariff, to railway freight rates and land claims and to the elevator question. They have admitted that the government has done a good deal in the way of reforming the land system, in mitigating the transportation and elevator evils complained of and in reducing the tariff, but they hold that the government, in regard to the latter two matters, have been very far from carrying through the policy the Liberal party were pledged to. Mr. Scott says that if the Laurier Government regards the return of four Liberals by the Territories as a token of their satisfaction with its course, it will find itself much mistaken. He says that the Laurier Government is given another chance to complete its policy, which includes the elimination of the principle of protection from the tariff and bringing it down to a purely revenue basis, rescuing the North-West from the railway monopoly, and bringing the lands owned by the railway corporations under taxation. Had the government succeeded through the agency of the High Commissioner in securing a measure of reciprocity with the United States which was a big plank in their platform, much of the relief from customs taxation which the North-West Territories, Manitoba and British Columbia need very badly, and so strongly demand, would have been secured. The difficulty which confronts the government is that there seems little prospect of securing reciprocity with the United States at present, and the people of the east are not in favor of lowering the tariff against the United States without securing 'a corresponding advantage' in the American market for Canada. On the contrary, they are rather in favor of placing export duties upon the raw material which the United States obtains in Canada while she heavily taxes our manufactures of those same products. Of course Canada follows a similar policy against the United States in the matter of cotton for instance. Another new objection against tariff reduction in favor of the United States is that any such reduction must reduce the value of the preference which Canada has given Great Britain and the Empire. And a great deal has already been made of the fact that in spite of the preference which has been granted to Great Britain United States exports to Canada have hitherto increased more rapidly than the exports from Great Britain to Canada. It is obvious, however, that the Canadian parliament must deal with the tariff as best suits the interests of Canadians both of the east and west, rather than as a means of huxtering with the United States. We have placed corn on the free list, with great advantage to the Dominion, though by doing so we have encouraged the export trade of the United States to Canada, and it may well be in our own interests to deal with other articles of commerce in the same way. It would be folly to endure a great evil in order to avoid a minor one. It is a comparatively minor evil for our farmers to be shut out of the markets of the United States, now that there is a demand in England at good prices for all that they can produce, and it is a great evil to the farmers of the North-West that they should be prevented by heavy duties from buying cheaper agricultural implements and supplies, coal oil and so forth. A reduction of the tariff against the United States, whether in case of reciprocity or otherwise, might well be accompanied by a further reduction of the preferential tariff against Great Britain and the Empire.

[For the 'Witness.'

A CHRISTMAS ODE.

1.

Oh, sweet-browed Mary, didst thou hear
The lowing of the oxen near?
Didst fear the bleating of the sheep
Would wake thy infant from his sleep?
Nay, fear thou not, for seraph's wing
Will ward off every harmful thing.

2.

Say, didst thou hear the Heavenly choir,
When, striking every golden lyre
They filled the purple vault above
With their seraphic notes of love?
'Glory to God in the Highest Heaven!
Sweet peace to good-wilied men be given!'

3.

And, Mary, didst thou see the star
Which guided wise men from afar?
And didst thou in its light behold
Their gifts of myrrh, frankincense, gold,
When kneeling at the manger-shrine
They worship'd there the King Divine?

4.

Ah, didst thou then in vision see
The garden of Gethsemane?
Didst hear when priest-led rabble cried
In jeers, 'Let him be crucified'?
Didst see yon cross with arms outspread
On which the thorn-crowned Monarch bled?

5.

Nay, not in vision, but in truth,
In later years, with heart of ruth
Thou stoodst beside that cross and wept
For him who in the manger slept.
When spear-thrust tore his side apart
That spear-point pierced thee to the heart.

6.

Then didst thou gaze, as gazed the seers
Through the deep mists of flowing years?
Didst thou behold with raptured eyes
The growing brightness in the skies,
As 'neath His reign as 'Prince of Peace'
The ills of all the ages cease?

7.

And, gazing still, didst thou behold
The final victory, long foretold?
The serpent crushed—the battle won—
The world redeemed by Mary's son—
The reign of sin and sorrow o'er—
God all in all for ever more!

8.

And, Mary, as the years fulfil
The mission of the Heavenly will,
Joy-bells of Christmas tide shall ring
Glad greetings to the swaddled King;
And Heaven and Earth shall join in one
To honor God's and Mary's Son.

ROSS JOHNSTON.

Whitby, Ont.

WINDOW GARDEN TALKS

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

Horticulture is sometimes spoken of as the poetry of agriculture for it takes in all the finer and more aesthetic elements of land tillage. Fruit and flowers are the ornaments that relieve the monotony of both town and country life and should be recognized as part of the necessaries of that higher life of which we hear so much. Yet how seldom do the men of wealth and philanthropy help and encourage the culture and development of the art of horticulture or seek to elevate this honorable calling. If we have sons or daughter who desire to study any other profession the doors of our colleges are open to them. There are magnificent donations from generous men that have brought within reach the best instructors and the best appliances to those students. But if they wish to study the science of horticulture with a view to graduate they must seek Cornell where a broader view of life's requirements, places these studies on a footing with the other professions. How then can Canadians expect that the coming generation of men and women who are fitted for and prefer these pursuits, will remain in this country, at such a low status, and without any professional or social recognition of their best life-work? Our neighbors across the lines are more alive to the importance of this vital question and their cosmopolitan ideas leave less obstacles in the way. As proof of this there is established in Winchester County, in the State of New York, a school of agriculture and horticulture, where the various branches from landscape gardening to bee-keeping are taught to women. The wise aim of this institution with its sixty-five acres of land, and thorough intensive farming department, is to raise the standard of this occupation and to this end there is a two-years' course that comprises botany, chemistry, geology, entomology, book-keeping, building construction, and the different branches of horticultural work. Strange to say, many of the pupils are from the cities, their object being to take up some particular branch of the work as the means of earning a livelihood. Three of New York's wealthy men have subscribed thirty thousand dollars to help the enterprise to a business basis, and already the workers find great demand for their produce, for in New York alone there are three and a half million consumers. But it is one of the questions of economics that will for a while puzzle the average brain, why the dealer in fruit or grain, who is often a man of wealth and of sterling worth, is not considered the equal of the dealer in tea and coffee—all being products of the soil. And until there is some solution to this problem there will always be in cultured rural homes, the youth who looks towards the professions, when there is not likely to be any social patronage, and when the poet of self-complacent pride will not compare him and his work as 'brother to the ox,' though really when one thinks of it there are worse animals than the patient, steady, plodding creature of the comparison. The tendency of horticultural work, always seems to be towards the help and betterment of humanity. It is not grovelling or cruel, or at variance with Divine laws or commands, as are some necessary occupations. Progress, industry, and honesty are the characteristics of these workers, and this without the advantages of that higher culture that is the birthright of those so employed, as well as the more favored professions. The gathering of the fruits and flowers keeps the mind aware of the great facts in nature, that all things work together for good, that the rain and the sunshine, the change of the seasons, and the growth of the flowers, are part of the great whole. That

'Nature ever faithful is
To such as trust her faithfulness.'

This leads the thoughts to the Giver of all good, and a home where these pursuits are accepted as a life-work, conducted with skill and intelligence, cannot be without interest. But there is need for system and training to accomplish the best results. Some of our broad-minded citizens have interested themselves in the old Horticultural Society, and are keeping it from bankruptcy, giving time and money to its support. But if they wish to hold a business meeting they must do so in the office of one of the members to save expense. There is no Horticultural Hall, where winter meetings and summer and autumn exhibitions can be held, and where members can feel at home. Nor could any one feel hopeful that such investment would be remunerative after attending the annual exhibition of fruits and flowers, when the money taken at the door amounted to less than forty dollars, while the expenses were in the hundreds. Not even the added attraction of music could interest the average citizen. A stranger coming into our midst from those cities where more attention is given to this subject would find enterprise on every hand. Stately buildings are endowed and devoted to the arts and sciences, theatres are put up whether citizens are willing or not; while hotels crowd each other along our thoroughfares. But there is no open door to help the man or woman who by devotion to study and diligent work produces the best results in catering to our necessary and material wants. Some day, perhaps, a Canadian Cornell will arise and be called blessed by loyal horticulturists, but in the meantime cannot we celebrate the coming of the twentieth century by building a hall to be devoted to the work and play, and display of our country's products, and to the recognition of that class of the world's workers who are really the backbone of this and of every other country.

IMPROVING HOME GROUNDS.

J.A. is interested in flower gardening but does not know how to go about improving the home that is destitute of shrub or vine, very bare, but has a good grass plot in front. Ans.—Without a plan of the land it is not easy to advise, but along the margin of the grass there could be a border dug, say, three feet wide, and filled with hardy perennials that will bloom at different seasons—columbines, campanulas, larkspurs, rudbeckia, and any other favorites. Among them in autumn could be planted tulips that come up early and are through blossoming before the others are far advanced. Old fences could be covered with Japanese morning glories and one or two more flowers started early. Then a bed of cannas bordered by the geraniums is very effective if a little out of range, for they grow so tall as to hide everything behind them. Gladioli are effective in the border among the hardy perennials, and a bed of popplies gives color to any landscape. Of course there must be some rose bushes, for what garden is complete without them?

NICOTIANA SYLVESTRIS.

N.G.—Yes, the nicotiana you mention is different from the old affinis. The plants grow from two to three feet high, and bear long tube-like shaped white flowers in large clusters. They grow easily from seed and come into bloom early. In a well-kept garden that was much admired last summer, the long strip of flower border was planted with this nicotiana set at equal distances, with well grown plants of scarlet geraniums between, and a late flowering larkspur formed the red, white and blue so popular in this patriotic year. The effect was very successful and the flowers lasted until severe frost.

HOYA CARNOSA.

W.E.L.—The thick fleshy leaf enclosed is that of hoya carnosa, and your experience in finding it a coy bloomer is shared by many others. It is of a tropical nature, and will not give flower in an ordinary window garden unless the heat is congenial and the window has sunlight. It will thrive with the same treatment as you would give to a geranium, and the leaves must be kept clean by frequent syringing. The mealy bug is very fond of this plant, living upon the tender spots. You will see it looking like a bit of white wool in the joints of the leaves. Give it a touch with a little alcohol and it will not trouble you long. It does not require moving very often as the twisting of the stems seems to injure it. Nor must it have the direct rays of the sun, as these cause the leaves to spot. There is every prospect that with the attention you have given it you may look for the flowers in early spring.

QUALITY OF APPLES.

'Novice' asks if in planting it will pay to be most particular in regard to size or quality. Ans.—In Montreal color has a good deal to do with a successful barrel of apples, red being the favorite. A yellow apple, though of superior quality, will not sell as well as one that is of the former color. A very superior apple, called Pewaukee, does not bring a high price because it is of uneven shape and color, while inferior fruit, if red and large, takes best on the market. If for commercial purposes it would be safest to plant out an orchard of the McIntosh red, Brockville beauty, Canada red and golden russet. There is a fine looking apple called Ben Davis that keeps well all winter, and in spring when apples are scarce people are willing to buy them, but the quality is very poor. Of early apples the yellow transparent is reliable, but the color is against it for selling. Duchess is of good quality but the market is over stocked, and there is no doubt about the old St. Lawrence and Fameuse being the very best; but they are so liable to disease that it is added expense in the matter of spraying to bring them to perfection. Further south there are several apples grown that bring a high price in the market but they are not always hardy in this province though they might succeed in Ontario.

ECHINOCERUS.

'Cactus Crank.'—From the description it is most likely your plant is named as above. The spines of this variety are as you describe, 'all the colors of the rainbow,' and your one flower being rose-colored causes the belief that you have this desirable variety. Do not be ashamed of the cactus fever—it is not so bad as many other 'fevers,' and many people of superior intelligence are attracted to these fantastic and unique formations of nature's works. Be careful of the watering, for unless they are winter bloomers it is best to withhold moisture at this season of the year. If they seem likely to shrivel give them a morning spraying.

BOUVARDIA.

'Janie.'—The leaves sent are doubtless bouvardia, but your little plant 'seven inches high' as you say, must grow a little before it will blossom. No, it does not start readily from cutting of the young shoots, but grows easily from cuttings of the roots, and that is the general method of propagation. In spring, after the winter reason of bloom has passed, the soil is shaken from the roots, and they are cut into pieces three-fourths of an inch long. These are put into sand to root, and kept where they can have bottom heat. Your plant had better grow and develop, and be divided in that way next spring, and set out in the ground after the weather is settled and warm.

GINSING CULTURE.

'Ginsing'—It would not be advisable to pay anything for secrets of the cultivation of the plant—nor for seeds nor roots. It is not very grateful for cultivation, and often refuses to grow when planted, or when seed has been sown. Imported plants were tried here unsuccessfully some years ago. It grows wild, however, in mountainous regions of this continent, and at one time was an article of export from this province. It is said to thrive best in shaded places and loamy soil, or earth from the woods.

TO VARIOUS QUESTIONS.

General questions that have been sent in have received answers by mail as they could not be explained in full in these columns. If plant lovers would keep a small thermometer in the window where plants are kept that require heat, they could tell better how the temperature suits the condition of their window garden.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

DR. SLOCUM'S NOBLE WORK.

The Eminent Scientist is Devoting his Life to the Cure of

CONSUMPTIVES.

Offers Free Treatment to all who Desire a Cure.

To heal the sick! To bring back health and strength to the pale cheeks of men and women suffering from that terrible disease, consumption, is the life work of that Eminent Scientist and benefactor of the human race, Dr. T. A. Slocum. Dr. Slocum has made this disease a life study, and no man in the medical world stands higher as an authority on all lung diseases than the man whose name heads this article. Dr. Slocum says, 'No matter how many discouragements you have met with, the cure is swift, certain and permanent.' To prove the truth of his statement the doctor is willing that every victim of consumption shall have a free trial of his famous remedies. Here is his offer:

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

When writing for them always mention this paper.

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

FREE!

This handsome, Gold Shell Ring set with a sparkling Brazilian Diamond, for selling only 12 of our new Bird and Jewel Stick Pins at 10c. each. They are beautifully gold plated, the gems being sparkling, simulating Rubies and Emeralds. Write at once and we will send you the Pins and our list of 24 Valuable Premiums. Sell the Pins, return the money and the prize we will send you absolutely free. THE STAR CO., Box 1065, Toronto.

BIBLE SOCIETY COLUMN.

The monthly meeting of the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society was held in the Bible House, St. Catherine street, on Thursday last. There were present the Rev. Dr. Shaw (in the chair), Dr. Alexander Johnson, vice-president; Mr. S. Finley, treasurer; the Rev. H. M. Tory, corresponding secretary; the Rev. F. M. Dewey, recording secretary; the Revs. Dr. Amaron, Theo. Lafleur, Principal George, Principal Maggs, James Green, A. L. Therrien, J. McCarter, J. Pinel, J. Patterson, D. Winter and Thomas Harris; Professor H. F. Armstrong, Lieut.-Col. Theo. Lyman; Messrs. D. Torrance Fraser, J. A. Mathewson, T. Moodie, J. Burt Sutherland and A. Robertson.

The meeting was opened with prayers by the Rev. Professor Tory. His Lordship Bishop Bond sent a letter of apology for absence, he having been detained by a slight illness.

The report of the general agent, Mr. E. Stacey, showed that 1,017 Bibles, 629 Testaments and 1,865 portions had issued from the Bible House in November, an increase of 165 copies over the corresponding month of last year. The cash sales at the Bible House amounted to $210.82, an increase of $24.92. Mr. Stacey also reported large arrivals of new stock from the parent society and the Oxford Press in anticipation of large demands for the Christmas season.

The report of the Rev. Thos. Bennett, district secretary, was a most encouraging one. At the beginning of the month he was at Wales. He proceeded thence to the western limits of our field, Gananoque, returning eastward to the eastern part of Ontario, visiting in all twenty-eight branches. Though the sales at some of the branches had been very small, the average for the whole was $15.72. Mr. Bennett evidently thinks the Bible has a better and firmer hold of the minds of the people at large than on some of those who should be leaders of religious thought, for he says: 'A certain religious paper, pleading for a nineteenth century revival, has scarcely a word to say in favor of a return to the patrirarchal family study of the Bible.

The provincial elections had not by any means augmented the funds of the society. Many of the branches were only laying in their stock as the political excitement subsided, and thus, though much of the work was still to do, his receipts were slightly in advance of last year.

Five colporteurs have been at work during November, Messrs. H. Chodel, in L'Assomption; Moses Chomedy, in Iberville; D. Daigneau, in Compton; J. L. McCullough, in Leeds and Grenville, and Jules Danthony, in Vercheres. Their work upon the whole was considered satisfactory, with one exception, who was to be tried another month in a new district to be selected by the Rev. Mr. Green and the Rev. Dr. Amaron.

An application was made on behalf of Mr. Frodesh, a Hebrew colporteur, but laid over till the finance committee reported favorably. An application for colportage work for Mr. George Andre was sent to the agency committee.

The following applications for Bibles, etc., were received: From the Rev. J. McCarter, six Hebrews, twelve English and twelve German Bibles, for the Hebrew mission. Granted. From the Ladies' Aid of the Dominion Square Methodist Church, twenty-four portions in French and English for distribution in the lumber shanties. From the Moore Home, Longue Pointe, for fifty large-print Bibles. From the Sabrevois Mission, for one hundred French Gospels, and five hundred for their colporteurs. From Mr. Frost, for poor Hebrew children meeting in the Evangelistic Hall, for six Bibles and one hundred Psalms.

Letters of thanks were received for several for former grants.

As some of the readers of the Bible Society column may have been troubled with letters and sermons of the higher criticism, telling us that some of the books of the Bible cannot be the writings of the men whose names they bear, and that there must have been at least two writers for the book of Isaiah, if not more, I will conclude this month with a quotation from Hugo Grotius: 'If ordinary men or ordinary ministers object to the critics they at once assume a lofty standard of position and learning and the objector is treated contemptuously as an ignoramus.' I select Grotius because in his time he was perhaps the most profound and learned jurist of his time, and his works on history and other subjects have procured for him a lasting fame. His work on international law is still used in many of the universities of Europe. Hear what he says: 'We say that the writings which have any particular name attached to them are the writings of the persons whose names they bear. The early Christians, such as Clements and others, after him, quote the books under these names and Tertullian tells us that some originals were extant in his time. Neither heathens nor Jews raised any question as to their not being the works of those said to be the authors. Julian openly confesses that these were Peter's, Paul's, Matthew's and Luke's read by the Christions. Nobody in his senses raises any question as to the works of Homer and Virgil being theirs, by reason of the constant testimony of the Greeks on behalf of the one and of the Latins on behalf of the other. How much more then may we stand by the testimony of nearly the whole world in favor of the books of the Bible.

'But since God has been pleased to leave us this record of the Jewish religion which was true of old, and affords no small testimony to the Christian religion, it is not foreign to our purpose to see upon what foundations the credibility of these books is built. That these books are theirs to whom they are ascribed appears in the same manner as we have proved of other books, and they whose names they bear were either prophets or men worthy of credit, such as Esdras, who is supposed to have collected them into one volume at the time Haggai, Malachi and Zacharias were still alive. But there is no reason for Christians to doubt the credibility of these books, because there are testimonies found in our own books out of almost every one of them, the same as found in the Hebrew. Nor did our Lord, when he accused the lawyers, scribes and pharisees of many things, ever accuse them of altering and falsfying the books of Moses and the prophets, or of using supposititious or altered books.

'And it can neither be proved nor made credible that after Christ's time the Scriptures should be corrupted or altered in any matters of moment, if we but consider how far and wide the Jewish nation, the scrupulous custodians of these books, was dispersed over the world. In view of these facts we think the charge of ignorance rather attaches to those who, at this late date, cast doubt on the authenticity of the books of Scripture, than to those who hold to their authority, supported as they are by such unshaken testimony.'

The Bible is still the best book mankind ever had or ever will have, for it points not only the surest road to happiness here but it points the way to eternal life. Therefore we continue to circulate it among all men, feeling confident it is the best gift we can offer them.

WHO CAN PAY THE WAR TAX?

SOME OF THE UNEXPLOITED RESOURCES OF SOUTH AFRICA.

(London 'Daily Express.')

Now that the question of paying for the war in South Africa has become a pressing one, amateur financiers, all more or less interested in protecting their own pockets and all more or less ignorant of the resources of South Africa, are offering gratuitous advice to the government.

As little of a financier as any of these self-appointed advisers of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, I differ from them in having no interests to conserve save those of the British taxpayer.

South Africa can well afford to maintain the interest of, and to provide a sinking fund for, a much larger sum than £30,000,000 indicated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The war was undertaken primarily for the good of South Africa. All of South Africa will benefit to a greater extent than any section of Great Britain in its result. It is but fair then that every part of the sub-continent should contribute towards relieving the home-keeping taxpayer of something of the burden of his war tax.

BRANDY AND DIAMONDS.

As the money has been expended in South Africa for the good of South Africans the old cry of 'No taxation without representation' does not apply. Great Britain has merely acted the part of a wealthy capitalist financing South Africa through its troubles, and is now content to recover her outlay by instalments.

In these circumstances the anomaly of 1,250,000 gallons of Cape brandy going tax free catches the eye. An excise duty of ten shillings per gallon would produce £625,000, a sum sufficient to pay the interest on an imperial loan at three percent of £20,000,000.

Diamonds, the most self-evident luxury the world produces, pay no tax in Cape Colony. In the £3,000,000 worth exported annually there lies the ability to pay another substantial contribution to the war loan.

Should the Imperial Government permit South Africa to possess its own mint—all of the necessary plant already lies in Pretoria—the profit of twelve shillings on every £1 of silver issued and the gain from the issue of bank-notes would produce another substantial sum for the use of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

So far as the mines are concerned, it is perfectly possible to extract a large contribution without in any way injuriously affecting Mr. J. B. Robinson's 'goose that lays the golden eggs.'

TAXABLE MINES.

At present there are thirty or forty mines in the Transvaal, which pay dividends amounting annually to five million pounds. All of these companies are registered in the Transvaal, and, in consequence, are immune from income tax duty. That is to say, a legitimate contribution of £250,000 may be levied upon the dividends of the gold mines—sufficient to pay interest on a war loan of eight million pounds.

From the Boers one cannot extract money by direct taxation without arousing a sullen opposition that statesmen in charge of a settlement must earnestly desire to allay. But while, for some time to come, a tax-gatherer's life in the Transvaal would demand a heavy insurance premium, the Boer will submit placidly to any sensible form of indirect taxation.

The Boer has no silly prejudices concerning the sacred immunity of corn, of bread, of meat. He cares nothing for a free breakfast-table, and, until his economic knowledge has developed, he can best be reached by a tax on his coffee, his gin, or his flour.

To tax the Boer's freedom by imposing market dues upon his waggon as it rumbles into the market square is, in the present mood of the populace, to invite insurrection. To pester the back-country 'takhaar' with blue papers is to incite to murder.

AND THE BOER INDIRECTLY.

At the moment the Boer is poor, hunger-stricken and despondent. He is in more need of government relief works than of additional taxation. But he has a soil that, forbidding as it looks to-day, is for the most part seeking only water and culture to yield great crops.

If the government encourage the settlement of British and colonial immigrants, the Boer will have the example of industry and the stimulus of competition to nerve him in his labor. If the government provide him with the means to irrigate his land, and, by the development of railways, to convey his produce to market, the farmers will speedily become an eminently taxable community; only their taxes must conform to the conditions of the country and to the prejudices of the people. Downing Street cannot impose these taxes.

If the Boer refuse to advance with the times, he must mortgage his farm and become a tenant and an employee where he has been an employer and a landowner.

Should Great Britain come to terms with Portugal, and should Delagoa Bay become a port of entry in competition with Durban and Port Elizabeth, one ton of coal would be saved on the transport of each ton of goods as compared with the Natal route. A still larger saving would be secured as against the Cape route. From this saving a sufficient sum of money would be obtained to pay interest upon, and to provide a sinking fund for, the purchase price of a leasehold of Delagoa Bay from Portugal.

By the development of the Delagoa Bay route and the drainage of the low country swamps, a great stretch of fruitful ground would be thrown open to settlement and to the revenue collectors.

There is another large taxable community in South Africa whose existence has not been called to the attention of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach—the native races. The South African native has little interest in heraldic bearings or servants in livery, but he displays his surplus wealth in another form no less suggestive to a Chancellor of the Exchequer—by the number of his wives. A Kaffir invests in wives as a Briton does in an Old-Age Insurance Fund. From the day he can afford three brides he does no work. The women hew the wood and draw the water, they produce sons and daughters, and each of the latter represents to the father a certain value in oxen so soon as she shall have attained a marriageable age.

THE UITLANDER'S BURDEN.

To the missionary mind polygamy is one of the causes of South African barbarism; to the economist's it is one of the sources of laziness and a direct cause of the insufficient supply of native labor to the mines. Impose, then, a graduated tax on every polygamous native—one wife free, two wives a small tax, three wives an increased tax, and so on to the limit of the Kaffir's wifely wealth. There is much money to be drawn from such a tax and much material advantage to the country.

Should Great Britain extend to South Africa its credit, there is in these suggested means the capacity to pay the interest on a loan not of thirty million, but of a hundred million pounds—a taxation that would not press unduly on any section of the community.

By contributing only a tax upon his dividends the Uitlander may appear to escape his burdens lightly, but resident Uitlanders will in the future have to pay house taxes, income taxes, mining taxes, land taxes, and all the multitudinous contributions of a properly governed state. It will no longer be possible for Mr. Charles Leonard to say he only paid a direct tax of a hundred and fifty pounds on an annual income of twenty thousand pounds.

For the provision of a Sinking Fund the government has the assets of the Transvaal Government to fall back upon—its forty percent share in the Netherlands Railway Company, its four thousand farms of three thousand acres each, its share in concessions and the bewaarplaatsen rights valued at any sum from twenty million to eighty million pounds. From these the repayment of a much larger sum than even the South African war loan can easily be financed.

I do not pretend to propound a carefully-designed scheme; I am content to expose a few undoubted sources of imperial revenue hitherto untapped in South Africa. DOUGLAS STORY.

NO MERCY IN WAR.

(Chicago 'Journal.')

The denunciation, by certain newspapers, of Lord Kitchener's course in the Transvaal, is irrational and absurd. Lord Kitchener was retained in command in South Africa for the purpose of ending the war. He is doing what seems to him to be his duty as a soldier and a commanding officer. The remnant of the Boers still resisting British authority are engaged in a fugitive guerilla warfare, the most trying and exasperating form of resistance with which a general officer has to deal. Lord Kitchener is responsible to his government and his sovereign for his failure or success. He is expected to end the war, and he is taking his own methods to do it.

In history, the invaders of a country have never shown it mercy. The theory governing the conduct of the commanders has been that the speed with which the conflict was to be ended depended upon the severity with which it was waged. The Germans, French, Russians and Italians are accused of many atrocities in their attempts to restore order in China. During the German occupation of France the orders to the German soldiers were to shoot down any ununiformed person who should fire a shot. Commissary-General Pearson, a Boer refugee now in this country, says there is not a male Boer who would not shoot Lord Kitchener on sight. He admits also that paroled Boers are taking up arms again and that farmers and non-combatants generally are assisting. Boer women have helped lead British soldiers into ambush. In the light of these admissions, Lord Kitchener's tactics, which are not new in warfare, must be judged as legitimate.

To be consistent we must remember that what Lord Kitchener is doing in the Transvaal is precisely what we are doing in the Philippines. In both cases resistance is being made to a conqueror, and in both cases it is being stamped out. When the Boers were killing the English by hundreds and winning victories, there was no appeal for outside aid. Having lost, they must abide by the arbitrament of battle. There is no appeal from it. The world may sympathize, but it will not aid. Civilization now demands the restoration of peace in South Africa. Lord Kitchener is following the quickest way of procuring it—by throttling all opposition. It is not a merciful way, but there is no mercy in war.

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4	8 in.	2 in.
1	8 in.	6 in.
1	8 in.	4 in.
1	8¾ in.	4½ in.
1	9½ in.	3¼ in.
2	10 in.	4 in.
1	12 in.	6 in.
1	12 in.	12 in.
1	15 in.	3 in.
2	15½ in.	6 in.
1	16 in.	6 in.
1	16 in.	8 in.
1	17 in	7 in.
1	17½ in.	7 in.
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1	12 in.	5 in.
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THE NEW CUBA.

Its People are Well-Behaved and Enterprising.

SIR WILLIAM VAN HORNE DESCRIBES NEW CONDITIONS UNDER AMERICAN RULE.

'Cuba has washed its face and its feet as well,' is the sententious manner in which Sir William Van Horne describes external conditions as they now prevail under American rule in the Pearl of the Antilles.

Sir William has just returned from a visit to the island, undertaken in the interests of railway extension which promises to be an important and profitable feature of the general development in Cuba which has been rendered possible by the changed conditions under which the Cuban people are now living.

Cuba used to smell abominably. The smell was peculiar, and had one cause—insanitary conditions. There are no smells now. The streets are clean—cleaner than the streets of any city in Canada; material developments had been carried out under the direction of the military authorities, and the face of Cuba has already been changed. The Cuban people are kindly, well behaved, and enterprising. The Spanish element in the towns is well informed of the events which transpire in the world, while the people in the rural districts have a natural intelligence which will compare favorably with people anywhere in similar circumstances. Of course, the proportion of the common people who can read and write is smaller than in a country like Canada, but that is because the Spanish Government had no interest in supplying them with schools, not on account of any inherent incapacity on the part of the people.

A simple people, willing to advance and learn and work; a people for whom there should be a good future.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Sir William, in the course of some conversation, dealt with general conditions. He did not desire to trench upon the political question, but he said that in regard to the government of the island, there were those who desired full independence similar to that enjoyed by any other nation in the world; a certain class favored a partial autonomy which would still leave the Americans a certain measure of control, while there was an element which feared the control which now existed would be continued indefinitely. But Sir William cordially testified to the good which had been accomplished by the American control. The cities and towns have local councils whose powers are limited. They do not handle the revenue; they cannot initiate anything of moment without the permission of the military; the latter do the cleaning of the cities and towns. The millions which Spain used to take out of the country are now spent in the island itself—with results of the most gratifying and promising character. Of course, there may have been perhaps a little unwisdom marking the expenditures here and there, but upon the whole Sir William thought it was infinitely better for Cuba that the American authorities should take the money and spend it for the good of the island than that it should be spent by a new independent government. Not that Sir William doubts the capacity or even the probity of the Cubans; but the first thing to do was to wash the face and the feet of Cuba, and this the Americans have done. Military rule is supreme in the island. The latter has the veto power upon anything which the local council may do. This works well so far.

COMMERCIAL MORTALITY.

Asked as to the probity of such of the official classes in the cities and towns as wield power, Sir William remarked that perhaps four hundred years of Spanish rule was not calculated to produce the highest development of moral sense, but 'there is more probity in official life generally and everywhere than we are willing to allow.'

Sometimes it is in politics; again, it is the breath of idle rumor; gross exaggerations are circulated, but upon investigation it is found that there is a tolerable degree of morality and honesty in public and official life everywhere, and Sir William remarked that the commercial morality of the Cubans would compare favorably with that of other people.

Material development is proceeding at a rapid pace. The only trouble with the tobacco crop is that it was too large, with the result that prices were off. Sugar is recovering, though not so rapidly as tobacco. The former crop used to be a million tons. At present it is not more than a quarter of that, but this industry is ripadly coming to the front.

The climate is delightful, as is well known, the weather at present being somewhat like one of our mild summer days. The hotel accommodation would be rather limited at present for a rush of winter tourists, but in time there will be ample provision in this regard.

GENERAL DEVELOPMENT.

Sir William, of course, has a fat other than sentimental interest in the historic island. Backed by abundant capital, he is interested in a scheme of general development. Of this large scheme the principal feature is the building of a railway from Santiago to Santa Clara. Construction has commenced at both ends, and the line will be completed in about eighteen months. From this main line branches will radiate as the need arises. The system, upon which a beginning has been made, is situated in the eastern half of the island, which has hitherto been neglected, but which offers a promising field for investment. Sir William rode over a considerable portion of it, and was favorably impressed by the physical features which presented themselves. There has been no engineering difficulties, no trouble about right of way, no obstacle of any kind placed in the way—an object lesson which might perhaps be noted by people nearer home.

A MOUNTAIN CLIMBER RETIRED.

SIR W. MARTIN CONWAY ON THE NATURAL RICHES OF BOLIVIA.

Sir W. Martin Conway, who says he has given up exploring and mountain-climbing 'to make way for the young folks,' is in New York in connection with a book he is publishing on Bolivia. Sir Martin is said to know more about Bolivia from a European viewpoint than any other living man, for two years ago he tramped and rode all over the chain of the Andes that runs through the middle of that country, and made a complete survey both of them and of the plateau and valleys on either side.

'Bolivia,' said he to-day, 'is the richest undeveloped country in the world. Among the Andes are gold-bearing valleys of great richness. Down among the lowlands there are vast india-rubber forests. There are tin deposits in the mountians, and in the south, towards the peak if Illimani, there are veins of copper. Borax is found in great quantities. The province of Las Yungas furnishes the best coffee grown in South America; and every conceivable growing thing—cotton, sugar, vines, and all the products of a temperate clime—finds opportunity to flourish somewhere.

'Yet this country is relatively undeveloped. There are practically no railways, even in the capital. An end of the Chilian Railway is the only one of consequence. The Indian inhabitants are much like the East Indians in regard to their relative number to those of the whites. There are perhaps 4,000,000 of the one to 30,000 of the other. And the 4,000,000 are to all intents and purposes in the original state in which Pizarro found them.'

Sir Martin explained that his survey—which was a personal enterprise, not a government commission—had taken three months, in the course of which he climbed Aconcagua, in Argentina, and got even so far south as to make explorations in Tierra del Fuego. Bolivia, he said, was divided into two equal parts by the Andes chain, the western half being a plateau some 1,200 feet above the sea level, and the eastern half a series of valleys and lowlands, draining off to the east into the feeders of the Amazon river. Mount Sorata, which stands at the northerly extremity of the Andes chain, is 21,490 feet above the level of the ocean; Mount Illimani, at the other extremity, stands 21,190 feet above the sea-level. Mount Aconcagua, which Sir Martin also measured, is 23,300 feet high. Lake Titicaca, on the west, is, according to Sir Martin, four times the size of Lake Geneva, in Switzerland.—New York 'Post.'

This is the time of year when your friends and neighbors are considering what paper they will take for the next twelve months. Give them some good advice. Just tell them about the 'Witness.' If convenient, let them look over your copy. Or if you will send a list of names and addresses of those who would probably like to see sample copies they will be promptly and gladly sent direct from the office, free of charge.

ABOUT PROMINENT PERSONS

Mrs. Otto Kranz was one of the women who fought in the Boer ranks. Her husband was a professional hunter, and she was his pupil in marksmanship, and well nigh his equal. She accompanied Mr. Kranz into Natal when the Boers first went there, and was actively present in several of the battles on the Tugela. In person she is tall and slender, and has a face of noble cast and of rich, dark beauty.

Edward Strauss, leader of the Strauss orchestra, has conducted that organization since 1862. He received an academic education, and at first intended to go into the consular service, but the hereditary tastes of his family asserted themselves and he turned to music. In the last twenty-two years he has visited over eight hundred cities in the two hemispheres. His musical publications include three hundred compositions of his own, and two hundred arrangements from operas, concert pieces and songs.

The first Protestant native in the Philippines to be ordained to the ministry of the Gospel is Nicholas Zamora, B.A., of Manilla. He is a graduate of the Roman Catholic College of Manilla, and is a good speaker. He holds services in various parts of the city, and the aggregate attendance is large. The father of Zamora, D. Paulino Zamora, was banished from Manilla without trial, about sixteen years ago, because he possessed a Spanish Bible which he had procured from a ship captain. The son imbibed Protestant principles from correspondence with his father.

Minister Kogoro Takahira is the new Japanese representative at Washington. He seems to be a worthy successor of the able diplomats who have represented the Mikado in the last decade. From his appearance he might be mistaken for a professor in some foreign university. He dresses in the latest American style, but keeps the suave address of Japan. He is a firm believer in the great future of his own empire. Speaking of the new coal fields in Japan, he said: 'We haven't any coal trusts as yet, or any coal strikes, but those are achievements of your civilization which we may yet experience.' It is to be supposed that this remark was, as Artemus Ward would have said, 'made sarcasticul.'

A Paris newspaper says: 'The King of the Belgians is very vain of his appearance, and spends a lot of time on his toilette. His beard especially is the object of infinite attention. At night, before going to bed, he envelopes it in a silk sack, which prevents the hairs from uncurling. His toilet table is covered with brushes, combs, and various kinds of brilliantine, and His Majesty passes half an hour there every morning. Once a week the king's chief valet de chambre trims the royal beard, taking care to keep it free from the neck, so that the hairs may not get caught in the collar.

A nine-year-old blind boy at the California State Institute for the deaf, dumb and blind possesses a phenomenal memory. He can tell without an instant's hesitation what day any particular event fell upon in any given year, and he can also tell the day corresponding with any ordinary date about which there would be nothing to fix his attention. He can give from memory the product of any combination of figures up to twenty-five times twenty-five. He has been tested with calendars both old and new, and is always able to tell the day the instant the date is mentioned. His name is Harry Baker, and one of his little eccentricities is to attribute a large number of years to anyone of whom he is fond. His favorite physician is eighty-seven, he says, while an attendant whom he does not like is only given twenty-two years.

The oldest practicing physician in the United States, if not in the world, is Dr. John P. Wood, of Cofferville, Kan., who, although ninety-eight years of age, is still active in his profession and has many patients. Dr. Wood was born in Dublin in 1802, but has resided in the United States since 1810. In 1823 he graduated from the Transylvania Medical School of Lexington, Ky., and in 1824 began his medical practice, which has lasted seventy-six years. He served as a surgeon all through the Mexican war. Six of Dr. Wood's fellow-graduates passed the seventy-fifth year, and five the eightieth. This may well have been due, in part at all events, to their having followed the rules for the promotion of longevity laid down by the class of '23 at Transylvania. These rules were: 'Live temperate in all things; abstain from tobacco and all intoxicants; refrain from gambling and all forms of excitement.'

Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst is one of the wealthy California widows who have carried out broad philanthropic schemes for the welfare of the state. Mrs. Hearst's ideal has been education. She has long been a supporter of kindergartens, and is now engaged in plans which will make the University of California one of the most magnificent seats of learning. She began by establishing in the university several fellowships for young and struggling women students. Up to this time the women students, who were ignominiously referred to as 'co-eds,' had felt themselves unwelcome, but with this powerful ally their status very soon improved.

Mrs. Hearst was appointed a regent of the university, the first woman to hold the position. Although, as she afterwards confessed, her heart was in her mouth when she walked into her first regents' meeting, she soon became a power on the board.

She grasped at the idea of having a great university planned all at once, the buildings to be constructed as needed, but the whole to be draughted by one man. Mrs. Hearst's immediate gift to the new university is a mining building to be dedicated to her late husband, who dug his fortune in California's mountains. It will cost a million dollars to build and endow the building. In spite of the public life which she has entered, Mrs. Hearst dislikes publicity. She is quite sincere in saying that she does not see that she is at all extraordinary.

The Londoner who frequents Pall Mall must often have observed a short, slightly-built, middle-aged man, erect in figure, alert in movement, entering or leaving the War Office. This is Field Marshal Lord Wolseley, ex-commander-in-chief of the British army. The personal characteristics of noted men are always of interest. Those most marked in Lord Wolseley are high physical and great moral courage. The first he has exhibited on many fields. Eye-witnesses bear testimony to his surpassing coolness under fire. In his 'Soldier's Pocket-book' he gives the quaint recommendation to those without sang froid, that they had better stay at home with their mothers. His work before Sebastopol was full of danger. He was wounded repeatedly. One night in the trenches he was so severely injured that the bearers who brought him to the hospital tent laid him down with the words: 'Here's another dead 'un.' Even then, with a face so bruised and battered as to be beyond recognition, his unquenchable spirit rose superior to his wounds, and he cried: 'I'm still worth a good many dead men.' Lord Wolseley is of a practical turn; the millinery side, so to speak, of his profession has never appealed to him. His little army in Ashanti was clad in Canadian homespun. He exercises decision of character in small things, as shown by his giving up smoking once and for all at a moment's notice, feeling that the taste was getting too strong for him. He eats little, and drinks less, he is a strong advocate of temperance, especially for soldiers.

HIGHER EDUCATION OF WOMEN IN FRANCE.

The position of woman has undoubtedly changed, and the sentiment toward her has changed; and if these changes are as yet scarcely noticeable beyond the educational circle, it is because they arose there and are extending, as it were, unconsciously. Women were appointed this summer on the jury of awards; they participated freely in the congresses; they banqueted with their colleagues. There was no restraint on either side; no affectation on the part of the women, no mawkish sentiment on the part of the men. There was just that cordial fraternizing that Americans love, with a mellow touch of old-world courtesy. On the juries the judgment of the women weighed the same as that of the men; in the congresses of education they were as ready in debate; and their formal papers showed a grasp of subjects which commanded attention and led to fruitful discussion. At the general banquet of all the educational jurists, comprising eighty-three men and six women, the latter were ably represented in the toasts by Mlle. Dugard, a well-known writer and professor. She expressed in a felicitous manner the spirit which the new education of woman fosters, the spirit of loyalty to the government and of international courtesy—that courtesy which is itself one of the inestimable outcomes of higher education.

This cordial recognition of women, this free interchange of ideas on a matter of public interest, is far removed from the traditional notion of woman which pervades French literature and has given a peculiar tone to French society. It indicates even in the university circle a great change since the congresses of 1889. On this point I cannot speak from personal observation; but it struck foreign delegates who had the advantage of having assisted also at the earlier conferences. Is this change a mere surface ripple? The answer is not doubtful. The change has come without violence to the inward spirit of the people, and it accords with a great world movement.

The efforts of the French republic in this matter began with the training of teachers for the public primary schools. As soon as the new government felt itself secure, it passed a law placing the training of women teachers on the same footing as that of men. This was in 1879. The age for admission to these schools (16-18), the subjects and more particularly the method of instruction, a method which puts the mind upon reflection and comparison, justify the classification of these schools as higher. They are not classical, modern languages and science forming their programmes; but in this respect they differ little from the non-classical courses in our high schools and colleges, in which German or French is accepted as an equivalent for Latin. Moreover, the training in these normal schools is above all things ethical, because it is of first importance that the future teachers of the people should have the habit of considering all knowledge, even the most elementary, in its relation to the conduct of life and to public duty. This was in the past, and still remains, a very important part also of our notion of the functions of higher education.—'Forum.'

NAPOLEON'S SENSITIVENESS.

Napoleon was always peculiarly susceptible to ridicule. When he received his first commission as a lieutenant in a cavalry regiment, he went proudly to show his regimentals to a family named Permon, who had befriended him in his early struggles. His form, thin and attenuated, had not then attained those proportions of manly beauty which distinguished him in after life, and his great cavalry boots seemed ridiculously out of proportion to his thin legs. Cecile, the eldest daughter, burst out laughing at his ridiculous appearance, at which he angrily said: 'You are nothing but a school girl.' 'And you,' she retorted, 'look like a puss in boots.' Her sister, who afterwards became the wife of Marshal Junot, once playfully alluded to this remark, when he promptly told her there was nothing he so much detested as a sharp-tongued woman.

Women Who Work

In the stores, offices and factories are to be found scores of girls and women who are entirely unfit for the daily round of toil. They are compelled to be on their feet until every nerve and muscle is tired and aching, and when night comes are so thoroughly worn out and nervous as to be unable to rest or sleep. The strain, the monotonous hum of machinery and the tremendous expenditure of nerve force is more than their systems can stand, and sooner or later they are obliged to give up the battle—worn out, nervous, irritable and despondent.

But it isn't necessary for women who work either in factory or home to be overcome by nerve exhaustion. There is a preparation, known as Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, which replenishes the wasted nerve force and increases the vigor and vitality of the body. If taken regularly and persistently Dr. Chase's Nerve Food will restore and revitalize the most exhausted and debilitated nervous system. It simply cannot fail, because it contains all the elements of nature which go to create new nerve force and vital energy.

Nervous Prostration

Mrs. D. W. Cronsberry, 168 Richmond street west, Toronto, Ont., states:—

"My daughter, who sews in a white goods manufactory, got completely run down by the steady confinement and close attention required at her work. Her nerves were so exhausted, and she was so weak and debilitated that she had to give up work entirely, and was almost a victim of nervous prostration.

"Hearing of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food she began to use it and was benefited from the very first. It proved an excellent remedy in restoring her to health and strength. After having used four boxes, she is now at work again, healthy and happy, and attributes her recovery to the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food."

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food

Is prepared in condensed pill form, from the favorite prescription of Dr. A. W. Chase, the famous recipe book author. The above cut of box is shown in order that you may not be deceived by imitations. Imitators do not dare to reproduce the doctor's portrait and signature, which appear on every box of the genuine. Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is different from any medicine you ever used. Instead of tearing down the tissues and deadening the nerves, this great restorative cures by building up the system and reconstructing the feeble, wasted nerve cells. 50 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

SCIENCE NOTES.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

The question of the spontaneous combustion of hay has recently been investigated by one of the officials of the United States Weather Bureau, who states that fermentation within moist hay may raise the temperature to 374° F., at which temperature clover hay will ignite. The best preventive to spontaneous combustion is a rapid and complete ventilation by which the oxidization and fermenting substances are kept cooled down below the point of ignition.

OIL FROM BORNEO.

The Gas Light and Coke Company, of London, are experimenting with a view to enriching their gas with petroleum, and for this purpose they have just received a huge consignment of oil from Borneo. One very salient feature in connection with this purchase is the fact that an economy of 25 percent in cost was effected by having the oil from Borneo, instead of from America or Russia, notwithstanding the fact that the cargo had to be brought a distance of 9,000 miles. Another noteworthy fact is that the vessel which conveyed the oil to England was driven the entire distance by means of oil fuel. From these experiments it would appear that the difficulties which have generally been met with as regards the use of liquid fuel at sea have been obviated.

MAUSER OR LEE-ENFIELD.

General Sir William Butler, who, in the absence of General Buller, has been in command of the great English military camp at Aldershot, has been making some interesting experiments with the Lee-Enfield rifle to determine whether, in similar conditions, it would have proved as effective a weapon as did the Mauser in the hands of the Boers. He arranged that a number of screens, khaki-colored on a sandy background, should be erected at a distance of two thousand yards from a position supposed to be intrenched. These screens were erected so as to represent a brigade of infantry marching in column, and their distance from the intrenched position was known to the defenders, as was so often the case in the war in South Africa. Thirty rounds of independent firing, and after that volleys, were fired at the khaki screens. There were eighteen screens, each thirty yards long by five or six feet high, and separated from each other by intervals of twenty-five paces. The depth of the column from front to rear was a little over four hundred yards. Two thousand rounds were fired, and in the end it was found that fifteen percent of the bullets fired had hit the screens. That is to say, three hundred bullets had hit the screens alone; those bullets were not counted which had struck the ground between the screens. The front screen was riddled. This seems to show that the piece is capable of doing terrible execution at distances considerably over a mile, in the hands even of such a moderate marksman as Tommy Atkins appears to be. No doubt the Boers would have been as successful with it as they were with the Mauser.

EDUCATION OF THE MILLIONNAIRE.

One fallacy in relation to their wealth seems to obtain among the millionnaires as well as among the millions, one that was exposed by Adam Smith in the very year in which we started upon our national life, namely, that spendthrift expenditure is a good thing for society. Despite the fact that every great economist since his day has demonstrated the contrary, it is a fallacy that has not yet been rooted out of the minds of a large majority of even the educated. Indeed, it might be called the pons asinorum of economics. There are so few even of college-bred men who have ever given themselves the trouble to understand the subject in the abstract, and of those few some are constantly stating propositions that are altogether inconsistent.

If Adam Smith, when he first exposed the fallacy of this belief, a century and a quarter ago, implied a responsibility on the part of the capitalist to expend his money in ways that would be most beneficial to society, or at least in ways not harmful to it, that responsibility must be much heavier to-day, with capital so enormously increased and concentrated. It is surprising, too, that the question of expenditure of the rich should have suddenly become a more serious question with us than it is with any of the countries of the Old World. When Adam Smith wrote we were a hardworking community engaged in the simple occupations of clearing forests and killing Indians; while to-day palaces have arisen on our shores probably as magnificent as that of Diocletian at Spalato, and a scale of unproductive expenditure has been initiated, with racing stables, ocean-going yachts, etc., that could not possibly have been equalled by the expenditure even of Maecenas. It is this that justifies a reasseration of some of the axioms of economics in regard to it.

When the millions as well as the millionnaire thoroughly understand that absurd and vulgar expenditure impoverishes society and checks the production, and when they learn that there is no economical justification for the present vast, unproductive expenditure, then public opinion will compel the 'multis' to expend their fortunes in ways that will be more in accordance with simplicity and good taste. The vulgarity of wasting wealth will be all the clearer when its effect upon the public wealth is understood; and no sound public opinion on the subject can be formed until the public understands the purely economic side of the question.—Truxtun Beale, in the December 'Forum.'

'Witness' readers will confer a great favor on the publishers by taking an opportunity of telling their friends about the 'Witness.'

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BOER EYESIGHT

WHY IT IS SUPERIOR TO THAT OF TOMMY ATKINS.

Sir Redvers Buller's statement that the ordinary Boer could see a man coming towards him two miles before the man could see the Boer excites neither surprise nor scepticism among the eye specialists.

'Really,' said a high authority to a London 'Daily Mail' representative, 'if you apply your commonsense to the matter you will see it must be so. The Boer is, comparatively speaking, a barbarian. At least, he has few indoor occupations, and does little reading. For generations he has been training himself to see long distances, for his livelihood depends on sighting his cattle or on tracking down game. Mr. Atkins will never possess such fine vision until his conditions of life approximate to those of the Boer. Like all civilized peoples, his vision is confined to a limited range. Even at the butts he is not called upon for any very special effort of long sight and he is not there very often.'

The fact was mentioned that several officers had come home from the war with greatly improved eyesight. Some, who had worn glasses, now found their sight quite cured and attributed the fact to the effect of the fine clear air of the veldt.

'A clear atmosphere,' said the authority, 'would be an important factor in sighting the enemy, of course; but the real truth is that these officers have benefited by their experience in South Africa. It is all a question of the ciliary muscle. Here is the ciliary muscle on this diagram, attached to the choroid coat of the eyeball. The ciliary is an involuntary muscle—one of the few muscles we cannot control. Its function is to adjust the vision to different distances and it acts something like the screw of an opera-glass. At long ranges there is practically no call on the ciliary muscle, but when, for example, you want to read, it screws up till the proper focus has been obtained. I have known, too, much study induce a kind of artificial shortsight, easily cured by months of rest. We use our ciliary muscle too much—the Boer hardly at all.

THE GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI

THE WAY HE TAUGHT A LESSON TO A BULLY.

A few years ago while Mr. Robert Stewart was governor of Missouri, a steamboat man was brought in from the penitentiary as an applicant for a pardon. He was a large, powerful fellow, and when the governor looked at him he seemed strangely affected. He scrutinized him long and closely. Finally he signed the document that restored the prisoner to liberty. Before he handed it to him he said, 'You will commit some other crime, and be in penitentiary again, I fear.'

The man solemnly promised that he would not. The governor looked doubtful, mused a few minutes, and said:

'You will go back on the river and be a mate again, I suppose?'

The man replied that he would.

'Well, I want you to promise me one thing,' resumed the governor, 'I want you to pledge your word that when you are mate again you will never take a billet of wood in your hand and drive a sick boy out of a bunk to help you load your boat on a stormy night.'

The steamboat man said he would not, and inquired what the governor meant by asking him such a question.

The governor replied: 'Because some day that boy may become a governor, and you may want him to pardon you for a crime. One dark, stormy night, many years ago, you stopped your boat in the Mississippi river to take on a load of wood. There was a boy on board who was working his passage from New Orleans to St. Louis, but he was very sick of fever and was lying in a bunk. You had plenty of men to do the work, but you went to that boy with a stick of wood in your hand and drove him with blows and curses out into the wretched night, and kept him toiling like a slave until the load was completed. I was that boy. Here is your pardon. Never again be guilty of such brutality.'

The man, cowering and hiding his face, went out without a word.

What a noble revenge that was, and what a lesson to a bully!

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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If you have any suspicious looking lump or growth anywhere on your body, better be on your guard against cancer. It is a prevalent disease, and to be on the safe side, you had better take treatment early, so that the abnormal growth may be removed before it becomes serious. If yours is a well marked case of cancer, the sooner you start taking our constitutional remedy, the less you will have to suffer and the quicker you will be cured. Such a disease as cancer is not to be trifled with. Our constitutional remedy is a pleasant vegetable compound, that searches out the cancer poison and destroys it completely and permanently. Many cases of cancer in the advanced stage have been cured by its use, even after operations and plasters failed, but see what anguish of mind and body would have been avoided had these persons taken our remedy at the outset of their trouble. Send two stamps for full particulars of the treatment to STOTT & JURY, Bowmanville, Ont. All correspondence in strictest confidence.

WINTER IN CHINA: A CHINESE REST-HOUSE.

The Chinese rest-house bears, at first sight, an easy resemblance to an opium-den. It is, in reality, something nearer to an oven. In the larger inns the couches are constructed of bricks and tiles, and are arranged in tiers like bunks on board ship. Between each tier there are hot air chambers, heated by a huge stove, and the only bedding is a wooden block for a pillow. The wooden pillow does not sound luxurious; but that is the only rest upon which all China lays its weary head, and all Japan.—'Illustrated London News.'

CAPTURE OF SIX WILD GEESE.

(New York 'Evening Post.')

The flock of domestic grey geese in the Bronx (New York) Zoological Park has been added to by the addition of six big wild Canadian geese, which dropped in the pond the day after the Presidential election, presumably to pay a passing visit on their way South. C. William Beebe, curator of birds, took advantage of the fact; after the wild geese had tarried three days, he took them into captivity. The strangers are handsome, big brown fellows, and take kindly to their new surroundings, though it is the first instance on record in zoological parks where a flock of these wary game birds, the wildest of their kind, have been captured alive. Sportsmen who have been told of the capture refuse to believe that the geese are wild ones, but Mr. Beebe has the birds caged and intends to tame them, so that he can turn them loose with his domestic ones. He invites all incredulous persons to come and see the birds for themselves. The attendants in the park, ever since the first of the month, had noticed large flocks of wild geese passing over the city, in the annual migration South, but all of them were very high up. The domestic geese in the pond were first to notice this migration; they became very restless, calling to the flocks far above them. Evidently they were not heard until Wednesday morning, Nov. 7, when a flock of nine caught sight of them, circled three or four times, and finally 'stooled' in the pond beside the 'Zoo' geese. They spent the day resting and feeding, also the night and the next day, but were very wild and suspicious. Mr. Beebe watched them closely, and finally made up his mind that he would try to capture them. On Saturday afternoon he and his men erected a wire enclosure, about twenty feet square, at one end of the pond, leaving a swinging door wide open, but propped by a stick, so that when the stick was jerked out, the door would swing shut. Four tame geese were put in the enclosure as decoys, and the ground baited with corn. Then the flock of domestic geese, with the wild ones mixed in, was slowly driven towards the pen. It proved a tedious task. Several times the wild ones would become alarmed and rise; the drivers withdrew each time, thinking that the game had 'caught on' and flown away for good, but each time the wild ones came back. Twice, after the domestic geese had entered the pen and begun feeding, the wild ones balked at the entrance and looked curiously at the swinging gate, the stick which propped it, and the rope attached leading to the concealed curator in the bushes. Finally, six of the flock waddled in, and down came the gate. The geese were prisoners. The rest of the flock took flight and flew away. Mr. Beebe and his men immediately corralled the wild geese and clipped one wing on each, after which they were turned loose in a pen with some tame ones. Strangely enough, the rest of the flock of wild ones returned, and now hover around their captured mates. Mr. Beebe thinks they will stay until the ice freezes. In the meantime he will try to catch them.

About four million dollars, it is said, will be expended in church erection during this year in the city of New York. The largest single amount is to go into the Episcopal Cathedral, the choir of which is to cost $750,000, most of which sum has been raised during the half-year. Next come the Roman Catholics, and, strangely enough, the Christian Scientists rank third in the expense list, putting more than half a million dollars into two churches in fashionable neighborhoods.

MR. KRUGER AT MARSEILLES: SITTING FOR HIS PORTRAIT.

Before leaving Marseilles Mr. Kruger was persuaded to sit for his portrait. To three photographers he gave a sitting simultaneously. He was photographed without his hat, and as he has grown his moustache his appearance has changed considerably.—'Illustrated London News.'

IS NATURE CRUEL?

This question, says the 'Literary Digest,' has already been answered by some eminent authorities in the affirmative, and the belief that such an answer is the correct one is widespread. Sir Samuel Baker declares that nature 'is a system of terrorism from the beginning to the end,' and John Stuart Mill asserts that if there are marks of design in creation, 'one of the things most evidently designed is that a large proportion of all animals should pass their existence in tormenting and devouring other animals.' If we assume nature to be the work of a Being of infinite power, he concludes that 'the most atrocious enormities of the worst men will be more than justified by the apparent intention of Providence that throughout all animated nature the strong should prey on the weak. These radical assertions are controverted by J. C. Hirst, of Liverpool, England, in a book whose title is the same as that at the head of this article (London, 1900). After examining the experiences of hunters of big game, he concludes in the first place that Sir Samuel Baker's dictum is untrue. We quote from a review in 'Our Animal Friends' (October) the following abstract of his argument:

'Where there is terrorism there must be terror, and terror is one of the most horrible of sufferings. Is it true, then, that the animals most exposed to the attacks of the carnivora suffer greatly from terror? We believe that it is almost entirely untrue. Terror in human beings is largely due to the imagination . . . . .

'Have we any reason to believe that the lower animals have a similar terror of imagination? We have good reason to believe the contrary. Mr. J. D. Inverarity tells the following incident: A poor donkey was "tied-out"; that is, as a bait for a lion. The lion approached, but the hunter, looking through his peep-hole, saw the donkey standing unharmed, while the lion went off growling. It was afterward discovered that the lion had actually tried to throw the donkey over with its paw and failed, although it had scratched the donkey on the inner side of the leg. But "within a few minutes of the donkey being attacked, it was calmly eating, which showed its nerves were not affected."

'Mr. Wallace maintains that "the constant effort to escape enemies, the ever-recurring struggle against the forces of nature,' are "the very means by which much of the beauty and harmony and enjoyment of nature are produced." To what else is it that the fleetness of the horse and of the many species of deer and antelopes is due? To what else, indeed, but the perpetual stimulus to exert their utmost speed, which is caused by the fear of enemies? But is not this fear the very terror which Sir Samuel Baker affirms? By no means. Mr. Francis Galton not only agrees with Mr. Wallace, but maintains that the peril in which they live is a source of pleasure. . . . .

'Prince Kropotkin points out the enormous exaggeration of the "tooth and claw" view of nature. The Prince refers to the families of elephants, rhinoceroses, and the numberless societies of monkeys to be found in the lower latitudes of Asia and Africa; the numberless herds of reindeer in the far north, the herds of musk-oxen and the innumerable bands of polar foxes still farther north; the flocks of seals and morses and sociable cetaceans which inhabit the ocean; the herds of wild horses, donkeys, camels and sheep which range the steppes of Central Asia. He says:

'How trifling, in comparison with them are the numbers of carnivora! And how false, therefore, is the view of those who speak of the animal world as if nothing were to be seen in it but lions and hyenas plunging their bleeding teeth into the flesh of the victims! One might as well imagine that the whole of human life is nothing but a succession of Tel-el-Kebir and Geoktepé massacres.'"

'Unless, then, death is an inexcusable incident in animal life, it would seem that the terror of death to be inflicted by the carnivora is really a figment of the imagination; and one might reasonably adopt the language of Mr. Wallace, that "the supposed torments and miseries of animals have little real existence, but are the reflection of the imagined sensations of cultivated men and women in similar circumstances, and that the amount of actual suffering caused by the struggle for existence among animals is altogether insignificant."'

Mr. Hirst does not, of course, deny that there is a good deal of eating and being eaten in the animal kingdom. This, however, he says, is not cruelty, and he devotes much space to showing that in their attacks wild creatures cause their victims little pain, although he does not go quite so far as to say that the mangled ones enjoy it, as Wallace maintained of the fleeing antelope. The familiar case of Dr. Livingstone, on whom a lion's jaw crunching through his shoulder acted as an anesthetic, is of course cited and supported by much evidence along the same line. The reviewer regards the case as having been made out, and concludes as follows:

'So, then, as the result of this most interesting investigation, we may reasonably come to the conclusion that nature is by no means the system of terrorism that Sir Samuel Baker makes it out to be; that it does not justify the pessimistic and almost atheistic conclusions of Mr. J. S. Mill, and that it is not the horrible commingling of devourers and devoured that a superexcited imagination is predisposed to paint it. On the contrary, we may believe that the various carnivorous enemies of the gentler races of animals are much more serviceable in training them to the finest exercise of skill and fleetness than they are destructive of their numbers or oppressively noxious to their happiness of animal life, and that in a world in which death is necessary, death by the assault of carnivorous enemies is no more dreadful, but is, in fact, much less painful, than many other methods by which life may be extinguished.'

APPENDICITIS.

Ten years ago the word 'appendicitis' was practically unknown even to the majority of physicians. When the first sheets of the 'Century Dictionary' were issued, about fifteen years ago, a reward was offered to any one who would point out a word that had been omitted. The word 'appendicitis' was not in the original sheets yet no one claimed the reward. And no wonder, for it was not until 1888 that Dr. Reginald Fitz, of Boston, applied the name 'appendicitis' to a series of conditions that had often been noted before, but had never been properly understood.

Now 'appendicitis' is one of the most familiar of household words. It seems paradoxical, then, to say that appendicitis is not more frequent than it used to be, yet this is absolutely true. A new and more exact name has come into vogue, but not a new disease. Twenty years ago two causes of death were very prevalent that are scarcely heard of now. They were inflammation of the bowels and peritonitis. We heard of a friend's indiscretion in diet being followed by colic, then inflammation of the bowels set in, and death ensued. Or an acquaintance, travelling at a distance from surgical aid, was stricken with peritonitis, and, before relief could be afforded, was dead.

It is surprising that the discovery that these serious abdominal affections practically always begin in the appendix should have been left to an American medical man of our day. All over Europe hundreds of autopsies were made every year in which the rôle of the appendix as the primary cause of the fatal illness is now manifest. The key to the mystery of most of the serious abdominal affections lay for years right under the eyes of every maker of many autopsies. It was contained in an organ, however, that was thought to be unimportant. Needless to say it was missed. When American surgeons first insisted that practically all intestinal colic was due to inflammation of the appendix, and that most of the fatal peritonitis originated in this obscure little organ, they were scoffed at by men who said ironic things about the lack of judicial conservatism in their enterprising American colleagues. Now the importance of appendicitis is fully recognized, though due credit is not given to American inventive acumen for the discovery.

It is the custom to think that appendicitis is due to some cause immediately preceding the development of the symptoms. Nothing could well be less true. The condition which causes the appendix to become acutely inflamed usually dates back for many years. What is constantly found in diseased appendixes after their removal is a stricture—that is, a narrowing of the canal of the appendix. When the canal of the small, lead pencil-like tube of the appendix becomes very narrow at some point it takes but little to shut it up entirely. Some disturbance of digestion, or a cold, or a blow sends more blood than usual to the intestines. This causes the mucous membrane of the intestine and of the appendix, which is part of the intestine, to swell. This swelling closes entirely the narrowed canal of the appendix, and then the trouble begins. Bacteria are always present in the appendix because of its connection with the intestine where they swarm. As long as the exit is free these germs are not dangerous. As soon as they are confined their rapid multiplication without chance of escape makes them deadly. They rupture the appendix, and if they do not find some way out of the body death in inevitable.

The strictures of the appendix that are the prime cause of the trouble are not congenital—that is, are not present at birth, but are acquired. Most of them result from severe intestinal disease in childhood. Some of them follow typhoid fever, or dysentery, or influenza of the intestines. The most important factor is undoubtedly the colitis of childhood—that is, the inflammation of the large intestine so frequent in the early years of life.

Appendicitis has been always with us. It can be unmistakably traced through history. Many a supposed case of poisoning was in reality only a rapidly fatal appendicitis. Chapters of history will have to be re-written with this in mind. Our generation will not escape its share in the dangers of appendicial evolution. We can individually lessen our chances of suffering by avoiding all forms of intestinal irritation. Especially does the chronic congestion that accompanies constipation seems to predispose to appendicitis. Constipation precedes an acute appendicitis in 90 percent of the cases. Not the spasmodic catharsis of drugs, but the regular action of nature is the surest safeguard against appendicitis.—Dr. James J. Walsh, in New York 'Journal.'

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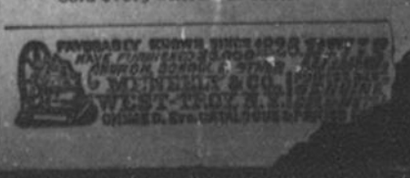


TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

Crossing Siberia has hitherto been a unique experience. Until recently it has been one of difficulty and hardship; but since the opening of the great Siberian railway crossing the Asiatic continent is no more than a tourist's trip and the journey can be taken with ease and comfort.

The Siberian train, passing as it does through a country where villages and towns are few and far between, must to a great extent carry the appliances of civilized life with it. One car contains a bath and an exercising apparatus, and in each compartment there is an electric reading lamp. In the first class coach there is a saloon, with arm chairs; there is, of course, a restaurant car, and a kitchen, with sleeping apartments for the servants. The night accommodations of the passengers are quite as comfortable as those of a Pullman sleeper. The meals are served at all sorts of irregular hours, every one ordering what he likes at any hour he chooses.

The trans-Siberian journey is full of interest, but the scenery is sometimes unchanging for days at a time, and grows somewhat monotonous. After leaving Moscow, the western terminus, the country is mostly flat, with evidences of agriculture in the fields of corn or rye. Some thirty-six hours or so after leaving Moscow the railway meets the Volga, and soon afterwards enters the slopes of the Ural Mountains, clothed with dark green firs and pines, with a few grey stone points showing bare against the sky.

The definite spot where European Russia ends and Asiatic Russia begins is marked with an insignificant monument in stone. Near the dividing line is Zlataoust, where vast quantities of iron are mined. The first town of consequence on the eastern slope of the Urals is Chelyabinsk; here the tourist finds beautiful rock crystals: pink, red, and green jasper for vases and inlaid tables; and copper ores of verdigris green, capable of a high polish.

From Chelyabinsk onward for more than a thousand versts (a verst is 3,501 feet) the train crosses a stretch of plain, and the landscape is not unlike what one sees from Winnipeg south to the border, except that it is a little more sunburned, a little less relieved by flowering plants, and the signs of habitation are scattered at wider intervals. Then the train crosses widespread marshes with brown-headed rushes standing tall and erect; silver stemmed birches that have never attained, and never will attain, their full growth, and willows with slender branches drooping. The next long stretch is through a line of Siberian cedar, looking dwarfed and badly nourished. At Taiga, some 1,500 versts from Chelyabinsk, the landscape changes again, and the line runs for another thousand versts through a jungle of silver birches, and small timber, which merges back from the line into a forest of larger growth.

The Irtysh, the Obi, and the Yenissei, besides numerous lesser streams, are crossed on bridges, and before reaching Irkutsk, 1,500 or more versts from Taiga, there is some stiff hill climbing.

Between Zlataoust and Irkutsk, some 3,200 versts, there are over two hundred stopping places. A very small proportion of these are towns, but nearly all the stations are admirable for their purpose. They are built chiefly of brick, or of wood in the design of a Swiss chalet, and are quite commodious. At every station there is kept a medicine chest and an official capable of rendering first aid to the injured. At the larger stations there is usually to be seen a group of silent, impassive figures in sheepskins about the platform. Inside the waiting room is a display of hot dishes and a samovar humming softly on the tea counter.

Beyond Irkutsk, which does a large caravan trade with China, and where is situated the great prison of Siberia, trains are ferried across Lake Baikal on a large ice-breaking steamer. The starting station on the opposite side is Misovaya, and soon after the railway enters on a plateau and reaches Stretensk, in the Yablonoi Mountains.

From Vladivostok, on the Sea of Japan, the line has been built north to Khabarofsk, on the Amur, and trains have been running for some time. The proposed ultimate route, much of which was completed before the outbreak of the Chinese troubles, will be from Misovaya to Khaidalovo, near Stretensk, then across Manchuria to the north of Vladivostok, with branch lines running from the centre of Manchuria to Port Arthur and Pekin.

It is interesting to know that the first stone of the Siberian railway was laid by the present Czar, then the Czarowitch, at Vladivostok, on May 19, 1891.

It is often said that the world is a small place after all. The building of the Siberian railway makes its limits seem more circumscribed than ever. To go around the world now is a simple undertaking—provided the 'needful' is forthcoming, and of this a comparatively small amount will suffice for the Siberian section of the journey, for the rates on the new road are very low. So it must be said is the rate of speed, for a great part of the line.

To circle the globe from Montreal one has only to take the train for Halifax, ship for Liverpool, thence to Havre, Paris, Cologne, Berlin, Warsaw, Moscow, Zlataoust, Irkutsk, Port Arthur; then to Yokohama, by steamer to Vancouver, and home again to Montreal.

AT THE WINE PRESS IN PALESTINE.

AT THE WINE PRESS IN PALESTINE

A LETTER FROM REV. GOSHN HOWIE, SCHWEIR, MT. LEBANON.

The operations of the wine-press were known in this country long before the days of Moses, and are still witnessed to this day in hundreds of hamlets and villages in Syria. Since the wine-press is mentioned in the Old and New Testaments to the number of over thirteen times (Jud. vi., 11; Is. v., 2; Matt. xxi., 33, etc.) it should be of interest to your readers to see the accompanying photograph and read the brief description here given.

The wine-press consists of a 'baidar,' half a dozen troughs and a boiler. The baidar is a rectangular basin, about ten feet long, five feet broad and eighteen inches deep. The troughs are of various shapes and sizes, but together, with the basin, like the six that are mentioned in St. John ii., 6, all made of stone.

In some cases both baidar and troughs are made of a single stone each, or simply cut in the living rock, in others made of several slabs, so fitted and cemented as to be water-tight. We threw our grapes (450 pounds weight) into the baidar and sprinkled them liberally with 'howara,' a kind of clay, secured from a quarry near by. Mrs. Howie calls it fuller's earth. Then two men began the arduous work of treading them. Is. lxiii., 3. The juice flowed from the baidar, or basin, into a trough in front below. On finding that mere treading by the feet failed to press out any more juice, the men collected the trodden grapes into a heap, cylinder-shaped, of about two feet in diameter, twisted a rope round it, forcing it to keep together, and then placed the slabs on the top of it. The photograph shows it below the beam which projects from an opening in the masonry, back of the baidar.

Immediately below the outer end of the beam there is a ring fixed in the ground below, through which a rope, made of twisted vine branches, is passed, then thrown across the beam immediately above the ring, and by a process of tightening the rope, the beam presses on the slabs, and the slabs upon the grapes, and consequently the last drop of juice is exuded from the grapes and flows down into the trough. We then removed the liquid from the trough into the boiler, a copper vessel (about four feet in diameter), which was placed on a furnace to my left hand, as I appear in the picture, behind my daughter, 'Canada.' We then boiled for four hours, and then removed it to another trough, and after four hours drew it off carefully and returned to the boiler, the howara, or fuller's earth, remaining in the bottom of the trough, with all the undesirable sediment, in the shape of heavy mud. The second time we boiled it over two hours; the result is, we have over a hundred pounds of 'dibs,' grape molasses or preserves, of the color and consistency of honey.

We took them home in a copper vessel, and now they are held in an earthenware jar. About fifty families wait their turn to use the maasira, or wine-press, and in about three weeks they finish all their dibs, or preserve-making. Those who make only wine go through the same process, with two differences. Grapes intended for wine are not sprinkled with howara, and the juice is boiled only once, but neither sugar nor anything else is added to the grape juice in either case; nevertheless our dibs keeps good for years, and is a staple article of food.

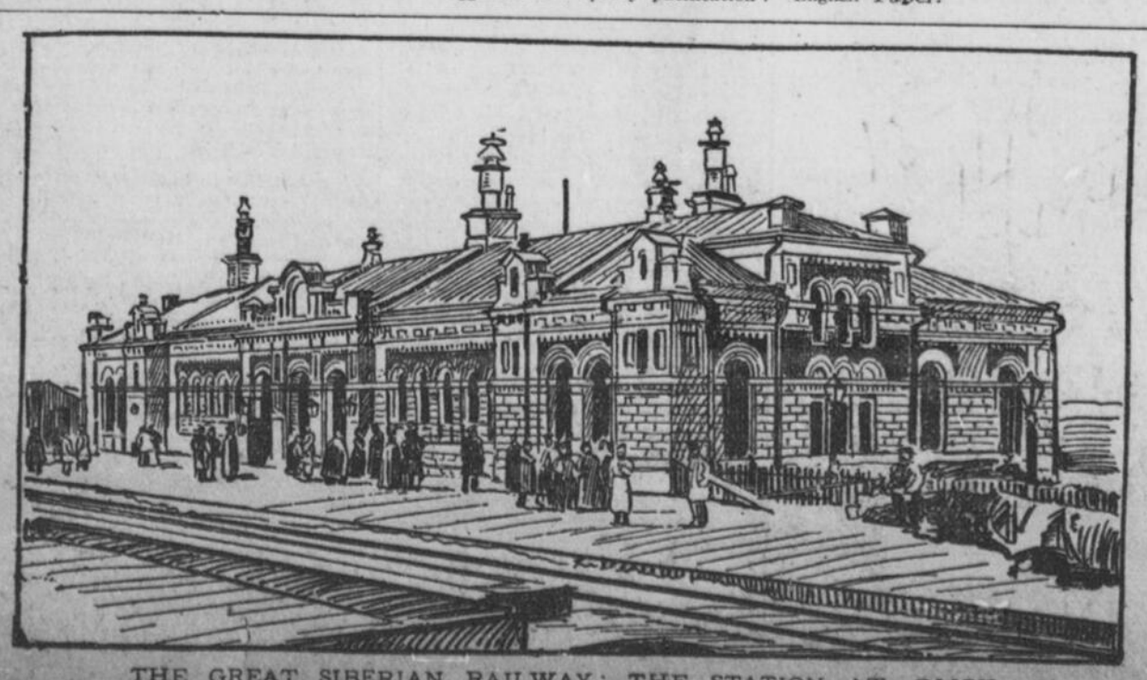
A WEIGHTY OPINION.

THE ONLY HOPE FOR CHINA.

The most notable utterance on affairs in China is undoubtedly the article by Sir Robert Hart, in the 'Fortnightly Review' for November. Sir Robert has been the inspector-general of the Chinese maritime customs for many years. Although he is an Englishman, he is an officer of the Chinese government, and for years has had under his control about one hundred and eighty officials, foreign and Chinese, stationed in all parts of the empire. It has been generally admitted that no one was better qualified to speak in regard to affairs in China than Sir Robert Hart, and if anything he has been supposed to incline to the Chinese view of the situation. The headquarters of the Chinese customs were in the vicinity of the foreign legations in Pekin, and while offered by the Chinese government an opportunity to escape from Pekin, Sir Robert chose to cast in his lot with the legations, and would not leave unless the same liberty was given to them. He was, therefore, one of those who passed through the terrible siege of the Pekin legations; and has had the best opportunity from personal observance to speak both of the past and the present in the Chinese situation. In his article he sets forth the attitude of the Chinese mind toward foreigners in a way which has been attempted by no other and which would be impossible to any other. It is his view that the Boxer movement is simply a symptom of an extended and almost universal feeling on the part of the Chinese, and he believes that this anti-foreign movement will be stronger in years to come than it is at present, and that if wise arrangements are not made there will be another outbreak more terrible than the present, because it will be more extensive, better organized, better armed and led. In view of his exceptional opportunities for information and accurate judgment, Sir Robert Hart's views are very discouraging in regard to the future of China to those who have hoped for a speedy settlement of the present difficulties and a larger opportunity for commerce and Christian missionary work in China. His article cannot, however, be called pessimistic. It must be accepted as very largely true; and the future policy of foreigners in China must necessarily be moulded much on the information which he conveys. It is extremely interesting to notice that the only hope which Sir Robert Hart suggests for a speedy pacification of the Chinese people rests either in the partition of China among the European powers in so effective a way as to prevent a general co-operation of the people in an anti-foreign movement, or in what he calls the 'miraculous Christianization of the Chinese Empire.' This latter alternative is undoubtedly the most weighty utterance that has ever been made by any statesman on the power of Christian missions. It places them on a level with the combined action of all the foremost nations of the world as an element for the settlement of the difficulties in China. Besides this immensely important and authoritative expression of Sir Robert Hart the casual criticisms of travellers and officials fade into utter insignificance. With the prominence and importance which have been given to Christian missions in the course of recent developments in the east, with the free acknowledgment that without the missionaries and the native Christians it would have been impossible to preserve the lives of the foreigners in Pekin, and with this tremendously significant utterance of Sir Robert Hart.—than whom no one is better qualified to speak on affairs in China,—Christian missions have been placed by authorities which cannot be disregarded nor gainsaid in a foremost position as the single element above all others best fitted to advance the interests of civilization as well as Christianity in the semi-civilized and barbarous nations of the world.—'Baptist Missionary Magazine.'

NO ALCOHOL FOR BELGIUM M.P.'S

Sir Wilfrid Lawson may justly feel no small satisfaction in the contrast between the new Belgian Parliament, which opened three days ago, and the new British Parliament, which is so shortly to open. The Belgian Parliament, by somewhat eccentric vindication of Sir Wilfrid's principles and practices, has avenged him for his exclusion from the British Parliament. The Belgian Chamber, for the first time since the erection of the Belgian monarchy, has resolved that every M.P. shall be a total abstainer—at least during the hours when he is officiating as a legislator. We imagine that it is the only parliament in the world which has as yet imposed a compulsory, if temporary, teetotalism upon all its members. The Quaestor, in consequence of the stormy scenes between the Socialists, Liberals, Clericalists and other factions of Belgian politics, in the last parliament, has decreed that 'no spirituous liquors shall henceforward be served' to any honorable member. All wines, spirits, and beer have been removed from the parliamentary buffet, but if any legislator happens to suffer the pangs of thirst during the heat and stress of parliamentary conflict he must henceforward assuage them, so far as he can, with 'tea, coffee, or syrups,' which will be supplied gratis to the legislators of the Belgian State. All that is now required for the ideal perfection of the new regulation is that the Speaker should 'name' any M.P. who is found to have a private spirit flask in his pocket.—English Paper.



THE GREAT SIBERIAN RAILWAY: THE STATION AT OMSK, THE MOST IMPORTANT ON THE LINE.—'Army and Navy Illustrated.'

THE VICTORIA CROSS

AN OLD SOLDIER'S VIEWS UPON IT.

An old soldier, who is evidently some one of consequence, although he is careful to conceal his name, writes to the London 'Times' to complain of the manner in which that much-coveted distinction, the Victoria Cross, is distributed. The winning of it, he says, is so much a matter of luck that the decoration itself is regarded in military circles with no little disfavor. He argues that an officer, however brilliant an action he may have performed, cannot well recommend himself, nor would the ordinary subaltern or junior officer probably feel justified in recommending his captain or colonel, even if the regulations allowed of such recommendations. Thus, in nine cases out of ten, however gallant an action an officer or man may perform, it is practically useless unless done under the eyes of or under the immediate cognizance of a senior officer. Again, the standard of valor required varies enormously, for whereas one general will recommend anybody and everybody, another will recommend no one. Further, he maintains that the institution of this order has introduced an entirely erroneous perception of what true valor is, and that it is only recently that, owing to Lord Roberts's strong common sense, it has become possible for sterling courage which is of real service to the state to rank as high as purely sporadic acts which are of no particular value to any one. To illustrate his case, he says that recently in South Africa, an officer in command of two squadrons of Yeomanry was ordered to attack the flank of De Wett's column strongly posted along a line of kopjes. Manoeuvring skilfully up to three hundred yards of the Boer position, he sent one troop round to the left, and when the Boers were fully occupied with this feint, another troop at a hard gallop round to the right. In the confusion caused to the enemy by these sudden assaults, he dashed with the remainder of his force up the front of the position, and dismounted below a slight ridge within thirty yards of the enemy. At this moment not only were the Yeomen under a tremendous rifle and shell fire from the enemy, but also accidentally from their own pompoms. It was a tremendous ordeal, even for veteran troops, but the commanding officer dashed to the front calling upon his men to follow; and the position was carried by the Yeomen against five times their number. Retreat would have been disastrous. Of this gallant bit of service no official notice has been taken.

A SPLENDID WORK FOR UNIVERSITIES.

The Agricultural College of Cornell University has started an entirely new course. Prof. John Craig has been appointed professor of extension teaching in agriculture and horticulture. As many of our readers know, the state has for the past few years given money for the extension of information to farmers. Under the leadership of Prof. L. H. Bailey, this money has been spent in holding schools or meetings and in organizing classes for nature study. A reading course has also been organized, and it will surprise many to realize that this already reaches 20,000 persons. In fact, this system of instruction has become so popular that it will be pushed harder than ever and fully organized. Prof. Craig will be at the head of this elaborate system. Reading clubs will be formed all over the state, with elementary reading matter furnished by the Cornell Experimental Station. The classes will be carried on, ending with a short course at Cornell, or a few weeks of special reading in the University Library. Field experiments will also be attempted in connection with the Reading Clubs. This scheme for agricultural education is a mighty and far-seeing one. There is nothing quite like it elsewhere in the world, and we predict that it will have an ennobling effect upon the agriculture of New York and America.—'The Rural New Yorker,' Nov. 3.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

123,000 Persons Killed

every year in the United States by Consumption.

The fault is theirs. No one need have consumption. It is not ered-h itary. It is brought on by neglect. You do nothing to get rid of it.

Shiloh's Consumption Cure

will cure a cough or cold in one night.

MISS BOYLE, a young lady of Simcoe, a school teacher and prominent socially, went rapidly into a decline from a cough. Was not expected to live. SHILOH completely cured her. People in that vicinity are well acquainted with the facts in her case.

Shiloh's Consumption Cure is sold by all druggists in Canada and United States at 25c, 50c, $1.00 a bottle. In Great Britain at 1s. 2d., 2s. 3d., and 4s. 6d. A printed guarantee goes with every bottle. If you are not satisfied go to your druggist and get your money back.

Write for illustrated book on Consumption. Sent to you free. S. C. Wells & Co., Toronto.

NATURE'S GLADSTONE MEMORIAL

People are all familiar with the public memorials which are raised to great men, for they are put in those places where men most do congregate. Occasionally these human tributes would appear to have been forestalled, however, for Dame Nature sometimes takes it into her head to frame remarkable likenesses of celebrated men in her handiwork.

These are usually little known to the public for the simple reason that they are mostly situated in remote places far from the madding crowd. One of the best examples of this sort is the natural memorial of Mr. Gladstone on the way from Simon's Town to Cape Point, in South Africa, of which we give an illustration. The thing speaks for itself, for with a very slight additional protuberance at the base it would really pass for an 'impressionist' bust of Mr. Gladstone. In no part of the world does nature play more curious tricks in the configuration of hills and so forth than in Africa, where the most startling resemblances to men and animals freely abound on the rocky outlines of kopjes and mountains. Certainly, the great statesman's memory will not be allowed to grow green in South Africa for many a day to come; as long, in fact, as the strange rock near Simon's Town exists in its present shape for passers by to gaze upon.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

DYSPEPSIA.

Geo. S. Scally, of 75 Nassau St., New York, says: 'For years I have been troubled with rheumatism and dyspepsia, and I came to the conclusion to try your pills. I immediately found great relief from their use; I feel like a new man since I commenced taking them, and would not now be without them. The drowsy, sleepy feeling I used to have has entirely disappeared. The dyspepsia has left me and my rheumatism is gone entirely. I am satisfied if any one so afflicted will give Radway's Pills a trial they will surely cure them, for I believe it all comes from the system being out of order—the liver not doing its work.'

Radway's Pills

cure all Disorders of the Stomach, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Dizziness, Costiveness, Piles, Sick Headache, Female Complaints, Biliousness, Indigestion, Constipation and all Disorders of the Liver. 25c per box. At Druggists or by mail. Radway & Co., 7 St. Helen street, Montreal, Can. Be sure to get 'Radway's' and see that the name is on what you buy. 13

SECRETARY AND THE SNUB.

(Correspondence of the New York 'Evening Post.')

Washington, Dec. 15.—That Secretary Hay has offered to relieve the President of any embarrassment which may result from his remaining longer in the cabinet is undoubtedly true. That the President has refused to accept his offer to resign is quite as well assured. The logic of the situation is all against his permitting Mr. Hay to leave him. As for getting on with the Senate, no other secretary could do any better. Even the most refractory senators are ready to admit that. Moreover, behind every one of a score of treaties sent to the Senate since Mr. Hay became secretary, but thus far refused ratification, the President has stood as co-sponsor with him; yet the President has no thought of resigning.

The fact is, there are just enough men in the Senate under the constitutional rule requiring a two-thirds vote for ratification, to kill any treaty which is of sufficient importance to attract attention from the public—not because the treaty is bad, but because any treaty whatever means that the United States government is agreeing to do something, or to abstain from something, with the approval and co-operation of some other power, while the very basic principle of 'galoot statesmanship' was summed up in the Chicago platform's demand for the free coinage of silver, 'without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation.' Even the Samoan treaty escaped condemnation by a hair's breadth. The whole trouble with a treaty, as such, is that international amenities like, 'If you please' or 'By your leave,' are hateful to certain elements whether in toga or in nightcap.

It is perfectly plain at what end the champions of amendment, led by Senator Lodge, are aiming in this matter. They have set out to approve a treaty, but not the treaty signed by Secretary Hay and Lord Pauncefote. On the contrary, there is no concealment of their purpose to rip that instrument into rags and make it over into such a shape that England cannot and will not accept it. At first it was thought that the Davis amendment alone would accomplish that design. When England appeared to look complacently upon the Davis amendment as inoperative and futile, a new crop of amendments followed. Something must be found at which English self-respect would revolt, and then, when the news comes that the amendments are not acceptable, the Senate can wave its arm grandly through the air and say: 'See, we have given England a treaty which would solve all the difficulties now outstanding. She has rejected it. Upon her shoulders, not ours, rests the responsibility for its failure.'

It may be asked, What will remain after this treaty has failed? How shall the path to the Nicaragua Canal be cleared of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty? The leading Republican newspaper in the United States calls for the 'denunciation of that treaty, 'in accordance with the conditions prescribed for its termination.' Unfortunately for this proposal, the treaty does not prescribe conditions for denunciation. The treaty is perpetual in its terms, and the champions of the denunciation plan obviously have not read it through. All that is left to us, actually, is the violent abrogation of the treaty. We are to say in effect to Great Britain: 'We enjoyed the benefits of this treaty for fifty years, but it no longer suits our convenience to recognize it; so, good-by, and get out.'

And Great Britain's reply? Some of the senators talk joyously, under their breath, about British resentment and war. Every sensible person knows that there will be no war. England can well afford to leave us in the position we have deliberately chosen for ourselves, and let the rest of the civilized world pass judgment on our manner of keeping faith with a friendly neighbor.

If matters should come to this pass, and the Senate's final action should require Mr. Hay to enter upon a course of diplomatic conduct repugnant to his sense of honor and decency, it is not to be expected that he would consent to remain at the head of the State Department any longer, or that the President would further insist upon his staying.

A PRIZE WORTH WINNING.

Twenty-five new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' at one dollar each will secure the 'New Witness' sewing machine to a present subscriber. See advertisement for further particulars.

THE BEST PREMIUM YET.

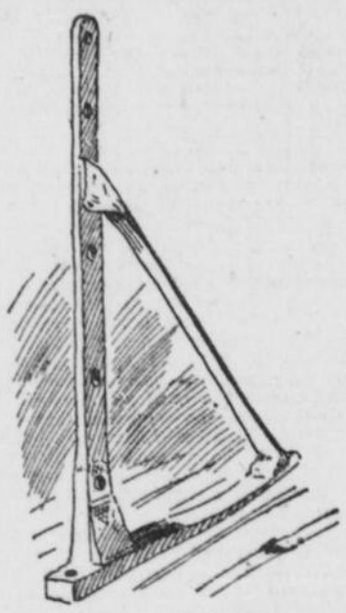
The Post Fountain Pen. See particulars in advertisement how to obtain the [illegible] of cost.

AN OLD RELIC

KNEE OF AN OLD SAILING VESSEL AT THE CHATEAU DE RAMEZAY.

Ship-building was one of the early industries of Canada. Very early under the French regime the Intendant recommended that ships should be built at Quebec for the French government. These suggestions were later on adopted, and from time to time vessels were launched from the government shipyard. These were mainly used in the marine or in transport service.

In the fall of 1748 the keel of a much larger vessel than any hitherto built at this place was laid. And by the end of September the 'Orignal' was ready to be launched. Through some miscalculation the slide for launching was made too short, so that when the ship had got half off there was not sufficient support, and she broke her back. After floating



WROUGHT IRON KNEE.

From the old sailing vessel 'Orignal.'

a short distance she filled and sank in about one hundred feet of water. A number of letters passed between the Governor and Intendant and the minister at Paris, each of the colonial officers blaming the other. But as there were at that time no appliances for raising her, she lay there undisturbed until 1878.

At that time the tangle of old anchors in Quebec harbor became the cause of great loss to shipmasters. Hardly a vessell came into harbor that did not lose an anchor or two, for if they got caught in one of the tangles it was impossible to raise them.

In that year the Harbor Commissioners of Quebec began cleaning up these tangles, and hundreds of anchors, many of them very old, were brought to the surface. One of the worst of these anchor nests was the old hulk of the sunken 'Orignal.' As it was impossible to clean this nest out, it was found necessary to blow it up. Some of the old timbers, which were of oak, were raised. The wood was found to be brittle through long submersion. But attached to one of the beams was an iron knee, in a good state of preservation.

This knee, of which we give an illustration, is now deposited in the Chateau de Ramezay museum; and is interesting, not only as a part of a Canadian ship built over a hundred and fifty years ago, but as a specimen of early Canadian iron work. The St. Maurice iron industry was established towards the middle of the seventeenth century, and many stoves and other requisites were turned out. But the industry was not confined to casting. A regular forge was instituted, and this knee is a typical specimen of the work. One leg measures five feet, and the other five feet five inches. The weight is 290 pounds. There is a cross-piece welded on to strengthen it. The welding is well done, and shows good appliances, as it could not be done with an ordinary hammer. The holes pierced in the knee are quite regular, and as well done as by the best machinery of to-day. It is a not unworthy pioneer of the industry which is shortly to make Canada one of the foremost iron-producing countries of the world.

HOW CHURCHILL GOT HIS LIBERTY.

(Philadelphia 'Saturday Evening Post.')

Of Winston Churchill, the famous young English M.P., and war correspondent, a rather good story of the time when he was a prisoner of war in Pretoria is being told in the London clubs.

In common with many of the other British prisoners, he was allowed to borrow books from the State Library, which contained many excellent works. One of the first books which he obtained was Carlyle's Life of Frederick the Great. In a very short time he had read through the whole of the half-dozen volumes.

He then asked for and received an English edition of Mills's 'On Liberty.' Within a few days of receiving the book he succeeded in escaping from Pretoria.

When the Boer jailers came to search the quarters of the vanished captive they found the book, with its suggestive title of 'On Liberty.' Now, the book was printed in English, and, unfortunately the Boer librarians were not very well acquainted with that language. They understood the meaning of the title, but, try as they would, could make very little of the contents.

However, the fact that this was the last book which Churchill read before his disappearance seemed to them a very suspicious circumstance. From its title they judged that it must have aided him to escape. They decided that it would be unwise to lend it to any other Britishers, and from that time any English officer who desired to study Mills's famous work and applied to the library for it was suspiciously refused.

'EXCELSIOR' IN 'PIDGIN-ENGLISH.'

(T. C. M., in 'New York Witness.')

In the seaports of China, Japan, and other Far Eastern lands, and on the ships that trade between them, there is a curious tongue spoken, called 'pidgin-English.' It gets this name because the word 'pidgin' means 'business' or work of any kind, and the speech itself is chiefly used for purposes of trade and labor. It consists largely of slight alterations of English or other foreign words arranged in forms as like Chinese idioms as possible. For example, you might call at a house to see a friend, and the conversation with the servant who came to the door might run like this:—

'Master have got?' ('Is your master at home?')

'No got!' ('He is out!')

'What side have go?' ('Where has he gone?')

'One piecee man come this side, talkee he littee time. Master talkee wanchee trap; mawfoo catchee he; bring this side. Two piecee man get in; walkee-walkee chop-chop.' ('A gentleman came here, and after a little conversation the master said he wanted his trap. The groom fetched it round, both gentlemen got in and drove away very fast.')

'You can savee what side go?' ('Do you know where they went?')

'No can savee. Walkee-walkee all same go looksee joss-man b'long city gate.' ('I don't know. They drove as if they were going to see the missionary who lives by the city gate.')

From one of my scrap-books I have taken the following translation of Longfellow's poem 'Excelsior!' into that curious tongue, copied when I lived in the Celestial Empire.

EXCELSIOR! 'Topside galow!'

That nightee time begin chop-chop (1),
One young man walkee (2), no can stop
Marskee (3) snow—marskee ice,
He carry flag with chop (4) so nice,
'Topside galow!' (5)

He muchee (6) sorry one piece (7) eye
Looksee sharp, so—all same mi. (8)
Him talkee largee (9), talkee strong (10),
Inside he (11) mouth he plenty cry,
'Topside galow!'

Ole (12) man talkee (13) 'No can walk (14);
'By'm bye rain come—welly (15) dark,
'Have got water, welly wide!' (16)
'Marskee! (17) Mi wanchee go topside—(18)
'Topside galow!'

'Man-man,' one girlee talkee he (19),
'What for you go topside, looksee?' (20)
And one time (21) more he plenty cry (22),
But all time walkee (23) plenty high (24),
'Topside galow!'

'Take care that spoilum tree (25), young man!
Take care that ice—he want man-man!' (26)
That coolie (27) chin-chin he (28) good-night—
He talkee (29) 'Mi can go all light,'
'Topside galow!'

Joss-pidgin man (30) he soon (31) begin
Morning time that Joss-chin-chin (32)
He no man see (33), he plenty fear (34),
'Cos some man talkee (35) he can hear,
'Topside galow!'

That young man die, one large dog see:
Too muchee bobbery (36) findee he (37);
He hand b'long (38) colo (39)—all same ice (40)
Have got (41) that flag with chop so nice (42)—
'Topside galow!'

(1) Fast, quickly. (2) Travelled, 'passed.' (3) In spite of (here). 'Device' (here); motto; brand (often.) (5) 'Excelsior!' 'Higher up!'

(6) Very. (7) A word used before nouns to take the place of a particle which is used in the Chinese language. (8) Like mine. (9) Earnestly. (10) Loudly. (11) His.

(12) Old. (13) Said. (14) The travelling is bad. (15) Very. (16) There is a very wide river. (17) Never mind! (here). (18) I want to go up.

(9) 'Stop,' said a girl to him. (20) Why do you want to go up? or, What do you want to do up there? (21) Again. (22) Wept copiously. (23) Kept on travelling. (24) Reaching a great height.

(25) 'Beware of the pine tree's withered branch. (26) You must go very carefully (slowly) over it. (27) Laborer. (28) Bade him. (29) Answered.

(30) Religion (joss-pidgin) man, applied with equal readiness to heathen or Roman Catholic priest or Protestant missionary. (31) Early. (32) Prayers, worship, service. (33) He could not see anybody. (34) Became greatly alarmed. (35) Told him (here).

(36) A very sad occurrence (here); more liberally, a great trouble or big disaster. (37) He discovered. (38) Was (here). (39) Cold. (40) Just like ice. (41) Still held (here). (42) Pretty.

[For the 'Witness.'

CANADIANS ALL FOREVER.

(A National Chorus.)

I.

Canadians all, from East to West,
With loyal zeal upholding,
The banner'd glory of our crest,
The future's greatness moulding!
At danger's call,
Whate'er befall,
Stout hearts shall fail us never,
While hand in hand,
We firmly stand,
Canadians all forever!

II.

For gifts that keep a nation strong,
And deeds of knightly daring,
We raise the voice of Freedom's song,
Our sonship proudly wearing!
And near and far,
In toil or war,
Fell fate shall fright us never,
While staunch and true,
We dare and do,
Canadians all forever!

JOHN MACFARLANE.

Montreal.

AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL

We invite communications from farmers giving their experience on matters interesting to them as a class; and also enquiries, to which, if we cannot answer them ourselves, some of our readers may be able to furnish satisfactory replies. Questions must always be accompanied by name and address, though not necessarily for publication.]

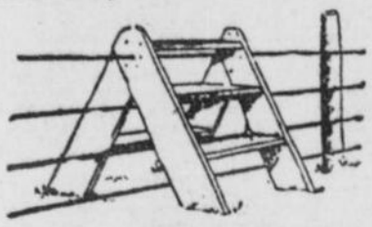
A SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT FRUIT PICKER.

A simple, cheaply-made and convenient fruit-picker is illustrated in 'Farm and Home,' which secures a severance of the fruit from the branch without danger of its dropping to the ground. It consists of a tomato can at the end of a stick, described as follows: 'A slit is

cut in the bottom, which is turned down, and two nails driven through it into the end of the pole. A notch is cut as at a., to catch the stem of the fruit in. With a turn of the handle, the stem is wrenched from the tree and the fruit drops into the can.

STILE FOR WIRE FENCE.

Wire fences are now common all over the country and are very awkward to climb. Many accidents have occurred,



and many painful injuries been inflicted in unsuccessful attempts to climb those of the barbed varieties, whose name is 'legion.' The accompanying illustration, copied from the 'American Agriculturist,' shows a very convenient stile for climbing such fences, and one that may be easily put up by any person who is handy in the use of tools.

THE COW-BIRD.

In a recent number of the 'Farming World,' Mr. Nash, the noted Canadian naturalist, gives an illustrated description of this bird, of which the above cut is a copy.

The description of the species is as follows: Adult male, in summer, all over except the head a lustrous glossy black, with green, purple and bronze reflections, head glossy chestnut. Female and young, when full-grown, dull, sooty black. Young, in first plumage, dull

Cow-bird (Molothrusater) Adult Male.

brownish above, beneath ashen grey, broadly striped, with dull brown; length of adult male, seven to eight inches, female, rather smaller.

The name cow-bird was undoubtedly given to this species on account of its habit of resorting to pasture fields in which cattle are grazing, where the birds may usually be seen running about almost under the feet of the animals, the attraction being the insects disturbed by the movements of the beasts.

If the weather is fine, the male cow-birds arrive here from the Southern States about the twenty-fifth of March, having migrated thither for a milder climate the previous fall. About a week after the arrival of the males the females follow them. Both sexes then unite and form small flocks, remaining associated in this way for the remainder of the season.

Their food in the spring and early summer consists of insects and weed seeds principally. Later on, as the grain ripens, they visit the oat and wheat fields, and help themselves freely, but on the whole they are helpful to the farmer to some extent, as they pay for all the grain they eat in the autumn by the destruction of insects earlier in the year.

The love-song of the male consists of a few discordant notes, more nearly resembling the squealing of the rusty axle of a wheelbarrow than anything else to which they can be likened. Few and inharmonious as these notes are, the would-be warbler seems to be very proud of them, and when making this absurd noise, spreads his tail and wings and twists about to show off his plumage to the greatest advantage before the female who happens to be at the time the object of his transient admiration.

I am sorry to say, this bird has some very bad characteristics. It does not mate nor build a nest for itself, nor set up housekeeping in a legitimate, honest and exemplary way. The female seeks out the completed nest of a sparrow, finch, warbler or some other bird, and in it deposits an egg of her own, leaving it there to be hatched by the bird on whose home she has trespassed. In due time the eggs are all hatched, and then there is trouble in the family. The young cow-bird soon outgrows its fellow-nestlings, and manages to get the lion's share of the food brought by the parent birds to the nest, the result being that the proper owners are either starved to death or crowded out by the intruder, who from that time until it is full-grown taxes all the energies of its foster parents to satisfy its fierce and voracious appetite. After the young cow-bird leaves the nest it follows its foster parents through the trees, clamoring for food until it gets its full growth, which takes longer than that of the small birds whose premises it has stolen.

The cow-birds are far too abundant. Large flocks of them are seen in the fall, each of which has been raised at the cost of a brood of our useful, insect-eating small birds. They therefore do a great deal of injury, which goes far to counterbalance the good they do in eating insects in the early spring. Other and smaller birds, without their bad qualities are better deserving of encouragement.

LINDENBANK.

FARM GLEANINGS.

According to a report of the Argentine commission for the extirpation of locusts, that body in 1897-98 destroyed over 20,500 tons of these insects and over thirty-three tons of locust eggs. More than four-fifths of the insects and nearly one-half of the eggs were destroyed in the province of Santa Fe, and of the remainder nearly all were destroyed in the province of Panama.

If any one class of persons need religion more than others it is the farmer, the farmers' wives, sons and daughters. I do not believe there can be a happier life anywhere in this world than the life on a farm with religion. Religion makes the day of toil seem shorter. Religion makes the tasks of every day farm life appear lighter. Religion makes the duties of every day life a pleasure.

The largest squash ever raised in America is the claim made for one raised this year by Mr. William Warnock, of Goderich, Ont. It weighs 342½ pounds, measures 36 inches in length, 37 inches wide, 26 inches high, is 8½ feet in circumference one way and 9⅔ another. Mr. Warnock also raised a half dozen squashes that weighed over 200 pounds each. He showed the largest squash at the World's Fair, Chicago, in 1893, and has raised mammoth squashes every year since.

Mr. A. C. Bennett, the well-known cranberry grower of Wood county, Wis., with his son has planted 76 acres of Bennett's Jumbo, which he believes is far ahead of the Bell and Bugle variety from the Berlin district. 'They were evidently from a seedling,' he writes, 'which nature planted here many years ago, and I bought the 40 acres on which they grew. They are the largest cranberry grown and also the very best of keepers, a combination which is very rare to find. We get $1 per barrel more for these than for other berries.'

In spite of the repeated warnings through the agricultural press, farmers are constantly being swindled by unscrupulous agents who have for sale some machine or implement which, according to their stories, will accomplish wonders. The latest sample of this rascality is the sale of a marvellous churn in certain sections of New York. The agents claim that this churn will greatly increase the yield of butter and will materially reduce the time required for churning. It has been found that chemicals were used in the cream, and that by the ordinary processes these churns are not as good as the standard articles on the market. In one county dairymen have lost over $2,500.

A certain man in an eastern state owned and controlled a large agricultural business. One day he was riding along the road in a buggy, and by his side sat a college graduate and a bank accountant. The agriculturist was worrying over the fact that some work which he planned for the previous day had been neglected. The business man said: 'Why don't you do your work systematically, arrange and make a memorandum of the things you want to have done every day, and thus avoid this trouble?' 'Why,' exclaimed the agriculturist, 'it might rain to-morrow, then where would we be?' This illustrates the difficulty of making and carrying out definite lines of work on the farm.

Of the large number of feeds made from corn the so-called gluten products are the most important. The starch is taken out, leaving the nitrogenous portion of the kernel, hulls, etc. Pure gluten meal consists of the pits or kernels, contains 35 to 36 percent of protein, and is a very valuable food. Gluten feeds are those products of corn which contain all of the corn except the starch. These feeds contain from 25 to 27 percent of nitrogen and are often sold as gluten meals, which do not contain the hulls of the corn. The by-product corn hulls left from the manufacture of glucose starch, etc., is placed upon the market and sometimes sells at a high price. This contains a little more protein than corn meal, or from 11 to 14 percent, and a small percentage of oil, but is not as valuable, for it is not as readily digested. The New York law requires that each of these different feeds be distinctly labeled and the analysis plainly marked.

HORSE COLLARS.

Broadly speaking, every implement designed for the use of man is provided with a handle, and this handle is made to fit the hand. It is about a certain size, is rounded, smooth and hard, at least it is never made soft with the view to being easier on the hand. The three qualifications just named should be present in the horse collar. If the collar is the proper length and fits the animal, and is stuffed full and round, it may be as hard as iron without danger of galling the shoulder. Of course, the hames must be drawn up high enough so that the draught will not centre on the shoulder point. The logic of this is simple. If the handle of a manual implement galls the hand, it is because of roughness or improper shape—never because it is hard. If it is to be continually used, the man does not pull on a mitten in warm weather to overcome a defect in it; neither does he demand that the handle be made of something soft, but simply that it be shaped and hard. The collar, which is round and hard, rolls on the skin at every motion of the animal, somewhat after the manner of a ball-bearing, admitting the air and thus cooling the parts, but the flat, soft collar sticks so closely that it compels the skin to move on the underlying flesh in such a way as to produce irritation and deep-seated galls.

The above is a clipping from the 'Horseman,' and contains both sound sense and good logic, but the analogy between the shoulder of the horse and the hand of a man should be carried a little further. They both require careful usage until they become hardened, for no matter how smooth and well fitted to the hand the implement may be, blisters are sure to rise in consequence of too close application on first commencing work. And right here is where a little neglect may cause a great deal of trouble. The green colt, and even the old horse after a few weeks' lay off, must have careful attention, until the parts become hardened by moderate work, not only must the collar be smooth and well fitted, but the harness must be taken off during the dinner hour, and the shoulders carefully washed with salted water, and rubbed dry before the collar is put on again. A little care and attention at first may save a great deal of annoyance and probably loss of time later, and the pain inflicted on the horse while young frequently makes him unreliable, and many a promising colt has been permanently ruined through the neglect and carelessness of the driver.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

When I feed different kinds of coarse fodder, I feed some of each kind every day. Stock will do better than to feed one kind at a time.

The daily gain in weight grows less as cattle grow older. Steers matured and marketed at two years old give 30 percent more profit than if kept till three.

Handle the colt often the first winter of his life. This is the time to gentle him down and teach him to lead. A colt not halter broken by the time he is a year old gets wild, and when handling becomes imperative he is as wild as a Texas pony.

The truth is, cows that are giving milk not only require a considerable amount of water, but they need it often. The process of making milk is one that goes on constantly, and as this fluid is so largely composed of water, enough of the latter should always be within reach.

There is nothing more injurious to a steer on full feed than to go without water for a day or two. They not only shrink while without water, but when they do get water they drink too much, which throws them off their feed and causes them to scour.—M. S. Rosco, Nebraska.

The farmers of many sections of the east are at present holding what may well be termed 'clearing sales.' These in most instances are due to the very short grass crop of the past season and the consequent overplus of stock. Not in many years have farmers met winter with such small haymows.—'New England Homestead.'

The main point now is to prepare the cows for their next period of lactation, and to this end each cow should be fed so as to bring her into what stockmen call good condition, and furnish the material for the proper development of the offspring. For the latter purpose there is nothing better than bran, as it is exceptionally rich in the mineral matter required for that purpose.

When pigs were fed meal alone at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Ottawa, they required 4¼ pounds to make one pound of gain. When meal and skim-milk were fed all the milk they would take and only half the meal fed formerly, only 1¼ pounds of meal were required for one pound of gain, with 2¾ pounds of milk. One pound of meal was worth 8½ pounds of milk.

Here an 1,800-pound horse sell at

$300; there one of 1,600 pounds, equally good except as to size, goes at $175. Why are the last 200 pounds worth more than half as much as the first 1,600? There are a half-dozen 1,600-pound horses to every one of 1,800 pounds, and there are a half dozen buyers for the latter to every one for the former, so the chances of the 1,600-pound horse are to those of the 1,800-pounder about as one to thirty-six, and he is well sold at half price.

The wintering of yearlings has to be carefully done. They need close attention and good care. At no time in the animal's life may they be more easily spoiled than when taken in for the first winter feeding. They need rather more nourishing food than older animals. They may also be changing teeth during the winter, and that has to be watched and suitable provision made for well cut food.

In the care of colts there is no feature that requires more undivided attention than the legs, including the feet. If the colt keeps right on his legs they continue properly set and free from puffiness, and he is apt to come out all right as a horse, but once wrong there as a colt it is almost impossible to prevent it becoming aggravated as he aproaches maturity. For this reason the feet require much attention both in the yearling and the two-year-old, just at this time.

The ventilation of stables in winter is too often neglected. Poor light and bad air are unfavorable for all classes of stock. In the dairy they may ensure tuberculosis. Plenty of sunshine and plenty of pure air are among the best means of keeping up the perfect health of the winter dairy, yet the almost shocking manner in which these essentials are neglected even by many otherwise intelligent dairymen is too common to need emphasis here.

Of all the different breeds, the Shropshire seems best adapted to north-east conditions. They are hardy, prolific and contented. They have been successfully kept in small enclosures, although like all sheep they prefer a large pasture when they can get it. They shear a good fleece of fair quality wool and make good mothers. The lambs are finely built, compact and solid little fellows and grow rapidly, while the quality of the meat is not excelled by any breed which I have tried.

Once a week give each colt a tablespoonful of sulphur in bran. This will keep them from worms and ward off lice. Examine colt carefully once a week to see that they are free of vermin. When a colt gets lousy he will do no good until relieved of the pests. I would not waste any time grooming colts during the winter. They need to be kept well bedded with straw, and if there is not a great deal of room in the stable it should be cleaned out every few days. Unless the stable is kept dry the colt is liable to get scratches, and this is a trouble quite difficult to get rid of in winter.

POULTRY PARAGRAPHS.

Potatoes, beets, turnips, cabbage leaves or any kitchen waste, should first be cooked and mashed, then mixed with meat and cut clover hay, with enough salt to season it nicely. The hay and meat should be added while the mess is hot, also add bran or middlings at the same time. After thoroughly mixing, cover up tightly for an hour before feeding.

Grit provides the mechanical appliances for grinding the food in the gizzard. It really cuts the food, hence the sharper the edges the more it is preferred by poultry. When the grit becomes worn until round and smooth it is passed on as useless. In using grit, therefore, endeavor to secure that which is hard and sharp. Sand is of no value whatever as grit.

As to shape of toms and hens to breed from, I select large heads and feet, long body, long neck, held well up, and a broad back and breast, with long shanks. A short turkey will fatten earlier and look larger when not fully matured than the rangy one, but the latter will make the weight at maturity much heavier and will produce larger turkeys. I select hens the same way, yet if they are specially well marked and good in weight I would not discard them if not quite as tall as I like them to be when pullets.

If eggs are to be produced in winter in large quantities we must imitate summer food. If you watch a hen feeding during a summer day you will observe that she eats a quantity of grass, insects, vegetables, and picks up bits of grit, such as gravel and old mortar, in addition to her daily ration of grain. This is what you must feed her during the winter to get the best returns. Grass can be best replaced by clover hay, cut fine. You must feed either meat or ground bone to replace the insects, and vegetables, as mangolds, carrots, turnips, and cabbage, as a substitute for grass. These foods are cheaper than grain and much more deirable.

TO DRESS AND SHIP POULTRY.

Poultry should be well fed and watered, then kept eighteen to twenty-four hours without food before killing. Never kill poultry by wringing the neck. Kill by bleeding in the mouth or opening the veins of the neck, and hang by the feet until properly bled. Leave head and feet on and do not remove intestines or crop. Scalded chickens sell best to the home trade and dry picked to shippers. For scalding, the water should be as near boiling as possible, but not boiling. Pick the legs dry, hold by the head and legs, immerse and lift up and down three times. If the head is immersed it turns the color of the comb and gives the eyes a shrunken appearance.

The feathers should be removed immediately very clearly without tearing the skin. Then plump by dipping ten seconds in water nearly boiling and then in cold water. Hang in a cool place until the animal heat is out of the body. To dry-pick chickens properly, the work should be done while the chicken is bleeding and before the body is cold. Turkeys should be prepared the same as chickens, but always dry-picked. Endeavor to market all old and heavy gobblers before Jan. 1, as after the holidays the demand is for small fat hen turkeys.

Ducks and geese should be scalded, but it requires more time for the water to penetrate and loosen the feathers. Some advise after scalding to wrap them in a blanket to steam, but they should not be left long enough to cook the flesh. Do not try to dry-pick before killing. Leave the feathers on the head and two or three inches of the neck. Do not singe or remove feathers or down as it gives the skin an oily look.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

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

GENERAL.

POEMS WANTED.

A.F.D., asks for the words of an old poem entitled 'Joseph and his brethren.'

T.M., asks for a poem beginning, 'Beautiful child by the mother's knee.'

A.E.C., would like to get Will Carleton's ballad, 'Farmer Stebbins as Santa Claus.'

A REQUEST OUT OF ORDER.

L.B.H., Longueuil, asks for answers to a number of questions which, though she omits mentioning the circumstance, are among those given in a certain prize question competition now being held. L.B.H. must understand that we cannot comply with such a request.

HECTOGRAPH INK.

E.L.M., Leamington.—Will you kindly publish a formula for a hectograph ink? Ans.—An aniline ink should be used. Dissolve one ounce of aniline violet or blue in seven fluid ounces of hot water, and on cooling add one ounce of wine spirit, with one-quarter ounce of glycerine. A few drops of ether, and a drop of carbolic acid. Keep in a well stoppered bottle. A strong aqueous solution of aniline black (nigrosine), in th proportion of about one of the coloring matter to five or seven of the water, with a little glycerine, makes a satisfactory hectograph ink. It must be a saturated solution, rather thick.

TO GET RID OF MOTHS.

'A Reader,' Thamesville, Ont., kindly sends the following as a sure method of destroying moths in carpets: One ounce of sulphate of zinc, one ounce of alum, three ounces of common salt, dissolved in a gallon of lukewarm water. Pour in the cracks of the floor, and spray under the edges of the carpet, if any signs of moths appear after the carpet is put down.

TO CURE HAMS.

J.M.C., Roblin, wants a recipe for curing hams. The following method is recommended: Let the ham hang a day or two after it is cut up; sprinkle a little salt over it; and let it drain for another day. Rub over it very thoroughly a mixture of a quarter of a pound of saltpetre, two pounds of salt, and two pounds of coarse sugar. Lay it rind downwards in a dish, put the mixture well over the fleshy parts, baste it frequently with the brine that runs from it, and turn it every other day. It must remain for four weeks; at the end of that time drain it, and throw some bran over it. Hang it in a cool, dry place; watch carefully, and if any part should get rancid, and yellow, scrape it off and rub the place with pepper, salt and flour, mixed together in equal proportions. Three months should elapse before the ham is cut. If it is hung in a hot place the ham will be hard and dry; if in a very cold one it will be a longer time before it is ready to cook. The ham can be smoked if preferred.

FILLING CRACKS IN FLOORS.

Subscriber, Kintore.—Can you give me a good method of filling in cracks in a pine floor, caused by the wood shrinking? Have been trying putty, but thought there must be something better; the cracks are so large. Ans.—We know of nothing better for the purpose, in the long run, than putty. Plaster of Paris is sometimes used, but it crumbles and comes out, and is not very satisfactory. Before putting in the puty, draw a brush wet with linseed oil along the crack. This moistens the crack and takes up the dust, which would otherwise absorb the oil in the putty and leave it hard and dry. Treat one crack at a time, first oiling and then filling it half full of putty; when all the cracks have been treated in this way and the putty has 'set,' go over them again and fill them full. The putty as it 'sets,' adheres closely to the floor, and if the cracks were filled all at once the adhesion and consequent sinking down of the putty would leave a hollow along each crack. Another method is to boil newspapers into a pulp and to fill in the cracks, using a square-edged stick to push it well in. Oil the crack first in this case also. Where the cracks are very wide, it would perhaps pay to have them filled in by a carpenter with strips of wood.

MEASUREMENTS OF BRITISH SOLDIERS.

V.T.O., Trinity Bay.—Please enumerate the various qualities necessary to become a British soldier, including height, chest measurement, and some further particulars? Would 5 ft. 6 inches allow me to enter the 1st Scots Guards, or the 1st or 2nd Coldstreams? Ans.—The age of enlistment is from eighteen to twenty-five years. The necessary height is from 5 ft. 4 inches for the line, and from 5 ft. 7 in. for the footguards, including Grenadiers, Coldstreams, Scots and Royal Irish. The chest measurement (minimum), is 34 in., with a tape drawn below the shoulder-blades and meeting directly in front. While being measured, the recruit has to hold his arms straight above his head, and count ten slowly. The measurement is, therefore, that of the chest with as little air in the lungs as possible. The weight is comparatively immaterial, as a lad of 18 is sure to increase in weight. A very fleshy lad of, say, 200 pounds, would be too fat for the service, unless infantry. A height of 5 feet 6 inches would do for the line and Hussars—possibly for Dragoon Guards as well; also for the Field and Garrison Artillery, and departmental corps. It is probable that a growing lad of 18, even if but 5 feet 6 inches, would be taken in the Footguards, as he would be likely to grow the remaining inch in a short time. A recruit must be entirely free from disease, and must have fairly sound teeth. Enlistment can be made in any town or village in Great Britain; every post office will give a set of conditions of enlistment, and every policeman—in case there is no recruiting sergeant handy—is bound to help any one wishing to join the army by taking him to the nearest recruiting officer. In case of going to England to join, it would be well to be medically examined before going. It is advisable to join about March rather than in the fall, as during the winter when many are off on furlough, the duties falling to the recruit are heavier.

THE SANDWICH, OR HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Sardis, B.C.—Will you be kind enough to answer the following questions, re the Sandwich Islands: 1. Is the climate healthful to northern people? 2. Are fevers prevalent there? 3. Is stock raising carried on to any extent? 4. Which island is considered most important? 5. What are the chief industries? Ans.—1. The climate is in general warm and healthful. The temperature is equable, and the skies usually cloudless. June is the warmest, and January the coldest and most rainy month. During January, February and March, the winds blow from the south-west, and at this season an unpleasant hot, damp wind from the equatorial regions makes itself occasionally felt. The climate is roughest, and the rainfall most abundant on the windward side of the islands. At Honolulu the mean temperature of the year is 75 degrees Fahr. The mean temperature of the coldest month is 62 degrees Fahr., and of the hottest month, 81 deg., Fahr. The average yearly rainfall at Honolulu is 38 inches, while on the eastern coast of Hawaii it is twice as much. 2. We have never heard that fevers are prevalent on any of the inhabited islands. 3. Sheep and cattle raising is carried on in some localities, the uplands being better adapted to grazing than to tillage. The number of hides exported in 1897 was 25,140; of goat skins, 6,085, and of sheep skins, 9,907. 4. The Island of Hawaii, which gives its name to the group, is by far the largest of the islands. It has an area of 4,210 square miles. Honolulu, the capital of the group, is situated on the island of Oahu, which has an area of 600 square miles. 5. The main industry is sugar-growing. In 1897 the total export of sugar was 520,158,232 pounds. Japanese and Chinese form a large percentage of the workers on the sugar estates. Rice is a staple product, and coffee is grown. Bananas and pineapples are exported, and a little tobacco is grown.

PHRENOLOGY.

Kingsford, Ont. — Kindly inform me, through the correspondence column: 1. Is phrenology a science? 2. Names and addresses of some reliable phrenologists. 3. Are there any good books on the subject? If so, where, and at what price can they be procured? Ans.—1, Phrenology (phren, the mind; and logor, a discourse), is, properly speaking, the science of the special functions of the parts of the brains. The term is now used more particularly of the system formulated by Dr. Franz Josef Gall (1758-1826), of Vienna, and later expounded and developed by others. It is based on the following doctrines: (a) The brain is the organ of the mind; (b) the mental powers of man can be analyzed into a definite number of independent faculties; (c) these faculties are innate, and each has its seat in a definite region of the brain; (d) the size of these regions is the measure of the power of manifesting the faculty assocciated with it. 2. We cannot undertake to give such addresses. 3. There are various books on the subject. Ask your bookseller for a catalogue.

KHAKI —MAJUBA HILL— FAMINE IN AFRICA.

S.M.S., Iowa.—Kindly inform me through the columns of the 'Witness': 1. Did the soldiers in South Africa wear cotton or woollen khaki? 2. Give a short account of the battle of Majuba Hill. 3. Give the proper pronunciation of squalor. 4. Is the famine over in Africa? Ans.—1. Cotton khaki was worn during the summer, and a supply of woollen khaki was provided for winter wear. 2. The battle of Majuba Hill was fought on Feb. 27, 1881. On the night of Saturday, Feb. 26, the British general, Sir George Colley, thinking to strike an effective blow, left Prospect Camp with a force variously stated from 400 to 600 men, and marched to the top of Majuba Hill, a great square topped mountain, commanding the Boer position at Laing's Nek. They reached the top about 3 a.m., after a somewhat exhausting climb, and were stationed at various points on the plateau. When day broke, about 5 a.m., the Boers, on the Nek below, were astonished to see British redcoats on the sky-line above, and their first idea seems to have been to inspan and leave the Nek. But when they found that there was no artillery commanding them from above, they changed their minds, and set to work to storm the hill instead. A party of Boers, probably between 200 and 300, began to scale the hill. A second party supported this forlorn hope, and kept up a fire upon the hill, while the first party climbed the steepest parts. No attempt had been made by the British to occupy positions below the crown of the hill, commanding the approaches, and the Boers were able to creep from place to place, partly in shelter of precipitious bits of the slope. Each set of skirmishers, as they came within range opened fire at the British above them, who were exposed on the upper slope. Thus, steadily advancing, the Boers reached the edge of the hill top, where the British had neglected to erect breastworks, or a shelter of any kind, and began to pour in their bullets with deadly effect upon the troops in the saucer-like hollow. The order to fix bayonets was given, but the order to charge did not follow, General Colley, fell, shot through the head, and the troops broke, and fled down the steep declivity, many of them being killed or taken prisoners. 3. 'Squalor' is from the Latin 'squalere'—to be foul or filthy. The former pronunciation was with the 'a' long, as 'squaylor'; the more common usage now is with the 'a' sounded like 'o' in 'not.' 4. The worst of the famine in Africa is, we believe, over.

CANUCK—EARLY EMIGRANTS

X.Y.Z., London, Ont.—1. What is the origin of the word 'Canuck,' and when was it first applied to Canadians? 2. Was there an inquiry office of any kind for the use of emigrants to this country in early days, or how did they get along upon landing? Ans.—1. There is little doubt that the word is of American Indian origin. Some have tried to show that it is derived from 'Connaught,' perhaps in reference to the Irish element in Canada, but this seems far-fetched and improbable. Others find in it the first syllable of Canada, with an Indian termination. 'Uc' or 'uq' is a common ending to nouns in the Algonquin language. Two of the five possible derivations of the word 'Canada' are from words in use by the Algonquin Indians. There is little doubt that 'Canuck' is an Indian word modified, though why it was applied to Canadians, or when it was first applied, is not clear. 2. In the 'Emigrants' Guide to Upper Canada,' published in 1820, the author says: 'Emigrants should not expect pecuniary assistance of any kind; neither provisions nor utensils. The magnitude of the national debt, and of the public burthens, forbid their being furnished with any. With themselves rest all the cares and expense of arriving at their several places of destination, and of there providing for themselves. The government can only supply them with land. The choice of the several parts of the province open for location is commonly allowed, if the means of the individual enable him to proceed at his own expense. But when he has chosen his township, the particular lot which he is to have is not always optional.' In order to concentrate population and to preserve impartiality, it is often found requisite to proceed by lots, and the person then remains located on that which he draws.' Emigrants were also advised to find out all they could about the conditions of life in the country before starting for Canada. On applying for grants, when they reached York (Toronto), they were shown maps of the townships open for location, marked off into concessions and lots, with the marshes, brooks, etc., sketched upon them, sometimes very imperfectly. Beyond this there does not seem to have been much information forthcoming.

THE FATHERS OF CONFEDERATION.

Spatsina, B.C.—Will you, through the columns of your valuable paper, inform me of (1) the names of the 'Fathers of Confederation'; and (2) the date? Ans.—1. The names of the delegates to the conference to discuss the federal union, usually called the 'Fathers of Confederation' are: Representing Upper and Lower Canada, Hon. Messrs. Etienne P. Taché, John A. Macdonald, Geo. Brown, Geo. E. Cartier, Alexander T. Galt, T. D'Arcy McGee, H. L. Langevin, Wm. McDougall, Alex. Campbell, J. Cockburn, Oliver Mowat, and J. C. Chapais; representing New Brunswick, Hon. Messrs. S. L. Tilley, J. M. Johnston, E. B. Chandler, J. H. Gray, Peter Mitchell, Chas. Fisher, and W. H. Steeves; representing Nova Scotia, Hon. Messrs. Charles Tupper, W. A. Henry, R. B. Dickey, J. McCully and A. G. Archibald; representing Prince Edward Island, Col. Greer, Hon. Messrs. E. Palmer, W. H. Pope, G. Coles, T. H. Haviland, E. Whelan and A. A. Macdonald; representing Newfoundland, Hon. F. B. S. Carter and Hon. Ambrose Shea. 2. The first conference was held at Charlottetown, P.E.I., on Sept. 1, 1864, at which there were representatives from the Maritime Provinces and the Canadas. The Quebec conference began Oct. 10 in the same year, the above-named delegates being present. On Dec. 4, 1866, delegates from Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia met at the Westminster Palace Hotel, the Right Hon. John A. Macdonald being chairman. The bill for confederation was submitted to the Imperial Parliamena on Feb. 12, 1867, received the Royal assent on March 28, and came into force, making the 'Dominion of Canada' an accomplished fact, on July 1, 1867.

BIRTHPLACE OF EDISON — IMPROVEMENTS OF HELL GATE.

Constant Reader, Cardinal.—1. Where was Thos. A. Edison of electrical fame born? Is he a Canadian by birth? 2. Please give dates of blowing up of Hell Gate, New York. Ans.—1. Thomas Alva Edison was born at Milan, Erie County, Ohio, on Feb. 11, 1847, being of Dutch descent on his father's side, and Scotch on his mother's side. His early education was derived chiefly from his mother's lessons, and from his omnivorous reading; his school attendance covered about eight weeks. At about twelve years of age he became a railway newsboy. Later, he established an amateur paper, which he printed and sold on the train, and he also improvised in a baggage car a sort of laboratory for chemical experiments. He studied telegraphy late at night in a railway station, and became a skilled operator; he was employed in this capacity at Stratford, Ontario, at Boston, and many other places. During these years he was constantly experimenting in all directions. His first invention was an automatic telegraph repeater. The total number of patents issued to him is about four hundred; one-fourth of them refer to telegraphy; but it is with inventions in the use of electricity that his name is most closely associated. 2. Hell Gate, or Hurl Gate, is the name of a narrow channel between Long Island and Wards and Manhattan Islands, connecting Long Island Sound, through the East River, with New York harbor, and with the Hudson. Owing to numerous reefs in the channel, and the swift and constantly shifting eddies thereby produced, Hell Gate had always been impassable to large ships, and exceedingly dangerous to small ones, and numerous wrecks and mishaps occurred. The enormous force of the tides prevents the accumulation of sediment in the channel, which is deep enough for large ships to pass, and the removal of the destructive obstacles attracted the attention of both the government and merchants of New York long before any efficient method of dealing with submarine obstructions of this character was known. The first efforts at opening the channel were made in 1851. The blasting consisted simply in depositing the charges of powder on the surface of the rocks, and exploding them by an electric current. This plan was fairly successful at the beginning, and during the following year some of the rocks were lowered a foot or two. In 1868-69 the attempt was renewed without much success. In 1871 work was commenced with a scow-drill machine, using nitro-glycerine as an explosive. The 'Frying Pan' rock was levelled in July, 1872; Way's Reef was removed to the depth of twenty-six feet below mean low-tide mark in 1874; Blossom Rock was exploded by tunnelling in 1889; work was begun undermining Hallet's Point Reef in July of the same year, and the explosion occurred on Sept. 24, 1876. Diamond Reef was lowered in 1880, and the great Flood Rock was exploded on Oct. 10, 1885.

WOMEN'S FRANCHISE IN ONTARIO.

E.H.—1. Under what circumstances is a woman entitled to vote in Ontario? 2. What is the difference between standard and solar time? Ans.—1. No woman in Canada has a vote for any law-maker, either Federal or Provincial; her political position, therefore, as far as the franchise is concerned, is confined to municipalities, which can only make by-laws that relate to the execution of existing laws. In the Province of Ontario, in 1884, widows and spinsters were given the municipal franchise on the same terms as men. Women, married or single, if owners of property, are entitled to vote on money by-laws when such are submitted to the electors. Any woman on the assessment roll is eligible as one of the public school trustees, and can vote in their election. Two bills have been brought before the legislature, drafted by the Women's Christian Temperance Union; one was to grant municipal suffrage to married women upon the same terms as to the unmarried; the other to grant the legislative franchise to women, married or single, on the same terms as to men. Both were lost. 3. See 'Witness' of Nov. 20.

ATHLETIC TRAINING.

Douglas, Man.—1. Please give rules to be followed in dieting and exercise for athletic training. 2. Where can I get a descriptive book on wrestling and boxing? Ans.—1. In this, like many other things, there may be difference of opinion. Only general rules can be given, which must be modified by individual characteristics and tendencies. The usual time allotted to such training is six weeks, and the objects to be attained in this period may be described as: 1. The removal of superfluous fat and water; 2, the increase of contractile power in the muscles; 3, increased endurance; 4, 'wind,' that is to say, a power of breathing and circulating the blood steadily in spite of exertion. The first is aimed at by considerably adding to the daily amount of nitrogenous, and by diminishing farinaceous and liquid foods, and providing that it should be cooked in such a way as to be thoroughly digested. The second and third are secured by gradually increasing the demands made upon the muscles, till they have learned to exert at will all the powers of which they are capable, and for as long a period as the natural structure of the individual frame permits. 'Wind' is improved by choosing as part of the training an exercise, such as running, which can be sustained only when the respiratory and circulating organs do their duty fairly. As an example, the following system of training may be cited: Rise about 7 a.m. After a cold bath and rub down, take a short walk or run. Breakfast at about 8.30 on dry toast, underdone beef or mutton, with a very little tea. Dinner about 2 p.m., should consist of meat much the same as for breakfast; bread rather stale; little, if any, vegetables, and a little fluid. A good drink is made by sprinkling oatmeal into boiling water with a little sugar, and boiling it thoroughly till a thin gruel is made. About five o'clock exercise for gradually increasing periods, the nature of the exercise depending on the circumstances for which the training is required. Supper at 8 p.m., may be of cold meat, bread, a little jelly, and a cup of the gruel made very thin. Take no alcohol in any form. Go to bed about ten o'clock. Between breakfast and dinner the ordinary business may be carried on, providing, of course, it is not exhausting. There is such a thing as too much exercise and over-training, which should be guarded against. 2. Write for a catalogue of Spalding's Athletic Library, American Sports Pub. Co., 16 and 18 Park Place, New York.

NUMISMATIC.

SILVER COINS.

R., Fort Erie.—What is the value of the following silver coins? (1) British size of a United States five-cent nickel piece; obv. 'Georgius II. Del Gratia,' a laureated bust; rev., 'M. B. F. et H. Rex. F. D. B. et L. D. S. R. J. A. T et E.' four shields crowned representing the arms of England, Scotland, France and Ireland; date 1758. (2) French, same size; obverse, 'Ludovicus XIIII., D.G.R.,' bust of the king; obverse, 'Fran et Navarre Rex.'; reverse, a cross, with a fleur de lis at each end, at the top a crown; date 1675. (3) Danish, size of a ten-cent piece; obverse, inscription indistinct, a sailing vessel; reverse, all inscription indistinct except 'Ameri,' a crowned monogram C 7; date 1767. Ans.—(1) A sixpence of George II., quite common, worth from fifteen to twenty-five cents. (2) A quarter ell of Louis XIV., worth from twenty-five to forty cents. (3) A six skilling of the Danish West Indies of the reign of Christian XII. worth in the condition described not more than five cents.

LEGAL.

(QUEBEC.)

A DRAINAGE MATTER.

Subscriber, Komoka, Ont.—Your case is one that calls for a personal consultation with a solicitor.

SETTLEMENT OF BOUNDARIES—RIGHTS OF NEIGHBORS.

An Old Subscriber.—My neighbor, whose lot of land is narrow at the rear or river end, has notified me that he wants the line run to get his land. Can I be compelled to share in having it done? Lines were run seventeen years ago. Ans.—If the boundaries have already been determined you cannot be compelled to join in a new survey, unless a manifest error has been made.

SUCCESSION DUTY—LIABILITY OF OF USUFRUCTUARY.

Mia.—A man dying entailed his property, giving his wife the use of it 'usufruct' as long as she lived. What grounds are there for the collection of an inheritance tax? How has she inherited any property? Ans.—One of the clauses of the act imposing a duty or succession specially enacts that where the property is left in usufruct, or with a substitution, the tax shall be payable by the usufructuary or the institute, and it is in virtue of this that the wife is liable.

VALUATION ROLL—COMPLAINTS OF PROPRIETORS.

Dissatisfied Taxpayer.—A contractor and valuator built a house for B. C, a councillor, goes to A to get the cost of B's property. A gives him the figures as 'not over twelve hundred dollars.' At the council meeting C says the following figures are the revised valuation he got from A and gives B's property as thirteen hundred and fifty dollars. A, as valuator, has told B her property, in comparison with others, should be assessed at nine hundred dollars. The other new properties in the village were given to the council at the figures given by A. The council accepts the revised assessment and refuses to reconsider the matter, though aware of C's wrongdoing. B has a writing with A's signature certifying that the figures given to C were 'Not over twelve hundred dollars.' 1. Will such an act disqualify C as councillor, and has the council shown itself honorable? 2. What recourse has B? Ans.—1. No. 2. B's recourse is to lodge a complaint in writing with the council on or before the date fixed for the examination of the roll, or to attend in person at the examination and complain verbally. If the roll has come into force B has no recourse.

TAX ON WILLS.

A.B., P. Que.—A dies, leaving in his will a sum of money to a married sister. B was appointed executor of the will. 1. Is there a government tax on such legacy? 2. How much? 3. To whom is the tax to be paid? Ans. 1. Yes. 2. Three percent. 3. To the collector of Provincial Revenue.

(ONTARIO.)

DRAINING SCHOOL GROUND.

Constant Reader, Ont.—School section situate on A's farm. Trustees wish to drain school ground, and request A to give them an outlet through his field, requiring forty rods under drains. 1. Can A be compelled to grant same? 2. Is A entitled to any remuneration for labor and expense? Ans. 1. Yes. 2. Yes, assuming, of course, that he would not derive benefit from the proposed drain, and that it involves labor and expense on his part.

BURIAL PERMITS.

T.G.R., Ont.—1. Should not a certificate of cause of death be obtained from the physician who was last in attendance? 2. Should not that certificate be taken to the registrar of township, and a burial permit be obtained from him? 3. And that permit handed to officiating clergyman, and retained by him, and not by the cemetery keeper or grave digger? Ans.—1. The physician is required to send the certificate himself to the medical health officer of the municipality forthwith on notice of the death, for inspection and subsequent transmission to the division registrar. 2. The body cannot legally be removed for burial unless, and until, a certificate of registration has been obtained to the knowledge of the persons engaged in the burial. And no caretaker, or owner of any cemetery, nor any clergyman having charge of a church, to which a burial ground is attached, shall permit the interment of the dead body of any person in the burial grounds over which he has charge unless he has received a certificate under the hand of the division registrar of the division in which the death took place that the particulars of the death have been duly registered. 3. The caretaker of the cemetery is apparently the proper party to have the ultimate custody of the division registrar's certificate.

LIVE STOCK.

For advertising in this department specially reduced prices will be sent on application.

A SOUND HORSE.

As a sound horse is always salable, Lumps, Bunches and Lameness cut the price in two. Almost any kind of a horse may be made sound by the use of

KENDALL'S SPAVIN CURE,

the old reliable remedy for Spavins, Ringbones, Splints Curbs, etc., and all forms of Lameness. Cures without a blemish as it does not blister. Price $1; six for $5. As a liniment for family use it has no equal. Ask your druggist for KENDALL'S SPAVIN CURE, also "A Treatise on the Horse," the book free, or address

DR. B. J. KENDALL CO., Enosburg Falls, Vt.

VETERINARY.

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

PROBABLY TUBERCULOSIS.

An old subscriber has a thoroughbred Guernsey bull which in the spring had a large lump under his right ear. This broke and discharged a thick, yellow matter. There is another smaller lump, the size of a hen's egg, on the right jaw. He asks if it is not lumpy jaw. Ans. — Your bull is probably tuberculous. I would advise you to have him tested, as well as your entire herd. You can have this done free by applying to the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa.

J.M.C., Roblin, asks advice about a non-breeding sow. Keeps her in close proximity to young male pig. Ans.—Shake a little red pepper occasionally in her food.

NASAL DISCHARGE.

S. McP.—I have a mare, about fourteen years old, which seemed to have taken cold about two years ago, in the spring. It seemed like the distemper at first. I did not do anything for it. The following fall her nose ran a yellowish discharge. She seemed well in other ways. I took her to a veterinary. He thought it a cataract, and gave her medicine. She was worked, got wet, and seemed to run down, and the discharge was worse by spells. Then I got a man to look at her who is good with horses. He said the cataract had turned to nasal gleet. That was last spring. He gave medicine, and some liquid to steam her head with, and she seemed quite well till this fall, when her left nostril again started to run. There was swelling over her left eye at first, but it does not seem to swell now. I have got more medicine and give it twice a day. I also take 1½ quart water, with a handful of hops in it, and about a tablespoon carbolic acid, and let her inhale the steam every day. The discharge is a good deal better. The man says he cannot cure her. She eats well and is in very good flesh and had good spirits before I started giving her this medicine. Can you tell me what is the matter with the mare, and is it good to steam her head so much? Ans.—This is not a case in which we can advise treatment. The cause must first be discovered. Such symptoms may arise from many different causes. We would advise you to send her to a skilful veterinary surgeon, who will examine her with a view to discover the real nature of the trouble. If it is due to a diseased tooth he will extract it; if nasal gleet, he will trephine the head; if it happens to be glanders, he will advise you to shoot her.

ACTINOMYCOSIS.

Subscriber, Meeductic.—A cow, part Jersey, five years old, in good condition, has had a bony swelling on the outside corner of her left eye for about six months. The eye runs water a good deal of the time, and small quantities of white matter. There is a fleshy growth on the inside of the corner of the eyelid. About one month ago another bony growth appeared on the same side of the head about half way between the left eye and the end of the nose. Are these lumps dangerous? Should the milk of the cow be used? Ans.—The tumors described are evidently actinomycosis, commonly called lumpy jaw. You should examine her teeth. Sometimes such tumors are due to diseased teeth. If no diseased tooth is found, give her a drachm of iodide of potassium three times daily for a week or till it produces symptoms of iodism; stop for a week and begin again. Continue this treatment for five weeks, that is, administering it for three, with two weeks of interval. Provided the general health does not suffer, the milk may be used; but while under treatment it may be objectionable, though in no way dangerous.

SWOLLEN LEG.

Old Subscriber.—A young mare, 3½ years old, has got very sore legs. It came on like knots or hard scales, and the legs were very much swollen and stiff. She is now lame. Some one told me it was scratches, but her heels are not cracked, or very little. I first noticed it after ploughing in the fall, in very wet land. She is a fine, large beast. Please advise me what to do with her, and whether I can work her, as I have hauling to do. Ans.—Such cases of swollen legs are troublesome to treat successfully. She should be taken off work, fed on soft mash diet, given a purgative of aloes, say seven drachms, with half-a-drachm of ground ginger given in a ball, with soft soap or molasses. Dress the leg with the following stimulant: Lard, six ounces; sulphur, two ounces; oil of tar, half an ounce; well mixed. Wash it off every second day and anoint again. She should, after the purgation has ceased, have regular but moderate exercise, and the leg should be bandaged when in the stable.

INSPECTORS TESTING CATTLE BY GOVERNMENT.

J.A.S.—Please answer the following:—If a man has his herd examined for tuberculosis by government inspector, who is the loser if any animals have to be slaughtered? Ans.—No cattle under present regulations are ordered to be slaughtered for tuberculosis and no indemnity is paid.

LETTERS FROM READERS.

THE BIBLE AND THE CRITICS.

Uren Faeder thile arth in heofnas, sie gehalgud thin nama. To comath thin ric sie. Thin willas wa is in heofnas, and in eorthu. Urn half ofer worthie. Sel us to daeg, and forgef us scyida, wrna swa we forgefan scyld gum wrum and do inlead usith in custnug, ac gefrig wrich from ifle.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—The above will probably be a literary curiosity to many readers of the 'Witness.' How many of them at first sight will know what it is? And when they have learned what it is how many will be able to read it without stumbling at the words. But if they will turn to Matt. vi., 9-13, they will read it more easily. This piece in fact contains the most familiar verses of the entire Bible but written in the language as it was spoken in England thirteen hundred years ago. We call it the Lord's Prayer.

This will explain to the ordinary reader one of the difficulties connected with Bible criticism.

We speak of the Bible as one book. But the Old Testament alone is divided into thirty-nine parts or books, some of which were written many centuries before the latest of them. There was probably as great a change between the language of Moses and Malachi as between the Anglo-Saxon of thirteen hundred years ago and English as we speak and write it. Hence when Christian people to-day profess to believe that every word of the Bible as we have it is Divinely inspired, we do well to ask them what they mean? For example: Moses was inspired to write certain parts of the Bible. But he had no printing press, and everything he wrote was in a most perishable form; perhaps on papyrus or parchment, but certainly in very different form from that in which we have it. Hence the need for continual copying, so much so that every ruler or king was commanded to write (or have written) a copy for himself. Was every copyist inspired? We know certainly that no two copies or versions of the New Testament were exactly alike, even when they were desired to be. Were Old Testament copyists any more successful? And when they substituted modern words for those which had become obsolete, was every change inspired? And when the Old Testament was translated by uninspired men into the Septuagint version, if verbal inspiration was so important why do we find our Saviour and the apostles quoting from it instead of from the original, as they sometimes did, and that, too, in places where there was a decided difference in meaning or use made of it? And when our Saviour perceived that a most important statement he had made was misunderstood as literal did he not correct his disciple with the statement: 'The words that I speak to you they are spirit and they are life.' (Jno. vi., 63.) In short, is not this theory of verbal inspiration the hook on which Ingersoll and others hang their arguments against the truth of the Bible? Is it not in itself a reversal of the Divine plan of training our mental and spiritual faculties to their highest possible development on the spiritual gymnasium of truth.

But if we drop the idea of the verbal inspiration of our English versions of the Bible where are we? Why just where infinite wisdom and grace would place us. We have the Divine word in the form most likely to be useful to us, but with a human side to it, which calls for the most profound wisdom and skill in reverential criticism. The words are spirit and life to the simple-minded who gather perhaps all unconsciously the result of the labor of the faithful student and critic. We never know the Bible's fullest blessing till we attain all the light possible on its human as well as its divine side. One thing is indeed essential, namely, to attain the nearest possible approach to the Divine thought given to the original writer, and this can only be by availing ourselves of the utmost skill in reverent criticism in what ever language it may be clothed.

That absolute verbal accuracy is not essential to the profitable use of scripture may be readily illustrated by the experiences of missionaries, many of whom have had to deal with unwritten languages, but they begin the translation of the Bible as soon as they attain a reasonable measure of accuracy in the language, and with great blessing to the people, content with the thought that all they have done must be revised again and again as their knowledge of the language improves and that its words will be 'spirit and life' to the people notwithstanding its poverty of diction.

We read our authorized English Bible and many passages need explanation. We turn to the revised version and some of them we easily understand. On the verbal inspiration theory which of these versions is the inspired one? W.

INSPIRATION OF THE SCRIPTURES

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—A correspondent, 'F. W. D.,' in last Saturday's 'Witness,' says of the inscription on the cross, that 'Matthew has it one way, and Mark another, Luke has it a third way, and John a fourth. They cannot all be right.' Let any one read the inscription and he will find a substantial and complete agreement in sense and meaning and only some slight verbal variations of expression. Matthew says, 'They set up over him his accusation written "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."' Mark and Luke are substantially the same. John says: 'Jesus of Nazareth,' and that the accusation was in three languages—Hebrew, Greek and Latin; and this fact probably accounts for any and all verbal differences. We know that it is plain from Matthew's gospel that he wrote to the Jews, and would naturally prefer the Hebrew inscription. Luke and John wrote more especially for the Gentiles, and would naturally make use of the Greek inscription; while Mark would naturally prefer the Latin. Had the evangelists expressed themselves in exactly similar verbal phraseology, the critics would have set it down as a certain proof of collusion. But with verbal differences of expression, and perfect agreement of substance and meaning, we have strong proof of the genuineness of their testimony, and also the Holy Spirit's guidance.

As for what your correspondent says about some parts of the Bible being in the language of Satan, it is not worth mentioning. For no one thinks the devil was inspired by the Holy Spirit, except some of the new school of critics. They have put forth some things so absurd, I will not vouch for them in anything. But there is no reason why the Holy Spirit should not guide holy men to record with truth and accuracy what the devil said to Christ in the temptation, and what he said to Job in the day of his sore trial. In this way only could we have knowledge of the wiles of Satan.

JAMES GREEN.

Montreal, Dec. 21, 1900.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—I have no desire to enter into controversy, and I do not wish to waste your valuable space, yet I feel constrained to send a few lines. In your issue of Dec. 15 'F. W. D.,' writing upon the vexed question of higher criticism, says: 'But take for example the inscription on the cross, how did it read? Matthew has it one way, Mark another, Luke a third, and John a fourth. All cannot be right,' etc. Let the evangelists be heard.

Mark—'And the superscription of his accusation was written over, The King of the Jews.'

Luke—'And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, This is the King of the Jews' (R. V. omits the words 'In letters of Greek, and Latin and Hebrew').

Matthew—'Set up over his head his accusation written, This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'

John—'And Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was, Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. This title . . . was written in Hebrew, and Greek and Latin.'

Not one inscription, but three inscriptions. One form of this threefold inscription is given by John, as he says, 'The writing was' (or, to quote the R. V., 'There was written'), we may reasonably infer that he gives us the exact wording of one form. It appears to me that the others give the general sense, and not the particular expression of any one form. What the title emphasized was 'The King of the Jews,' and in this all three agree.

Many times I have been called upon to argue with atheists and other opposers of the written word, and this threefold inscription has been frequently brought forward as a discrepancy or contradiction. In every such case I have reasoned as above, and every time the reasoning has been accepted. I regret that 'F. W. D.' has given us his sophistical views of inspiration. May every one of us be led into all truth.

A REGULAR READER.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Would you permit me through the 'Witness' to thank the kind friends who have expressed their interest, both privately and through your columns, in the 'higher criticism' of the Bible. Let me call the attention of your readers to what was stated in the first article, namely, that this subject is wider than a denominational one. The discussion of this subject in the 'Witness' has struck a cord that is vibrating in hearts all over the Christian world, and messages of appreciation come from Lebanon, in Syria, to the northern bounds of Canada, showing how precious the Bible is to hearts in which Jesus reigns—and encouraging us in Canada to hold fast to the faith once delivered to the saints; and let us remember God places the stamp of nobility on those who receive the word of God and search the scriptures daily. (Act. xvii., 11.)

A friend in Scotland has sent me a copy of a pamphlet by the Rev. John Urquhart, on the 'Higher Critics' and the Bible. The chapters of the first part are: 1. How the trouble began; 2, The father of 'higher criticism'; 3, The theory of Paulus; 4, De Wette's Theory; 5, The Jehovistic and Elohistic theories.' No doubt many would value a reading of it as much as I have done, and can get it from the publishers, Messrs. S. W. Partridge & Co., 8 and 9 Paternoster Row, London, England. Price, sixpence for popular edition. Sending a text for the 'Witness' and its many readers all over the Christian world, I. Cor. xvi., 13, for the new century.

DAVID M. ROSS.

Strathclair, Man.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—The last word of your editorial ('knows') is the secret of the whole matter. We are not sure of anything unless we know. Having acquired that knowledge, we build on a good foundation. Apply this principle to your trade or mine—it is the man that 'knows' that gets on the best. We are commanded by the Great Teacher to search the Scriptures. And they will stand the very closest investigation. The more I study the Holy Bible the better I like it. But these things are 'spiritually discerned,' so that from a worldly or carnal point of view, it is impossible to understand the Word of God. We must search in a humble, teachable spirit. In a trustful, prayerful frame of mind and heart, with a sincere desire to know the truth. Then the Holy Spirit will reveal to us the hidden things of God. 'For if we have not the Spirit of Christ we are none of His.' The apostle Paul, before his conversion, was a firm believer in the authority and inspiration of the Old Testament Scriptures. After his conversion he saw at once the blessed connection between the Old and New Testament. He needed light and God in his mercy through Jesus Christ sent it; the scales fell from his eyes; then straightway he preached Christ to the Jews. This is what every unconverted man needs, 'the light of the world in his soul.'

JOHN HOPESON.

92 Tecumseth street, Toronto, Ont.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER AND PROHIBITION.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Two lawyers who spoke in behalf of the candidate opposed to Dr. Christie in this county denounced the Laurier Government for not enacting a prohibitory law, and at the same time they were very particular in stating that they were not prohibitionists. Well, prohibition is either right or it is not right, and if it is a bad law, according to their estimation, then they were denouncing the government for not passing a law to which they were opposed. One of these gentlemen said he did not see how any conscientious temperance man could support the Liberal Government. As far as that is concerned there was no choice—it was useless to vote for a party opposed to prohibition. Besides, the Laurier Government has been the first to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors in the House of Commons ,and if every constituency in the Dominion had done as much we would now be enjoying the benefit of prohibition. If the temperance men had withdrawn their support from the present government, and allowed the Opposition to get into power, the consequence would have been a permit would have been granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in the House of Commons, to the joy of the liquor men.

About the close of the Crimean war, just before the fall of Sebastopol, we were daily expecting to get the news about the downfall of that place, when a man under the influence of liquor started out from one of the saloons in Lachute shouting 'Great and glorious news.' People ran out to the street and asked him what it was, supposing that Sebastopol had fallen. The answer he gave was that 'the devil is dead, and we are all going to do as we like.'

So if the present government had been defeated, and the Opposition returned, the shout of the liquor men would have been, 'The temperance men are dead, and we are all going to do as we like.'

WALTER M'OUAT.

Lachute, Dec. 19, 1900.

GRINDING.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Between the upper and the nether mill stones'—the army and the navy—the British taxpayer is pretty closely hulled. You and your readers may say, 'what is that us?' Any way, what is the use of the feeble words of an unknown colonial correspondent? The great English War Office will never see them, and if it did, they would be thrown unheeded into the waste basket. Very well, let the truth be known at least in Canada.

The standing army of Great Britain, in round numbers, we will assume is a hundred and fifty thousand. That is, the peace establishment. The agricultural and manufacturing industries are robbed of the labor of these men, who if employed, would earn each two hundred dollars a year, so that Great Britain is thirty million dollars a year poorer than she would be if these men were not in the standing army. Again, these men cost the country three hundred dollars per man yearly, exclusive of arms and accoutrements; or, forty-five million dollars annually. Then there is the navy. Not half as numerous, but costing as much. Robbing the industries of fifteen million annually, and costing forty-five million in actual disbursements. To say nothing of big warships costing over half a million dollars each.

True, a great deal of the actual disbursements are spent at home, the agriculturist, the manufacturer, and the merchant, get each their share, while the colonist comes in for part. It is not, however, so much the vast expenditure and heavy taxation that I would speak of, as the manner in which the life and energies of the soldier are disposed of, especially in times of peace. It has also to be admitted that the English military system is preferable to those of her Continental neighbors, for hers is voluntary. The English ratio to the population is one soldier to every one hundred and twenty-eight, in France, one to every ninety-five; in Russia, one in every seventy-two; while the British soldier is better paid than in any of the European Continental nations. However, it is of his mode of life and efficiency, with less cost to the government, that I would speak. We all know that a soldier's life in garrison towns is unnatural, he is not allowed to marry, has little or nothing to do, and is so exposed to temptation that two percent out of the whole number are constantly in hospital suffering from a nameless disease. I would have these men freed from such festering conditions. You struck a true note the other day when you suggested that our young men from sixteen to twenty-five should be taught to shoot straight and learn how to ride: each township having its own organization, forming a perfect militia system.

Why not extend the idea to a reformation of the British army? We have in the Dominion of Canada millions of acres of fertile lands on which the foot of a white man has never trod. Great Britain would not find the Canadian Government niggardly with these lands if she would but make a clean sweep of the old artificial and expensive military system, and send us out say fifty thousand men. Let each one of these get a hundred acres with the right to marry, and a small allowance to enable him to build a house, and make himself a home. Let him own a horse, and learn how to groom and ride him, and shoot straight with his rifle. A certain number of days would have to be given to drill, for which he should be paid, and be liable at any time to be drafted for foreign service. With our railways these men could be massed at any point in a few days, to be transported by fast steamers wherever required. There would be no cost for hospitals, for work and pure air would keep them healthy. One such soldier in time of war would be worth two of the old regime. And he would cost the British government half of what he cost at present. Our young men, trained as you have suggested, would render our country impregnable, and the home government would not hesitate to draft the regulars when wanted. These British soldiers, settled on Canadian farms, would raise up families who would be Canadians, adding to the population and wealth of the country. These regulars would thus secure a home for their old age, and would require no pensions.

Australia could provide for another fifty thousand, and South Africa for as many more.

REFORM.

NEW WORDS

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Can the 'Witness' give the name of a reputable author before the time of the proposal of the Laurier preferential tariff who uses the word 'denounce' in the sense of giving notice of the abrogation of a treaty, as seems to be the meaning often given it now? Is the word needed? Is it a legal term? Who first used the word with this new meaning? Can the 'Witness' defend the use of the now hackneyed phrase 'in evidence,' an importation, as I take it, of the French 'en evidence'? We see it everywhere. Nothing is conspicuous. The feathers in a lady's sat are 'in evidence.' 'There were vessels in sight' becomes 'in evidence.' A boy's courage is 'in evidence.' A farmer's luxuriant crop is 'in evidence.' Is not this readiness to pick up and repeat a new phrase an indication of poverty of speech and corresponding poverty of thought? Or is it pure laziness such as perpetuates the offensive slang of our time? It rained 'fit to beat the band.' It suited him 'down to the ground.' 'He got there with both feet.' Such is the admirable English used by the rising generation. A minister must be able to use a little slang or he is reputed dull. An editor makes his article intelligible by free use of expressions long since become offensive by wearisome repetition. And so our language degenerates.

A. BOWERMAN.

Saskatoun, N.W.T., Dec., 1900.

We find the word 'denounce' as applied to treaties only in the most recent dictionary. We therefore presume that it is a recent importation into the language from a foreign source. It has certainly been current in that use for a good many years. We wish we saw more of Mr. Bowerman's disgust at the affected importation of needless foreign forms at the vulgarization by indiscriminate use of pet phrases very good in their place, and at the poverty of diction implied in free use of undignified slang.—Ed.

OUR SOLDIERS' DISCHARGE.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—As one of the first Canadian contingent who took part in every engagement with the nineteenth brigade since its formation at Gras Pan on Feb. 12, up to and including the British troops' entry into Pretoria, and having obtained my discharge at Halifax on Nov. 5, I feel it my duty to bring before your notice the form of certificate given as proof of the valuable service rendered by the regiment while striving to uphold the nation's honor and the integrity of the flag. I enclose you a copy of the 'Certificate of Discharge,' which, as you will observe, omits all mention of character, and therefore is practically useless.

I am at a loss to understand why similar certificates to those of the imperial army have not been issued, seeing we volunteered and endured the same hardships as the regular British soldier. The form referred to is nothing more than ordinary paper, whereas in the case of a regular 'Tommy Atkins' particulars of discharge are shown on parchment. I would be glad if you would kindly give a helping hand to secure the proper form of certificate, thus doing a justice to the representatives of our great Dominion.

AN ABSENT-MINDED BEGGAR.

Montreal, Dec. 17, 7900.

CANADIAN FORCES ORGANIZED FOR SPECIAL SERVICE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

CERTIFICATE OF DISCHARGE.

This certifies that No. ...., of....., Province of ....., served in the 2nd (Special Service) Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry, organized for special service in South Africa, from ..... until ....., 1900, and is now discharged therefrom.

Dated at Halifax, N.S., this ..... day of ....., 1900.

B. H. VIDAL,
Commanding Temporary Discharge Depot.

'Absent-minded Beggar' has evidently missed the significance of the fact that the signature to the document referred to is that of the officer commanding the 'temporary' discharges depot. Colonel Vidal is not in a position to give any other than a temporary discharge, but on the return of the officers commanding the Canadian regiments, regular discharges, giving particulars, will be made out on parchment.

AN OLD NOTE.

A Chinese bank-note, issued during the Ming Dynasty, about A. D. 1390, has been placed in the British Museum,among the specimens of early printing from China. The surface of the note is black with age, though the characters upon the face of it are quite discernible. This is supposed to be the earliest specimen extant of a bank note issued from any country, and is about 300 years anterior to the issue of the first note in Europe, from Stockholm.

SCIENCE NOTES.

Condensed milk wafers are going to be used in connection with the emergency ration test in Oklahoma. It is thought that condensed milk food will give better success than chocolate, which has been found to be of little service during the first test, which has just been completed. The milk food is made up in the form of wafers. When dissolved with water, it forms a kind of soup.

The maintenance of beaches along the New England coast is being successfully accomplished by the 'groyne system.' These 'groynes' consist of a series of posts planted firmly in the sand, with close planks extending from post to post. The 'groyne' is constructed at right angles to the beach, and its position prevents the waves acting on it injuriously. Sand is intercepted by the planking, rapidly forming a new beach and preventing erosion.

The following remarkable statement comes from Consul-General Hanauer, of Frankfort. He says that M. De Gall, inspector of forests at Lemur, France, has invented a process for melting wood. By means of dry distillation and high pressure, the escape of developing gases is prevented, thereby reducing the wood to a molten condition. After cooling off, the mass assumes the character of coal, yet without showing a trace of the organic structure of that mineral. The new body is hard, but can be shaped and polished, is impervious to water and acids, and is a perfect electrical non-conductor. If the inventor can make a satisfactory substance of this kind, it will undoubtedly have a considerable future.

The greatest drawback of the incandescent gas lamp mantle is its liability to break, owing to its fragile nature, under the effect of the miniature explosions which occur whenever the gas is lighted or extinguished. To preserve the mantle from any disruption by this means a device has been invented by a gentleman in London, consisting of a movable ring cover, placed over the air holes of the burner. The cover is carried upon a sliding pin, which makes contact at its lower end with a can projection from the tap lever, in such a manner that the air holes are closed by the ring when the gas is not alight, and they are not opened to their full extent until the flame has been ignited. In turning off the gas supply the air holes are closed before the flame is extinguished.

A typewriter of Canadian manufacture has been adopted by the government of the Argentine Republic for special use in its postal and telegraph work, as appears from the following paragraph in a recent number of 'La Nacion,' published at Buenos Ayres: 'The Post-Office Telegraph Department had a semi-private trial of typewriters yesterday afternoon. The machines on exhibition were the New Century, the Oliver, the Densmore and the Yost, all but the Oliver being submitted by the one firm, the latter machine having to stand the risk of accidents and mishaps against the other three. Two of the machines were fitted with an extraneous machine, and the forms used to receive the messages, and the messages themselves, were adapted to suit the requirements of this extraneous and additional machine, called the "Gorin Tabulator." The Yost and the New Century, with its tabulator, had to give up almost at the beginning, and the young lady who had operated the latter before it broke down, sat beside and prepared the paper for Mr. Brown, who operated the Densmore. Still Ernest Ruggeroni, who manipuated the keys of the Oliver with lightning speed, took all the messages, as also did Mr. Brown with his Densmore, his Gorin Tabulator and his assistant. The director of the Telegraph Department, Senor Lopez, then requested both parties to take the messages on the ordinary telegraphic forms, but the Yost and the New Century and the Densmore, with their three operators and the two Gorin Tabulators, declined, and the Oliver found no competitor.'

THE SPREAD OF PLAGUE.

The Public Health Department of the London County Council has issued to its medical officers a memorandum regarding the signs and symptoms of the bubonic plague, specially prepared by Dr. James Cantlie, who was connected with the plague hospitals at Hongkong, and whose valuable services have been secured by the London authorities in case the epidemic should visit the city. The rat has generally been described as a potential means of distributing the disease, but according to Dr. Cantlie's investigations upon this subject, it is not so much the animal itself that spreads the virus abroad, but the insect parasites that infest its coat. When the rat has been killed, these parasites forsake the animal and seek refuge upon any persons in the vicinity. If they are not immediately expelled by hygienic methods, they will irritate the skin, and the scratching of the irritation, which necessarily follows, frequently causing abrasions, permits the bacilli to be infused into the blood. Consequently immunity from attack by these pestiferous parasites can only be assured by careful personal cleanliness, since it has been conclusively proved in the hospitals that the disease cannot thrive where strict hygiene is maintained.

POISONOUS ILLUMINATING GAS.

The change in the composition of illuminating gas during recent years, it is believed by 'The Hospital,' should create anxiety in regard to its influence on public health because of the considerable amount of carbonic oxide which is now so often mixed with it. '"Gas," as it is called,' says this paper, 'has always been more or less poisonous, but only by virtue of one constituent, namely, carbonic oxide, which in old days, when gas was the unadulterated product of the distillation of coal, was present in only small proportions, say about seven percent. Nowadays, however, gas companies do not hesitate in an emergency to mix very large quantities of this poisonous compound with their coal gas, and to send it out to their customers without a word of warning, while some companies habitually send out a compound containing over 50 percent of carbonic oxide. So far we have not much proof of many deaths having been caused by this compound in England, but in America, where they have a longer experience of its use, the danger has been shown to be very considerable. In a paper on the subject, read by Dr. Haldane before the Society of Medical Officers of Health, he puts the matter in a somewhat striking form when he says that "the total death-rate from poisoning of every kind in this country, whether by gases, liquids, or solids, and whether accidental or suicidal, is only about half the average death rate from water-gas poisoning alone in Boston, New York, San Francisco and Washington." We do not think, however, that the evil consequences arising from the inhalation of water gas ought to be measured exclusively by deaths; even in non-fatal doses carbonic oxide is definitely deleterious to health, and not improbably, considering the leaky condition of many gas pipes, is the active cause of many mysterious maladies which are only relieved by change of air.'

AUTOMOBILES.

The two automobile ambulances of Roosevelt Hospital are very handsome vehicles, and were donated to the hospitals. There is room for three reclining patients, and eight can be crowded in if they are able to sit up. The batteries are charged in position, and as their radius of action is 25 miles, there is little danger that they will become exhausted, as the calls are seldom for a greater distance than two or three miles. Powerful brakes can bring the vehicle to a stop within a very few feet, while running at full speed.

Football.

THE ENGLISH GAME.

Below are given tables showing the standing of the leading English football teams up to Dec. 10, and showing the condition of matters in regard to the English cup, for which the fifth round in the qualifying stage has been played:

The League—Division I.

	P.	W.	L.	Drn.	Pts
Notts Forest	15	10	1	4	24
Newcastle United	15	7	2	6	20
Bury	15	8	4	3	19
Sunderland	15	7	3	5	19
Aston Villa	18	7	6	5	19
Liverpool	15	8	5	2	18
Everton	14	7	4	3	17
Manchester City	15	7	6	2	16
Notts County	17	7	8	2	16
Sheffield United	15	7	6	2	16
Derby County	16	7	8	1	15
Wolverhampton Wan.	15	4	5	6	14
W. Bromwich Albion	17	4	7	6	14
Sheffield Wednesday	14	4	5	5	13
Bolton Wanderers	15	4	8	3	11
Blackburn Rovers	16	3	8	5	11
Stoke	16	3	10	3	9
Preston North End	17	3	11	3	9

The League—Division II.

	P.	W.	L.	Drn.	Pts
Grimsby Town	15	9	2	4	22
Small Heath	14	7	0	7	21
Burnley	15	9	4	2	20
Woolwich Arsenal	15	8	4	3	19
Blackpool	13	5	2	6	16
Leicester Fosse	15	5	4	6	16
New Brighton Tower	14	6	5	3	15
Walsall	13	5	4	4	14
Glossop	13	5	5	3	13
Middlesbro'	12	5	4	3	13
Burslem Port Vale	16	4	7	5	13
Lincoln City	13	5	7	1	11
Gainsbro' Trinity	13	4	6	3	11
Stockport County	14	5	8	1	11
Newton Heath	13	4	8	1	9
Burton Swifts	15	4	10	1	9
Barnsley	11	3	7	1	7
Chesterfield	12	1	7	4	6

The Barnsley vs. Burnley match, at Barnsley, was stopped unfinished owing to fog, and is not included in the above table.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE.

In the following list an asterisk denotes the club upon whose ground the match was played:—

The League—Division 1.

*Notts Forest	2	Wolverhampton W	1
*Sheffield United	2	Newcastle United	0
*Bury	3	Aston Villa	1
*Sunderland	1	Sheffield Wednesday	0
*Everton	2	Derby County	0
*West Bromwich Albion	7	Bolton Wanderers	2
Liverpool	4	*Manchester City	3
*Preston N. End	4	Blackburn Rovers	1

The League—Division 2.

Burnley	1	*Blackpool	0
*Small Heath	1	Glossop	0
*Grimsby Town	2	Newton Heath	0
*Lincoln City	4	Stockport County	0
*Woolwich Arsenal	3	Burslem P't Vale	0

Midland League.

*Derby County	6	Worksop	4
Doncaster Rovers	2	*Ilkeston	0
*Burton Wanderers	2	Rushden	1
*Leicester Fosse R	5	Northampton	2
Wellingbro'	3	*Coalville	1

THE ENGLISH CUP—Qualifying Stage.

Fifth Round.

Division 1.

*Middlesbro'	4	Bishop Auckland	0

Division 2.

*Southport Central	1	Darwen	1

Division 3.

*Crewe Alexandra	5	Nantwich	1

Division 4.

*Walsall	6	Wellington	0

Division 5.

Chesterfield	5	*Barnsley	1

Division 6.

Kettering	2	*Burton Swifts	1

Division 7.

*Luton	3	Queen's Park R'rs	0

Division 8.

*West Ham	1	Clapton	1

Division 9.

*Reading	2	Richmond Assoc'n	0

Division 10.

*Bristol Rovers	5	Swindon	[illegible]

A CONSERVATIVE VICTORY.

HOW IT WAS WON IN VICTORIA, B. C.

(Victoria 'Colonist' (Con.)

Thirty-five members of the Quebec Legislature have been elected by acclamation. We suppose this can hardly be paralleled in the history of the Canadian provinces. The total membership of the Quebec Legislature is 74, so that within three of a majority of the members have been returned without a contest. There is only one explanation possible of this astounding collapse of Quebec Conservatism, and that is to be found in the madness with which a certain section of the Conservative party in federal politics assailed the French. The Montreal 'Star' set the pace and it was too generally followed, the result being the almost complete obliteration of the party in a province where it was once supreme. It was in vain that moderate papers like the 'Colonist' protested. The protests were interpreted as a desire to assist the Liberal party. It may be doubted if the anti-French campaign gained the Conservatives more than two or three seats in Ontario—the leaders in that Province say it did not gain them any, but that the Ontario majority was due to the condemnation by the English-speaking voters of that province of the whole policy of the Laurier ministry—and it certainly lost many seats in Quebec. It is a fact that prominent Conservatives hoped to be able to divide Quebec with the Liberals. Up to the very last the Conservative leaders in this province looked for a great reduction in Laurier's Quebec following. In the meantime everything was being done around the Conservative headquarters in the east to drive the French together on the Liberal side. We saw one result of this folly in the federal election. We see another in the remarkable list of elections by acclamation in the Quebec local contest. The 'Colonist' can speak very freely upon this point, because it refused to join in the anti-French cry. Day after day election material came from the east, most of it decrying the French. We refused to use it. We did not believe it would be a patriotic thing to do anything calculated to stir up strife between the two elements of the Canadian population. We think the result establishes the wisdom of our course. Victoria elected the Conservative candidates, and neither they nor the 'Colonist,' which supported them, have to apologize for having any part in a campaign policy which has made the Conservative party in Quebec little more than a memory. A united Canada is impossible with the people of Quebec arrayed almost en masse against one of the political parties, and if ever a weighty patriotic duty rested upon the Conservatives of Canada it is to endeavor to restore the standing of their party in Quebec, in some degree at least.

GOING TO ENGLAND.

MEMBERS OF E BATTERY HAVE PLEASURABLE ANTICIPATIONS.

Driver James Henry Browning, jr., of E Battery, Royal Canadian Field Artillery, late of the Montreal Field Battery, writes to his father from Warrenton, S.A., on Nov. 16: 'We received a telegram from Lord Roberts yesterday stating that we leave for home via England on Dec. 1. We are all overjoyed at receiving the news. I have received pressing invitations from relatives in England, and am promised a very pleasant New Year's holiday.

'It is now very hot in South Africa, but, as usual, I am in the best of health and spirits. We are not allowed to be idle, and are now on fatigue duty, digging trenches, a very necessary precaution here. The 37th Battery of the Royal Artillery will relieve us before we take the train. Warrenton (named after General Warren) is five days and nights distant from Capetown by rail. The line is very much congested with traffic. After this guerilla warfare ceases, the country will vastly improve. They should go in heavy for tree culture—that would in time effect wonders, I think, by causing a more equable distribution of rain through the year, and decrease the force of the fearful lightning and thunder storms that now prevail. One tremendous problem will be, What to do with the black population of Africa. They cannot remain in their present barbarous and ignorant state, or they will some day rise en masse against the whites, and in very truth "stagger humanity."'

CONSERVATISM IN QUEBEC.

(Montreal 'Gazette,' Con.)

The result of the elections to the legislature in this province, coming after the Laurier sweep in the parliamentary contest, has created opinions about the Conservative party in Quebec that a calm review of the circumstances fails to justify. The story of the old prophet who despaired because in all Israel he alone was left of the true faith has been repeated many times in history, and is being repeated in a way now by those Conservatives who, from the west, cast despairing eyes towards the Ottawa river. . . . . Approximately accurate figures of the parliamentary elections have been prepared. They show that the total vote for Conservative candidates in 1900 was quite as great as in 1896. There were over a hundred thousand ballots marked for Conservative nominees, to a hundred and thirty-three thousand given to Liberal candidates. Conservatives got three-sevenths of the vote cast. That, with such support they should have less than a ninth of the representation in parliament is one of the most remarkable occurrences in connection with popular elections. It is blinding those who only look on the surface to the facts of the case. The party has been hurt in the province, of course; but that is all. It is still a force in both French and English constituencies; and when it recovers its breath, and the process is going on, it will be ready to do its share with the party in the other provinces to reverse the judgments that have lately gone against it. What the Liberal chiefs in the province are doing shows that they do not consider it dead, and its friends should be as wise as its enemies.

ONTARIO CIVIC ELECTIONS

Circular Issued Instructing Liberals to Vote for Party Candidates

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—Local political circles were considerably disturbed to-day by a statement to the effect that Mr. G. W. Dawson, the Liberal organizer for eastern Ontario, had issued a circular calling upon Liberals everywhere to support only Liberal candidates at the coming municipal elections and by securing the control of municipal councils, strengthen the hands of the Ontario Liberal Government. Mr. Dawson, when seen about the matter, admitted that he had issued a circular to that effect, but claimed that the Liberal party was only acting in self-defence, as the Conservative organizations in Ontario had commenced the introduction of party politics into municipal councils.

The following is Mr. Dawson's circular:—

Eastern Ontario Liberal Association,
Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 4, 1900.
Private and Confidential.

Dear Sir,—I am sending you for distribution in your riding one hundred circulars describing one of the Tory schemes to defeat Premier Ross.

In our efforts in the eastern district we are badly handicapped by the fact that the municipal councils are now and long have been largely in the hands of the Tories. I have reports from 161 municipalities. In these:

Of the reeves, 11 are Tories and 50 are Liberals.

Of the councillors, 426 are Tories and 265 are Liberals.

Of the clerks, 104 are Tories and 57 are Liberals.

Of the assessors, 100 are Tories and 65 are Liberals.

This should not be allowed. Every effort should be made to prevent Tories from controlling the councils. There is only one way to do it: Elect Liberal reeves and councillors—not Tory!

Hoping this will be done in January next,

I am, ever, yours faithfully,
(Signed) GEO. W. DAWSON.

The following accompanied the letter given above:—

'Private.

'FLANEUR'S' LITTLE SCHEME.

'The Toronto 'Mail and Empire,' the chief organ of the Tupper-Whitney party, has a capable special writer known as the "Flaneur." He gives excellent inside points on many topics in his comments, and recently he came out publicly urging what has been for years past, in many municipalities, the policy of the Conservatives. Up to the present the work has been done in secret, but the "Flaneur" comes out boldly, and calls for a firm—no shamming—line of action. He urges the Tories to vote the party ticket, and support Conservative candidates all the time throughout the whole Province of Ontario. The Tory effort will be to secure control of all the municipal councils and press on up higher. Read what "Flaneur" says in the 'Mail and Empire' of Saturday, Nov. 24, 1900. His well-timed advice is as follows:—

'"I hope our municipal elections will be run on strict party lines. We shall then know better what we are after, and where we stand. I intend to vote for Conservative candidates all the time, and ask my readers to do the same. We shall have better men come out. Each party will be on its mettle. The cry of 'No Politics' in municipal affairs is a hollow cry. It has not been fairly acted up to by either party. Let us cease shamming and play fair. Let us Conservatives agree to vote only for Conservatives, and let the other fellows do what they like.

'"Let the other fellows do what they like." Are you one of the other fellows? What are you going to do? This attempt of the Tupper-Whitney party to bring party politics into every municipal council in the province of Ontario should be met by united action on the part of all free and independent citizens—the other fellows. The 'Flaneur' wants a Tory council everywhere, for on the municipal lists of 1901 the next provincial general elections will be fought. 'Flaneur' wants the councils to be Tupper-Whitney, so that the assessors, clerks and courts of revision may be of the right material, and "let the other fellows do what they like." The 'Flaneur' has made a careful study of the situation from the ground up, and his advice to the party is to get hold of the municipal councils. This is what the Tory party is doing. It is their policy all along the line under various guises. "Vote only for Conservatives" is the whisper, and "let the other fellows do what they like."'

'Dec. 1, 1900.'

THE POST FOUNTAIN PEN.

A useful premium and easily obtained. Send three new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' at one dollar each, or five renewal subscribers at one dollar each, or a club of ten and $8 00. The sender of any of the three foregoing clubs will receive a Post Fountain Pen, one of the best self-filler fountain pens obtainable. The regular price of this pen is three dollars.

SUBSCRIBERS' REMARKS.

Subscribers are requested to have their renewals mailed in good time, and, if possible, the names of as many new subscribers as can be obtained. The 'Witness' depends largely upon its friends in recommending it to others. The subscribers should prove the best judges and advocates for a clean newspaper in the homes of this favored Dominion.

MONTREAL NEWS.

The Hon. J. Alphonse Ouimet, judge of the Superior Court for the district of Richelieu, died on Wednesday morning at his residence, 573 Sherbrooke street. He was born in St. Eustache in 1843.

Five guards of the St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary are being prosecuted for an assault upon Telesphore Ouimet, who was once warden of the penitentiary and their overseer. They were liberated on bail.

A number of social reformers, with Mr. Robert Bickerdike, M.P., have forcibly called the Quebec government's attention to a distinct lack of reforming influences in the female jail, and the necessity for a new building.

Williams, alias Brooke, known in Canada as one of the Danville bank robbers, who escaped from Sherbrooke jail while awaiting trial, has been sent to jail at Dover, N.H., for fifty years for robbery done at Lawrence, Mass.

The case of Madame Delpit came before the Presbytery of Montreal on Friday, and the opinion was expressed that the case should go before the Privy Council at the earliest moment, in order to find out whether the Pope or parliament of Canada is the deciding factor in the case.

Noel Lapointe, of 66 1-2 St. Urbain street, while at work with pick and shovel on a sidewalk on Commissioners street, on Dec. 18, dropped upon the sidewalk and died before the General Hospital ambulance could reach him. Natural causes, the coroner said, produced death.

James Robinson, machinist, while tempering a bar of iron last Tuesday in the Laurie Engine Works, was overwhelmed by the explosion natural when red hot iron is put suddenly into cold water. Steam and scalding water rendered him an emergency patient at the General Hospital, where he was cared for.

Robert Sayers, of 310 Charlebois street, 40 years old, was found by the police insensible on the street from having drunk methylated spirits. He was treated as a common drunk, and locked up. In the morning his real condition was ascertained and he was sent to the General Hospital. It was too late to save him.

Mr. Winston Churchill, M.P. for Oldham, Lancashire, England, passed through Montreal on Sunday, and he will be the guest of His Excellency the Governor-General and Lady Minto at Ottawa. Mr. Churchill will be entertained in Montreal on Thursday, the guest of Mr. E. S. Clouston, general manager of the Bank of Montreal.

Peter Gagnon, a child of twelve, tried to cross the track of the G.T.R. at Hibernia road crossing, upon his way home to 66 St. Charles street, from Lorne school on Tuesday afternoon. He did not calculate that the train was going to start when he tried to climb over the coupling, and he was struck and fatally hurt.

The residence of Mr. Hugh Paton, 911 Sherbrooke street, was damaged by fire on Tuesday morning, about seven o'clock. It is believed that some electrical disturbance caused the fire, but where it came from is a mystery. The house opposite was troubled in the same manner, but it was not so badly damaged as Mr. Paton's, which will take $2,000 or more to repair.

Pierre Godin, alias Tremblay, entered the dwelling of Mr. H. C. St. Pierre, the well-known lawyer, 148 Berri street, and robbed it on Dec. 17. Next day he tried to deny his crime, committed in broad daylight. It is even said that he pleaded with Mr. St. Pierre to defend him before his honor the police magistrate, which gave the criminal an appearance of impudence or very great simplicity. He finally confessed his crime and was sent to jail.

Mr. W. H. Black, assistant secretary-treasurer of the Bell Telephone Company, and his wife are just now receiving the sympathy of friends. Four of their children have died at the civic hospital, and the fifth child's life was despaired of. The children were: Mona Miriam Campbell, aged six years and six months; Jessamine Campbell, four years; Ewan McLellan, two years and six months, and Clarice Marcy, thirteen months. The eldest, Hope, will, every one prays, recover. The family resided at Longueuil, and the law requires that contagious disease cases be removed to the hospital.

Mr. G. H. Webber, of the Webber Tea Company, made quick and effective use of a gun he had been cleaning on Tuesday evening in his store on Wellington street. Just as he was counting his cash a man came in, pointed a pistol at him, and ordered him to hold up his hands. Mr. Webber dropped his cash, and threw himself behind the counter. When the robber followed him around the end of the counter he met the ugly-looking gun barrel pointing at him. Afraid of an encounter, he cleared out at once, and the police have not managed to find him.

Three men were drilling a hole for a blast on St. Viateur street, Mile End, at 7.30 a.m., yesterday, when the drill slipped, and struck a dynamite cartridge, which was lying near. The cartridge, of course, exploded. Fortunately, none of the three were dangerously injured. Joseph Campeau, who received bruises on the face and internal injuries, and Moise Printemps, who was bruised on the head, arms and legs, were taken to the Hotel Dieu in an ambulance; Joseph Matté, who was not much hurt, went home.

The death occurred on Wednesday, at the age of seventy-two years, of Mr. Joshua Henshaw, who ten years ago retired from the position of paymaster of the Grand Trunk Railway, after having served the company since 1850. Mr. Henshaw was the son of George Sagé Henshaw, in the early part of the century one of the leading advocates of Montreal. He married, in 1860, Miss Fayrer, a cousin of the well-known scientist, Sir John Fayrer, and leaves two sons, Mr. H. H. Henshaw, of the Royal Electric Company, and Mr. C. E. Henshaw, of Vancouver, B.C., and a daughter, Mrs. F. W. Taylor.

The death of Mr. James Robertson, president of the James Robertson Company, Limited, at his residence on Monday afternoon, though not unexpected, caused much sorrow, both in business and religious circles. Mr Robertson was from Campsie, Stirlingshire, Scotland, was born in 1831, came to Canada in June, 1857, and established a branch of Messrs. Alexander, Ferguson & Lennie, Glasgow, of which firm he was a member. He afterwards bought the business out, and increased it until its branches were placed in Toronto, Winnipeg, St. John, N.B., and Baltimore, Md. Mr. Robertson's presence in St. Gabriel's Church was felt both by example and purse. He was beloved by scores, to whom his right hand gave while his left was unaware of the gift. The lowly Salvation Army members were among his friends, and how many his good will assisted none can tell. He married Miss Morris, of Ste. Therese, in 1864, and happiness attended the family. His four sons, James, John, Charles and Alexander, are all in the business. His daughters are Mrs. Alexander Woods and Miss Grace. The funeral to St. Gabriel's Church on Thursday afternoon was largely attended.

THE DELPIT MARRIAGE CASE.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—This case must have intense interest for every patriotic lover of civil and religious liberty in his own country. The fact, for apparently such seems to be the fact, that a civil court in the British empire should refer a case to a foreign court of a religious denomination, presumably with a view to shaping its decision in accordance with the dictum of such foreign court, seems preposterous. But apart from this feature of the case, if the facts are substantially as represented in Madame Coté's letter in your issue of Dec. 14, and in other letters, and in your editorial remarks, it is of the utmost importance that it be carried, if necessary, to the Privy Council. If the laws of our land decide that a young girl, who, in good faith, is married by an official who she believes is authorized to marry her, and who does marry other persons, may be put aside a few years afterwards as a woman who has never been married, then it is high time to amend our laws.

This does not seem to me to be a case of Protestant versus Roman Catholic. It is civil liberty versus ecclesiasticism. Probably certain Protestant bodies would act similarly to the propaganda had they similar power.

It is desirable that some non-sectarian body should take up the defence of this case to prevent even the appearance of religious prejudice, which is so sensitive in our province. The ladies of Montreal have shown themselves capable of organized work in many ways, one, for instance, in protecting the virgin beauties of our mountain park. There are many of them wealthy and powerful. Would it not be worthy of them to organize and assist the weak in order that at least justice may be done in a case where humiliation must be wringing the heart of a sister?

If some organization is effected which will ensure the effective application of funds and prosecution of the case, I will contribute ten dollars towards a guarantee fund for such purpose, although my family needs all the money I can earn. In the meantime, I enclose one dollar towards any action that it may be necessary to take at once.

CIVIL LIBERTY.

THEY DID US CREDIT.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—No doubt you have been kept fully advised by cable of the very fine reception extended by the people of London and Liverpool to the Canadian contingent recently here. I saw a good deal of them in London, and was in Liverpool the day the contingent sailed, and had many opportunities at 'The Exchange' and the 'clubs' to hear what was said of our men. Without exception, everything was most gratifying to a Canadian, and despite free hospitality and many temptations, our men passed through the ordeal as a body practically unscathed. I am quite certain that no other body of men has passed through or will pass through England that will stand higher in the estimation of the English people in this particular of trained, steady, good behavior, than the Canadian contingent.

E. L. BOND.

London, E.C., Dec. 15, 1900.

FRENCH CANADIAN NO FOOL

Leamington, Ont., Dec. 19.—The Liberals of Leamington tendered Mr. M. K. Cowan, the popular young member for South Essex in the Dominion House, a banquet last night to celebrate his re-election. Mr. Tarte, who was present, was given a splendid reception, and it was several minutes before his opening remarks could be heard. He said he had just returned from the Paris Exhibition, and had come back more proud of his country than ever. People said he was a French-Canadian. Well, he had a French-Canadian father and a French-Canadian mother; could he be English? They said the French were a conquered race, but they became British subjects under a treaty. The British flag that waved over his head was as dear to him as to them. It was the symbol of the liberty they enjoyed under Great Britain's rule. It was well for the country that there were two races fighting for prosperity, toleration and federation. The Conservatives were no doubt doing some thinking about the recent election. The French-Canadian was no fool. He knew what was good for him, and who were the better men for him. He would not deny that they were proud of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He was a great man, and had been a good premier. His sunny ways had done great things for the Canadians, and he had done far more to draw the two races together than any other man before him. In England we were recognized as a nation. An immense trade awaits us on the Continent. The Tories do not like me; they know very well I was in their camp too long, and know too much about them. If his hearers would permit him to give his opinion he would tell them he did not think their organization was strong enough in Ontario. The Tories had singled out Mr. Sifton and himself to heap abuse upon, and what had been the result? A sweeping victory. He would appeal to the Orangemen in the audience, had they not equal rights with them? Mr. Tarte closed his speech by thanking his hearers for the warm welcome, and assuring them he would carry away with him pleasant recollections of his visit.

New York, Dec. 19.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier, premier of Canada, accompanied by his wife and a party of friends, are here. The premier is here for a few days' rest, and incidentally to do some Christmas shopping. Last evening the party attended a theatre.

MIDLAND IRON WORKS.

Midland, Ont., Dec. 18.—This town was en fete this afternoon, when the blast furnaces of the Canada Iron Furnace Company, Limited, were officially opened by the Hon. G. W. Ross and Mayor S. A. Milligan, of Midland. A special train with one hundred on board arrived from Toronto at 1.45, and were received at the works by the mayor and leading citizens, together with Mr. J. J. Drummond, the general superintendent, and Mr. W. H. Bennett, M.P. for East Simcoe. A public holiday had been proclaimed, and the residents turned out en masse to greet the visitors. There was a profuse display of decorations and appropriate mottoes on the principal streets.

As soon as the party arrived at the blast furnace, Mr. George E. Drummond presented Mayor Milligan with a silver-mounted ebony mallet, with which he struck the tapper, and immediately there was a run of metal, and the spectators were treated to the spectacle of seeing the pigs moulded before their eyes. The furnace has a capacity of 150 tons a day.

A number of interesting addresses were delivered from a platform erected in front of the office by Mr. George E. Drummond, the Hon. G. W. Ross, the Hon. E. J. Davis, Mr. E. A. Gurney, of Toronto; Mayor Milligan, and a number of others. The Hon. Mr. Ross was presented with a gold-headed cane, as a memento of his visit. Votes of thanks were tendered the directors for their hospitality. The directorate of the Canada Iron Furnace Company is composed of Messrs. P. H. Griffin and the Hon. T. Guilford Smith, of Buffalo, N.Y.; Messrs. George E. Drummond, James T. McCall and Thomas J. Drummond, of the firm of Drummond, McCall & Co.; Messrs. A. F. Gault, of Montreal; Geo. Gudewill, of New York; F. H. Clergue, of Sault Ste. Marie, and E. V. Douglas, of Philadelphia. The geographical position of Midland assures to it very great advantages as a shipping point, both east and west, and, moreover, its proximity to the Lake Superior mining districts (the ores of which the company require for the production of first-class iron) gives a furnace situated at that point a decided advantage over any of its competitors either in Canada or the eastern United States. The Midland works, building, machinery, etc., were planned and installed by a Canadian engineer, viz., Mr. John J. Drummond, and, according to most competent judges, the work has been well carried out. With the exception, possibly, of the Radnor forges, Midland is the only modern iron smelter in the Dominion that has been planned and erected by a Canadian.

THE FREE STATERS

PRINCIPAL GRANT OPPOSED TO THEIR EXTINCTION.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 21.—Principal Grant says that the Orange Free State did wrong in joining the Transvaal in invading Natal, but its extinction by annexation is too great a punishment. By what right has it been annexed, he asks, and answers: 'Simply by the right that brute strength gives, and that right is not recognized by reason and conscience. Were I a Free State citizen, I would never surrender unconditionally. We would probably do what Steyn, De Wett, and their comrades are doing, fight on, appeal to the world, and try to rouse all of the same blood against the injustice done by the forcible annexation of the country.'

FESTIVITIES AT OSBORNE

London, Dec. 21.—Her Majesty the Queen is entertaining a family party at Osborne. She will have many of her grandchildren with her for Christmas and will have a full round of visitors until the end of January. Definite arrangements for her journey to the Riviera have not yet been made but Court officials are expecting her to start for Cimiez early in March and not to return until the close of April. All accounts of her health which appear in print are favorable and there are no official intimations that there is any anxiety among the members of her household. What is published is not in accord with what is whispered in West End circles. The Queen's appetite, which has always been good, is reported to have failed and other signs of the increasing burden of years are mentioned. She is described as having aged rapidly during the last few months and as being exceedingly feeble. Such reports have often been circulated and have been contradicted in due time by the evidence of her wonderful vitality and vigor. The rumors now current may have as little foundation in fact, but the authorities named for them are people of high station with exceptional facilities for knowing what is going on at Windsor and Osborne. Reports which cannot be dismissed as drawing-room gossip indicate a real anxiety and solicitude in the Queen's household in regard to her health and serious doubts respecting her ability to make the journey to the Riviera.

There is indeed reason to believe that the Queen, while bearing up with her old-time courage and spirit under recent family misfortunes, has been seriously upset by two events. One was the death of her grandson while in service in South Africa. This was a source of poignant grief for he was a favorite grandchild. The second cause of unhappiness was the divorce proclaimed under the laws of Anhalt by which her greatly beloved granddaughter was separated and put away from her husband by annulment of the marriage. No event of this kind had ever occurred in the Queen's family and she was sorely harassed and mortified by it. The German Emperor and the Queen have both endeavored strenuously to prevent the separation of the Prince and Princess Aribert of Anhalt, but have failed to accomplish their purpose. Prince Christian is returning this week from Berlin after completing arrangements for the legal separation upon which Prince Aribert had set his mind after being married nine years. This distressing family affair is reported to have weighed heavily upon the Queen's spirits.

[For the 'Witness.'

THE MANIFESTATION.

Where are the true of heart, I cried;
Where are the children of the Light?
—W. W. Campbell.

I gazed on men with curious gaze,
As strangers to my inner thought;
And said: 'The best that life hath brought
Is lost amid their struggling days.'

And tho' of cynic heart, I sought,
Soul-anguished, for some heart that felt
Life's deeper meaning, nor had dealt
Alone in tinsel, fashion-fraught,

I sought and found not, but at length,
When scarce I longer sought, I found
The music with diviner sound,
The men of soul, of love, of strength.

Their lives beside my life were song,
Their quiet truth a heavenly power,
Companionship a very dower
Of blessing all my way along.

Unknown beyond a narrow sphere,
Unpraised their noble way they kept;
And when at last, toil-worn, they slept,
Few lingered by to drop a tear.

Yet had they blessed in myriad ways
The lives that touched their lives serene;
For Sympathy, enthroned as queen
In heart and life, ruled all their days.

Such still there live whose steady eye
Looks 'neath the surface waves of life,
Beneath the toil and wrong and strife,
To deeps where life's fair jewels lie.

Such still there live whose thought and heart
And life are like 'the great of old,'
Untouched by selfish 'lust of gold,'
Or 'pride of power,' or 'rage of art.'

Such still there live, and thou may'st find
Their heart companionship, their love
If rising earth's dull dross above
Thy life like theirs be true and kind.

WILLIAM R. WOOD.

Tara, Ont.

[For the 'Witness.'

CHRISTMAS MORNING.

Oh! the joy of Christmas morning.
Through the keen and frosty air,
Bells ring out the birth of Jesus,
Welcome tidings everywhere.

What a gift the world receiveth
With the coming of His reign;
Peace, good-will, to men He bringeth
Paradise on earth again.

Heart to heart responds in gladness,
Loving deeds are spread abroad,
Drawing nearer to his neighbor,
Man draws nearer unto God.

With what tributes shall we honor
Christ, the Lord, who is our king,
On this holiest birthday morning
What shall be our offering?

Love, obedience, faith, we bring Him,
As the great, wise men of old
Brought their costly gifts to Jesus,
Myrrh, and frankincense, and gold.

Come, oh, Christ-child, dwell within us,
Let our hearts Thy manger be,
Where we may in adoration,
Consecrate our lives to Thee.

Oh! the joy of Christmas morning,
Through the keen and frosty air,
Bells ring out the birth of Jesus,
Welcome tidings everywhere.

MARTHA MARTIN.

'WITNESS' SEWING MACHINE.

John Dougall & Son, Montreal:—

Dear Sirs,—I received the New 'Witness' Sewing Machine yesterday, and I am very much pleased with it, and I think it equally as good as any of the high-priced machines.

I remain, yours sincerely,
JAMES ROSS.

Bromley, Ont., Dec. 18, 1900.

THE WAR CONTINUES.

It has Entered a New and Difficult Phase, and More Men are Wanted.

HOW GENERAL DE WETT'S FORCE ESCAPED.

Boers Invaded Cape Colony and Troops Have Been Sent to Drive Them Away.

South African war news, after the 'Weekly Witness' had gone to press last Tuesday morning, continued further details of disaster. Particulars of the Nooitgedacht affair, which occurred in the Magliesburg mountain range, to the west of Pretoria, come in slowly, and a good many tales are told, probably to mitigate the effect of the disaster on the public mind. The truth seems to be that if General Clements had not cleared out his whole command would have been captured. The despatch says: 'The Boer plans were splendidly laid. If the main British column had tarried a little longer there would have been a complete success for the Boers, who exposed themselves undauntedly, yelling and waving their arms. Their rushes were only stemmed by artillery. After the British retreat, the Boers held a prayer meeting. Their hymns could be heard by the retiring soldiers. All accounts indicate a heavy Boer loss. Colonel Legge exhibited splendid bravery. He shot five Boers with his revolver before he fell with three bullets in his body.' There is so much in the despatch similar to others that have followed British reverses in Africa that the discerning reader will easily recognize that there is something to be hidden from public view, whether blunder or otherwise. A very decisive Boer success it certainly was, and by comparison greater than any achieved since Nicholson's Nek, as it was done by an armed body believed to have been beaten into a dispirited group of burghers. The whole truth is not yet told. That is one of the certainties, at all events. Details of the successful brush with the Boers who crossed the Orange River into Cape Colony on Monday with the Cape Rifles and Brabant's Horse had not been received. The laconic announcement that the troops retired with loss is all that the despatch says of the affair.

Wednesday's South African war despatches indicated General Knox as having given up pursuit of De Wett and having turned his attention to the Boer invasion of Cape Colony. It was stated that De Wett had not only escaped but was menacing Winburg, which expected attack, and which it is hoped has plenty of ammunition. De Wett is said to have between four and five thousand men. If he has, Winburg must be on the alert. It is probable that he has no such number, and that the advance into Cape Colony was really made to draw away from him the pursuit that so persistently followed him. It is believed that if General French has taken charge of the reinforcements for General Clements, something will be heard of him in a few days. His presence in Pretoria with Lord Kitchener, the demand for all the mounted men that can be spared, and the sending of more horses and mules into South Africa might mean that while Boer successes are stirring the public pulse so furiously Lord Kitchener and the great cavalry general have been planning and preparing movements that may end the war as suddenly and as successfully as the work was done at Omdurmann. Lord Kitchener has taken the trouble to deny that story of Mr. John Byrn-Roberts, in the British House of Commons, that the Australian troops in South Africa had practically mutinied. Mr. Kruger had a warm reception at Amsterdam, where he accused the British of employing women and children against him. He also said he was not a fugitive, but had been sent to Europe by his government. One bit of news referring to the new invasion by the Boers of Cape Colony is that General Macdonald, with his Highlanders, had met General Herzof and was forcing him back to the Orange river. 'Fighting Mac' understands the Boers and their methods, and he may have a chance of paying them back for his treatment at Majuba Hill, where he was made a prisoner in 1881, and saw much of the Boers. Lord Salisbury's most recent reference to the South African war induced the London 'Mail' to surmise that the war, instead of being finished, is entering on a new and difficult phase.

The War Office has issued the Queen's thanks to the Yeomanry and volunteers, expressing the hope that those at present in the field will continue to aid her regulars. Quite a number of volunteer officers, lawyers, doctors and business men, have resigned the war department having allowed them to retire on representations that their business interests have been almost ruined in their absence. All this, taken in connection with the return of colonials, the home-going of a small army of generals to be honored and feted, and the restlessness attributed to Cape Colony Dutch, is curious reading to the British people, told months ago that the war is over. The new phase of it will be anxiously watched.

Thursday's South African news gave evidence that there was a battle in progress in the direction of Krugersdorp, which is just west of Johannesburg. No particulars were given. It is evident that Lord Kitchener sits tight upon correspondence, as there has been little explanation of existing complications, if there are any. Mounted men are to be sent from England at once, and horses and mules for transport are going forward. Nooitgedacht appears to have cost General Clements's force 82 killed and wounded, with 44 unaccounted for. This is probably in addition to the loss by the surrender of the Northumberland Fusiliers, although that is not stated in so many words. From Krugersdorp comes news that Lieut. Burges, of Kitchener's Horse, for reprimanding a sergeant in the ranks for drunkenness, was shot dead by the sergeant, and on the same day a sergeant in the Royal Artillery had committed suicide. Every house in Krugersdorp is being filled up by refugees from the surrounding country, which the British are depleting of provisions and forage, in order to prevent marauding bands of Boers from being fed and housed. Whether they are trustworthy or not, the people are ordered to the towns. It is believed this will diminish the chances of guerillas in future raids. The invasion of Cape Colony and the descent upon Colesburg and Burgersdorp have surprised many who do not know the situation. Lord Kitchener states that the Boers are being followed by mounted men, who, it is hoped, will drive the band northward. Evidently Lord Kitchener does not expect their capture. A belated despatch of Dec. 19 states that a Boer attack had been made on Kaalfontein station, on the previous day, but had been beaten off. As the attack was made between Kaalfontein and Kuerfontein, and almost in touch with Pretoria, it is evidence that in a great many spots the Boers can move in unfettered array. Incidentally it is stated that the Boers are raiding Ladybrand and driving off stock; and this is supposed to be the work of De Wett's forces, who lost only thirty killed and wounded and twelve prisoners in breaking through the British lines on Dec. 14. It is stated that the Boers have occupied Colesberg, and that a mixed force of a thousand men had been sent north from Capetown on Wednesday evening. Lord Edward Cecil, fourth son of the Marquis of Salisbury, returned on Tuesday evening to the home of his fathers and Hatfield House was full of joyfulness.

Friday's telegrams state that New Zealand has decided to send another contingent of troops to South Africa. De Wett's escape is described as a magnificent spectacle in which the great cavalry leader made the very best use of a practically open door, through which he got away. The Boer bands that invaded Cape Colony are reported to have been checked effectually between Steynsburg and Venterstad. They took twenty of the Venterstad garrison prisoners, and had a brush with the Hamelfontein garrison, who drove them off, after some hours of fighting. The commando that entered by the Zand River drift were diverted from their movement on Colesberg and occupied Philipstown. They cut the railway at Hout Kraal station on Thursday between De Aar and Hopetown. De Wett's army is now estimated to be six thousand men. It is probably not one-third of that number. The treason court was obliged to hurriedly leave Colesberg for Capetown on Thursday.

NOOITGEDACHT DISASTER.

London, Dec. 20.—General Delarey seems disposed to follow up his success at Nooitgedacht. Hitherto the Boer generals have been content to rest on their oars after a victory but Delarey, if he intended profiting by his distinct defeat of General Clements, should not have given the latter time to be joined by General French.

A despatch from Pretoria says that during General Clements's retreat the Boer fire was so heavy that the British were forced to abandon a quantity of ammunition. The Boers mistook the nature of the ammunition and set fire to it. A terrific explosion followed, killing and wounding a number of Boers.

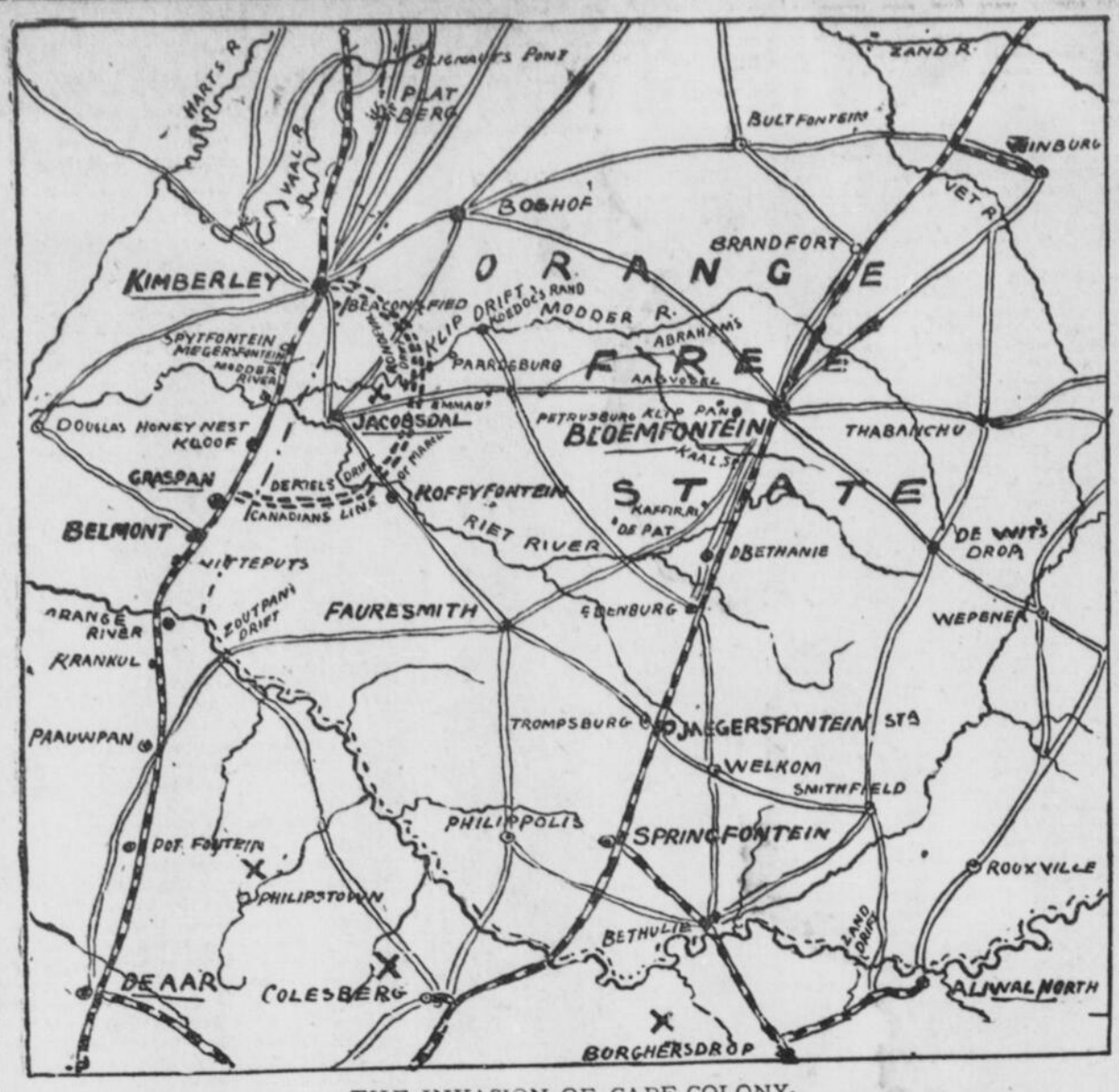
DE WETT'S ESCAPE.

ONE DOOR WAS LEFT OPEN FOR HIM.

Bloemfontein, Dec. 20.—The details of General De Wett's escape from the encircling British columns describe one of the boldest incidents of the war. When Haasbroek's command joined De Wett on Dec. 12 some fifteen miles east of Thaba N'Chu, General Knox was only about an hour distant and the Boer situation appeared desperate. But De Wett was equal to the occasion. Despatching Haasbroek westward to make a feint at Victoria Nek, De Wett prepared to break through the British columns at Springhaau Nek pass, about four miles of broad, flat, unbroken ground. At the entrance were two fortified posts. Artillery was posted eastward watching the Boers. Suddenly a magnificent spectacle was presented. The whole Boer army of two thousand five hundred men started at a gallop in open order through the Nek. President Steyn and Peit Fourie led the charge and De Wett brought up the rear. The British guns and rifles boomed and rattled incessantly. The Boers first tried the eastward route, but encountering artillery they diverged and galloped to the front of the hill where the fire of only a single post was effective. The whole manoeuvre was a piece of magnificent daring and its success was complete in spite of the loss of a fifteen-pounder and twenty-five prisoners.

The British force detached to look after Haasbroek came in contact with his commando at nightfall. The burghers were scattered and the Welsh Yeomanry galloped among the retreating Boers, using their revolvers and the butt ends of their rifles with great effect.

An incident of the fight was the gallop of a British ammunition waggon right through the scattered Boers, the gunners using their revolvers freely.



THE INVASION OF CAPE COLONY.

The crosses on the map indicate the objective points of the Boer forces—Phillipstown, Colesberg and Burghersdorp.

ROUTED BY FRENCH.

PARTY OF BOERS DRIVEN OFF AT THORNDALE.

Capetown, Dec. 21.—Gen. French has routed 2,500 Boers, with four guns and pom-poms at Thorndale.

General Brabant, commander of the newly-raised colonial division, has been ordered to the front, and will start tomorrow.

General Baden-Powell will start for the Transvaal to-morrow.

The Boers derailed a train at Barberton, in the Transvaal, killing an inspector and others.

Johannesburg, Dec. 21.—The Boers attacked Zunfontein on Dec. 16, but were beaten off.

CONCENTRATION OF TROOPS.

London, Dec. 21.—A despatch from De Aar, Cape Colony, says that the Yeomanry have driven the Boers out of Houtkraal, the enemy retiring westward.

From Capetown, the 'Daily Mail' has received the following: 'The second invading force was designed to occupy Britstown; but, being checked by the De Aar troops, it has disappeared into the Ceaderberg mountains.

'An enormous concentration of troops is being made up on the belt of country occupied by the invaders, but it is not likely that the Boers will offer battle in large numbers. There is renewed demand for the wholesale proclamation of martial law.

'Martial law has been proclaimed in the following additional districts: Britstown, Victoria West, Richmond, Hanover, Maraisburg, Graafreint, Aberdeen, Middelburg, Steynburg, Craddock, Tarkastad and Molteno.

REINFORCEMENTS.

London, Dec. 22.—The War Office made the following announcement last evening:

'In view of the general position in South Africa, the following reinforcements of mounted troops have been arranged.

'Eight hundred will start next week. Two cavalry regiments have been ordered to leave as soon as the transports are ready.

'The colonial police will be increased to ten thousand. Detachments will leave as fast as they are formed. Further drafts of cavalry will be despatched at once. Australia and New Zealand have been invited to send further contingents.'

The Secretary of State for War, Mr. William St. John Brodrick, announces that in view of the prolongation of the war in South Africa, members of the Imperial Yeomanry will be paid five shillings instead of one shilling and twopence per day. Militiamen are promised priority of return over regulars.

MORE MEN FOR THE FRONT.

Capetown, Dec. 19.—The Prince of Wales, through the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Chamberlain, has given permission for the new Welsh irregular regiment to be called the Prince of Wales Light Horse. The first squadron of the regiment will leave for the front to-morrow.

WILL NOT INTERVENE.

Darmstadt, Dec. 21—By the president's casting vote, the Second Chamber to-day defeated a motion to instruct the Hessian representatives in the Bundesrath to propose the assembling of the foreign affairs committee with the object of initiating a proposal for arbitration between Great Britain and the Transvaal. Twenty-two votes were cast each way. All the anti-Semites and social democrats favored the motion. The representatives of the government left the house before the debate on the motion.

BRITISH LOSSES.

London, Dec. 18.—The reduction of the field force, South Africa, due to casualties, to the end of November, was:

	Officers	Men.
Killed in action	311	3,118
Died of wounds	93	952
Died in captivity	4	92
Died of disease	163	6,566
Accidental deaths	4	176
Missing and prisoners (excluding those who have been recovered or have died in captivity)	14	1,230
Sent home as invalids ..	1,551	35,548
Total	2,140	47,588
		49,728

ABSOLUTE LOSS TO THE ARMY.

	Officers.	Men.
Deaths in South Africa ..	575	10,804
Missing and prisoners ..	14	1,236
Invalids sent home who have died	4	231
Left the service as unfit..		1,314
Total	593	13,585
		14,178

FOUR HUNDRED MILLION POUNDS.

London, Dec. 19.—The War Office has issued a full 'estimate of the further amount required in the year ending March 31, 1901, to meet additional expenditure due to the war in South Africa, and the affairs in China.' As already announced, the government obtained from parliament £16,000,000. The financial provision for the army for the present fiscal year has been as follows:

Original	$307,497,000
Supplementary estimate, July	57,500,000
Supplementary estimate, December	80,000,000
	$434,997,000

The heads under which this second supplementary estimate is asked are as under:

Transport and remounts	$26,500,000
Provisions, forage and supplies	21,250,000
Clothing	3,750,000
Warlike and other stores	23,500,000
Works, buildings, repairs	5,000,000
	$80,000,000

KRUGER IS CONSIDERATE.

TELLS MR. STEAD HE DOES NOT WANT TO HUMILIATE GREAT BRITAIN.

London, Dec. 21.—Mr. Wm. T. Stead has just returned from The Hague, where he had a long conference with Mr. Kruger, and has ascertained at first hand his views of Mr. Kruger and his counsellors as to the present situation and future prospects. Mr. Stead has written the Associated Press in part as follows: 'First of all, nothing is decided about his visit to America at present. Mr. Kruger has not abandoned all hope of securing the support of the governments of the civilized world in his demand for arbitration. Until the last government refuses absolutely to say a word in support of the principles which they solemnly laid down at The Hague conference, Mr. Kruger will not partake in popular demonstrations. Mr. Kruger is emphatic in disclaiming any desire to involve other nations in war in behalf of the Boers. What he asks is that the governments which, at The Hague, declared their determination to use their efforts to secure amicable settlement of disputes by means of mediation and arbitration, should make a united effort to bring the verdict of the civilized world to bear on Great Britain. I cannot put their position better than in the words of one of Mr. Kruger's counsellors:

'"England is our accuser. England is the sole witness against us. England is the judge. England is the executioner, and England hopes to profit by our death. We appealed for arbitration before the war. We are fighting for arbitration to-day. We have the right to expect the sympathies of the civilized world."

'I found Mr. Kruger hale. His bearing is not so good as it was. His mind moves somewhat more slowly, but every now and then the old fire flashes from his eyes, and you hear the deep, resonant voice, which has so often rallied the burghers in battle.

'Queen Wilhelmina is kindness itself. She has displayed pluck, in remarkable contrast to the timidity of many of her official advisers.

'I found the old man's spirits unshaken by his reverses. He disclaimed any desire to humiliate Great Britain, and said they only wanted their rights.

'It may interest Americans to know that Mr. Kruger's appeal to the civilized world would be received everywhere with unanimous enthusiasm were it not for the deep-rooted distrust and jealousies of the dynasties of Hapsburg and Hohenzollern against the president of a republic. If he were a king the courts would have been open to him everywhere.

'This feeling, it is well to note, is not shared by Russia.

'The Boers will not listen to any proposals for a compromise. They are unanimous. Failing independence or arbitration, they prefer to die fighting.'

LORD EDWARD CECIL HOME.

London, Dec. 19.—Lord Edward Cecil, fourth son of the Marquis of Salisbury, returned to Hatfield House last evening from South Africa. He was received with picturesque rejoicings. His carriage was encircled with a ring of flame by torch-bearers. The family group, headed by Lord Salisbury, together with Lord and Lady Lansdowne, Mr. Arthur Balfour, Mr. George Wyndham and Lord Selbourne, stood upon the steps of the Elizabethan Mansion to bid him welcome. All were surrounded by tenantry of the estate bearing torches.

NEW ARMY RIFLE.

LEE-METFORD TO BE RETAINED, BUT IMPROVED.

London, Dec. 18.—The search for a rifle for the British army is at last concluded, and the report of the committee entrusted with the quest is complete. It is an open secret that Lieut.-Col. Hopton, the famous rifle shot, has had charge of the inquiries, and that his opinion will have considerable weight with the government.

The committee set to work to improve the present service pattern or find a rifle which would give Great Britain a distinct advantage over other powers. The result of the investigations tends to the former course rather than the more sweeping change involved by the condemnation of the Lee-Metford. If the committee's recommendations are adopted the present weapon will be so improved and altered as to make it equal to any in the world.

The Lee-Enfield barrel is regarded as the best in existence, and will be retained, but the magazine will disappear in favor of the clip system of loading. Side sights are condemned, but the ordinary ones will be made of greater value, after the Mauser pattern, in order to secure the full advantages of the excellence of the Lee-Enfield barrel. The present sights do not do the barrel justice. Long-range firing will be provided for with accurate sighting, and there is also a suggestion, of a private nature, that uprightness should be secured by means of an inserted spirit level on the rifle.

The committee has had expert evidence before it, both military and civil, and their recommendations are made after the closest scrutiny of Lees and Lebels, Mannlichers and Mausers, actions, breeches, sights, slides and barrels. The result will be a rifle of long-range accuracy, delivering a bullet of great penetrative power, and more deadly as a 'man-stopper' than the Mauser cartridge.

To get the full value out of such a rifle, the soldier's sight will have to be trained to distinguish objects at a greater distance than at present. The machine rifle, such as Mr. Atkinson has invented, is recognized as a weapon of the future. The change involved in the adoption of such a rifle is too drastic to be quickly adopted or summarily dismissed. It is expected that there will be extended trials with it.

OUR OWN CANADIANS.

PENSION FOR MOLLOY.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—Trooper Molloy has been notified that he is awarded a pension of 2s. 6d. per day from the British War Office.

The Militia Department has received a report from Major Ogilvie, Commanding E Battery, R.C.A., in South Africa, in which he reports the movements from Nov. 12, to 18. On Nov 12 he received a wire from Lord Roberts, expressing a wish that the men of the Battery remain a few weeks longer. He reported that all the centre and left sections, with the exception of eight men, wished to go home. The right section was ready to remain if the whole battery stayed, but if the battery went, they wanted to go home too, except two men who wanted to be transferred to some other corps, Major Ogilvie also gives an account of the ambushing of the Cape Mounted Police at Hoopstad on Oct. 23, when ten were killed, ten wounded, twenty-six missing, and his Maxim gun captured. E Battery formed part of the column, but suffered no loss.

PRAISE FROM GEN. HUTTON.

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—Col. Lessard, commanding the Canadian Mounted Rifles, transmits to the department a letter which he received from Gen. Hutton on Oct. 14, previous to the general's departure for England. In this communication Gen. Hutton says he cannot leave South Africa without offering a few words of congratulations upon the success which has attended the regiment while under his command in the late campaign. Canada, he thinks, has good reason to be proud of the manner in which the regiment has upheld the reputation of the Canadian troops. They had shown what the type of colonial mounted rifles could accomplish in conjunction with the imperial mounted infantry. He realizes that the colonies can hereafter be counted upon to put into the field a force of mounted men of the utmost value. The general says that it was a source of constant pleasure to him to note how excellently the regiment had profited by its opportunities, and he congratulates and thanks the men for the good work they have performed.

AN ONTARIO MAN'S PRIZE.

London, Ont., Dec. 17.—Captain Stuart, of this city, who went out with the first Canadian contingent to South Africa, has received from Sir Alfred Milner a judicial appointment in South Africa, at $3,000 a year, with a residence and other perquisites, the district to be named when the war is over.

COMMISSIONS FOR CANADIANS.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—Captain W. F. W. Carstairs, of the 36th Battalion, Lisgar Rifles, has received a commission in the 3rd Battalion West African South Nigeria Protective Constabulary. He left here to-day for England to take up his appointment.

Windsor, Ont., Dec. 20.—Lieut. Mortimer Wigle, of Kingsville, writing from South Africa, says that Major Arthur K. King has been promoted to be squadron leader. The writer gives a vivid account of a raid upon a Boer lager on Nov. 2, a night, he says, that he shall never forget. A nasty cold rain was falling, and the men were nearly frozen. Angus McDonald, of Kingsville, allowed his horse to get away, and he was shot in the head. His wounds were bound up in a Boer house, but he effected an escape.

THE 'ROSLYN CASTLE.'

Ottawa, Dec. 18.—The following cable was received from the War Office today: 'Roslyn Castle' left Capetown Dec. 18, due Halifax Jan. 5, with 45 officers, 7 nurses, 793 men, Canadian contingent.

The message adds: Pte. Hornibrook, of 48th Regiment, Toronto, insane, on the 'Lake Champlain.' Hornibrook was specially mentioned for bravery at Paardeberg.

Cable from Milner to Governor-General, says: Faulder, of Strathcona's; Armitage (639), Callahan (Toronto), both 1st battalion, C.M.R., dangerously ill at Pretoria.

THANKED FOR HIS SERVICES.

Quebec, Dec. 19.—At the general meeting of the county council of Rimouski, held a few days ago, a resolution, proposed by Mayor McWilliams, of Father Point, seconded by Mayor Voyer, of Mount Joli, was unaminously adopted, amid great applause, thanking Surgeon-Major Fiset, of the 59th Rimouski Battalion, for his patriotic and splendid services as the representative of Rimouski on the Canadian contingent during the South African war, services which reflected glory upon Rimouski and on all Canada, as well as upon the French-Canadian name.

HOW CHALMERS DIED.

A LETTER FROM A MONTREALER IN THE FIGHT DESCRIBES THE AFFAIR GRAPHICALLY.

Mr. Frank Leach, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, who was at the sharp work of the British in a fight near Nooitgedacht recently, writes to his father as follows:

Belfast, Transvaal, Nov. 4, 1900.

My Dear Father,—We were moved east from Nooitgedacht the other day. Every one supposed that we were to hand over our horses there and start for home right away. However, we will probably stop here for another week at least, and in the meantime have had the nastiest fight in our experience. General Smith-Dorrien took us out about six p.m. four nights ago to the number of about 3,000, with two five-inch guns, two batteries of field artillery, and two pom-poms and some Maxims. We marched through a pouring rain in the darkness about ten miles south, and bivouacked about ten miles from a Boer laager. Before daylight we started again. Sixty of us were sent along the top of a long kopje, while the remainder went ahead. At the end of the kopje we saw Boers around a farm house beneath us, and opened fire on them, killing two horses. They got around on a high hill on our right, and also on another about 800 yards in front of us, and opened a heavy cross fire. As we were five miles from the column by that time, we decided to retire, and did so. We were slow getting a start on account of a horse having been killed, and even then moved off at a walk in column of fours. Our only line of retreat was the way we came along the top of the ridge, as the sides were precipitous. This gave the Boers a chance to flank us, so they galloped up to a position commanding our line of retreat and opened a sudden volley at about 150 or 200 yards. Major Saunders was first hit and fell off his horse. Three others were wounded, besides several horses were killed. The men opened up and galloped off, but Lt. Chalmers shouted that the major was hit, and for the men to come back. Three of us who happened to hear him rushed over to where there were some shelter trenches dug by the Boers and commenced to fire. Major Saunders was about 100 yards from us, lying under cover of some rocks. Eaton, from British Columbia, galloped up to him with a horse, but he was unable to mount, and the horse was killed. He then went back, and another fellow brought another horse to the major, with the same result. In the meantime Davie was holding our two horses from the trench, and I was shooting as well as possible. We were now left alone, two in one trench, and another man somewhat behind us, and the major in front. Then Lieut. Chalmers came up galloping. We shouted to him, so he jumped into our trench and held the three horses so two of us could fire. Things looked pretty black then, as it appeared as if the rest had abandoned us. Chalmers's horse was then shot through the shoulders, then Davie's through the body. Then a bullet cut through my horse's reins; then my horse was shot through the hind leg. We could hold them no longer, so we let them go. Chalmers's horse was killed, but our two rushed off. After a while Chalmers saw a messenger galloping up, and said he must go and meet him, but we tried to dissuade him from leaving the trench. However, he insisted, jumped up and ran towards the messenger, young Herchmer. He got about fifty yards, and was shot through the spine, dying almost instantly. Then the boys, having got cover for their horses, came skirmishing back and succeeded in forcing the Boers to retire, and we got the major and Chalmers away. We had been in the rain all night, and it was cold and misty. The trench was full of mud. One's overcoat weighed at least 50 pounds, and we were tired out. The Boers used many explosive and dumdum bullets, which cracked around us like whips, and threw mud in our faces. We continued our retreat up to the main body, stayed there half an hour, and then started for our camp home, where we arrived about three o'clock p.m. I rode back with some lancers on the horse of one of their wounded. Our rear guard was attacked on the way back, and quite a brisk engagement ensued, the Gordons being the principal sufferers, having lost one killed and 14 wounded. Eddie Holland, of the C. M. R., got into action with 'Gat.' Howard's Colt gun. They say he got four Boers with it. The colonel has just come in to get what particulars I knew of the affair, as he was not there himself. He is making out a report on it, and questioning every one connected with the unfortunate business.

REPORTS OF THE DOINGS OF OUR TROOPS IN AFRICA.

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—Lieut.-Col. T. D. B. Evans, commanding the C.M.R., sends the following report, dated at Belfast, to the adjutant-general at Ottawa, of the death of Lieut. Chalmers in action on Nov. 2: 'On Nov. 1, at 7 p.m., a column under Major-General Smith-Dorrien marched from Belfast south towards Komati Valley to co-operate with a similar column moving parallel and to the west. Rain was falling heavily, and the column halted at 12.30 a.m., till about 3.30 a.m. The advance guard on Nov. 2 consisted of sixty of my men under command of Major Saunders. The advanced party, second troop C squadron, was commanded by Chalmers, and was accompanied by a guide, who appears to have given them the wrong directions; when the advanced party came into touch with the enemy the main column had branched off to the right, and was nearly two miles away. About fifteen of the enemy were first seen emerging from a house in the valley, and thirty more came from a house about one mile west. These occupied a ridge to the west of our position. The advanced party moved up the slope to some trenches which had been constructed by the enemy. Other parties of the enemy now appeared from the east, and were engaged by the flankers of the support. Expecting early assitance from the main column, the advanced guard, although in a most dangerous position, held its place under severe rifle fire. At about 5 a.m. an order came from the G.O.C. to retire.

The retirement of the advanced party to the support was conducted by Lieut. Chalmers in a most skilful manner under a very severe fire. During the further retirement, which was carried out steadily by successive groups, Corp. Schell's horse was killed and fell upon him, injuring his ankle. Sergt. Tryon gave him his horse, and Major Saunders, noticing Sergt. Tryon dismounted, rode back to him and took him on his horse, and while rejoining the retiring line, the saddle turned, and threw Major Saunders and Sergt. Tryon to the ground, the horse bolting. Major Saunders was slightly wounded in the left side, while taking cover, and partially stunned by the fall from his horse. Lieut. Chalmers then went to Major Saunders and endeavored to bring him back with him, but was unable to do so. He then rejoined the firing, and sent Private G. G. Smith back with a spare horse for Major Saunders, but the latter was unable to mount. Lieut. Chalmers would not retire any further until he could bring Major Saunders with him, and while taking steps to secure men from the support to enable them to carry out this intention, he was shot through the body and died a few minutes later. When Lieut. Chalmers was shot he had just left good cover to warn an orderly who was coming towards him to dismount as it was too dangerous to come over the ridge mounted.'

Lieut.-Col. Evans pays high tribute to Lieut. Chalmers's excellent management of the troops in his last engagement, as well as to his splendid services throughout the campaign. The following are also mentioned in the report for bravery in action: Major Saunders, Sgt. Tryon, Pte. Hutchinson, Corp. R. R. Eaton, Corp. S. Herchmer and Pte. G. G. Smith. Lieut.-General Smith-Dorrien highly praised the work of the advanced guard. Privates Northway and F. G. Pratt were wounded.

MAJOR HURDMAN'S DIARY.

Major W. G. Hurdman, of D Battery, in his diary, from Oct. 17 to Nov. 4, mentions that 371, Sergt. Belford, had been reduced to the rank of corporal for refusing to obey an order given him by Sergt. Stinson. On Oct. 17 Gr. Bolton had gone to hospital, with enteric. Lt. Van Tuyl left on Oct. 23 to take a position under Col. Girouard, director of military railways. On Oct. 26, 293, Gr. Gokey, had been sent to hospital with enteric. Major Hurdman had been advised on Oct. 27, of the awarding of commissions in the Royal Artillery to 279, Sergt. Ross, and to 302, Gr. Russell. On Oct. 31, he reports: 206, Sergt. Stinson, 371, Corp. Belford, 258, Gr. Crowe, and 272, Gr. Alexander, were this day tried by F.G.C.M., on the charge of breaking into and stealing stores. Result of court martial, Stinson and Belford were reduced and each received 84 days' imprisonment with hard labor; Gr. Crowe was awarded 84 days' imprisonment with hard labor; and Gr. Alexander, 42 days' field imprisonment No. 1. Major Hurdman adds: 'With reference to the above punishments, under the circumstances, I consider that the court dealt leniently with the culprits.'

A TRYING NIGHT MARCH.

On Nov. 1, the right section moved out on a night march, with one of the two columns sent by Lieut.-General Smith-Dorrien, with a view to surprising a Boer laager at Witkop, south-east of Belfast. The rain came down in torrents, accompanied by a very cold wind, at times a regular blizzard. As the columns were operating to support each other at several miles interval, neither could turn back. The laager was reached at daybreak, and the Boers were completely surprised. The inclemency of the weather prevented Smith-Dorrien following up his advantage, the men being drenched and pinched with cold. The Boer losses were heavy. D Battery's casualties were two men injured by horses falling. This was the action in which Capt. Chalmers was killed and Major Saunders (C.M.R.) wounded.

With reference to the health of the men, Major Hurdman reports that on Nov. 4 there were 24 men in hospital and convalescent camps; two of these were in a serious state, 363, Cotton Marker Moore, and 297, Gr. Bolton. Ten men had been invalided home.

The report of Col. Drury, commanding the artillery, indicates that all the invalids of the division are returning on the 'Roslyn Castle.' He has arranged for the sale of all the Canadian horses, transport waggons and stores to the imperial army.

WAR NOTES

PETITION SHELVED.

Brussels, Dec. 22.—The Chamber of Deputies has referred to a committee a popular petition to the government to offer to arbitrate between Great Britain and the South African republics. This action is tantamount to shelving the petition which was signed by an enormous number of persons.

SHORT OF AMMUNITION.

London, Dec. 22.—General Trotter, commanding the troops in the London district, in a speech at Twickenham yesterday, said he had obtained information by which he knew that the Boers were running short of ammunition, and that they could not maintain their guerilla warfare long.

THAT ALLEGED MUTINY.

London, Dec. 22.—As the outcome of statements made during the recent session of parliament, and since reiterated, to the effect that some of the colonial troops have refused to fight again, the War Office late last evening issued the following explanation from Lord Kitchener: 'A number of men belonging to the South African corps refused to march on one occasion, owing to some mistake to carry out their discharge at the expiration of their term of service. 'Lord Roberts, on the ground that they had a grievance, overlooked the matter, simply reprimanding them.

'The men of both corps have since done good work in the field, and it is absolutely unfounded to say that there was a mutiny, or that force was used against them.'

DEATH OF COL. GAWNE.

A cablegram has been received announcing the death from wounds received in action at Vryheid, South Africa, of Lieut.-Col. John Moore Gawne, commanding the 2nd Battalion King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), youngest brother of Mr. Henry J. Gawne, of Melbourne, Que. The deceased officer was a Manxman by birth.

INVALIDED TO ENGLAND.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—It is announced in militia orders that 286, Pte. S. H. Thompson, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, formerly of Winnipeg, and 66, Pte. A. W. Crawley, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, formerly of Pincher Creek, N.W.T., have been invalided from South Africa to England. 101, Pte. A. P. Fortune, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, formerly of the North-West Mounted Police, has been discharged for misconduct.

CRAWLED THIRTEEN MILES.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 19.—A letter has been received by Mr. J. H. Metcalfe, ex-M.P., from his son, Sergeant Fred Metcalfe, C.M.R., wounded at the battle of Belfast, Nov. 6. He was hit in the hip and is yet quite lame. The bullet has not been extracted. The wound was X-rayed, and it was decided not to have an operation in Africa, and he will wait till he arrives home. He is a passenger on the 'Roslyn Castle.' After Metcalfe was wounded he managed to escape and by crawling on his hands and knees, for he was unable to walk, and by rolling over and over, he managed to cover the thirteen miles separating him from the column, and was cared for by the surgeons. When he was taken prisoner, the Boers took away his rifle and side arms; they also wanted to take away his watch and valuables, but these he absolutely refused to give up, telling them that if they wanted them they must first kill him.

A BOY KIDNAPPED.

YOUNG CUDAHY RETURNED ON RECEIPT OF THE AMOUNT DEMANDED.

Omaha, Dec. 20.—There is rejoicing in the home of Edward Cudahy, the wealthy packing house owner and capitalist, of this city. Edward Cudahy, jr., who was kidnapped on Tuesday evening, after being held thirty-six hours for a ransom of twenty-five thousand dollars, in gold, which the young man's father unhesitatingly paid, has been returned to his family and to-night the boy and his parents are receiving congratulations from relatives and friends throughout the country.

It was not until nearly nine o'clock in the morning that the disappearance of young Cudahy began to assume a really serious aspect. At that hour a man on horseback rode rapidly by the Cudahy mansion, and as he passed the front gate he threw a letter into the yard. A servant took the letter into the house. It read as follows: 'Mr. Edward A. Cudahy,—Your son is safe. We have him, and will take good care of him, and will return him to you in consideration of the payment of $25,000. We mean business.

'JACK.'

The remainder of the note the police refuse at present to disclose, as they say it relates to the places where the money is to be left, and where the kidnappers are to leave the boy in case Mr. Cudahy complies with their terms.

When young Edward Cudahy was questioned concerning the circumstances of his disappearance, he told the following story:

He said that he was in front of General Cowin's house, just across the street from his own house, on his way back from the Rustin residence, on Tuesday evening, when two men approached him. One of them stepped up to him and said: 'We are sheriffs from Sarpy county and arrest you as Eddie McGee, who escaped from the Reform School.'

The lad replied that he was not the mythical Eddie McGee, but his captors said that he would have to be identified. They placed him in a buggy and drove to 36th street, and thence south to Leavenworth street. As they approached Leavenworth street a motor car passed them. The lad recognized the conductor and said to his captors: 'There is a man who knows me; he can identify me.' But the captors immediately blindfolded him and whipped up the horse. The lad says they crossed Leavenworth street and then drove in a south-westerly direction. Presently they came to a house which, in the opinion of the lad is somewhere in the south-western part of South Omaha. Young Cudahy was taken from the buggy and placed in a room and chained to the floor. He remained there all night and the next day. His hands were tied and the chains on his feet prevented him from getting a good view of his surroundings, even after the blindfold had been removed.

LORD STRATHCONA'S RECEPTION

London, Dec. 18—Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, the Canadian High Commissioner, was installed to-day as lord rector of Aberdeen University. He met with a demonstratively cordial greeting from the students. In his rectorial address Lord Strathcona dealt with the unity of the empire. He referred to the gratifying growth of the Dominion of Canada, the federation of Australia, and the similar federation of South Africa, to follow the war. The speaker did not altogether favor an imperial parliament. He thought a consultative imperial council would meet all the needs.

At the close of his address Lord Strathcona announced that he would give £25,000 provided £50,000 more was raised within a year, to wipe out the debt of the university.

CHINA.

Plenipotentiaries and Their Progress.

THE JOINT NOTE'S TERMS.

CONDUCT OF THE UNITED STATES MINISTER IS NOT QUITE UNDERSTOOD.

Pekin, Dec. 19.—At a meeting of the foreign ministers late this evening everything with regard to the terms of the joint note was agreed to, including the British modifications. The ministers refuse to disclose anything in connection with the matter, believing that the home governments should give the particulars to the public.

Washington, Dec. 19.—While nothing had been heard from Mr. Conger up to nine o'clock to-night regarding the agreement said to have been reached in Pekin this evening as to the terms of the joint Chinse note, the officials confidently hope that the statements are correct, and that the way is now paved for its formal presentation to the Chinese plenipotentiaries.

The officials here are unable to say just what the British modifications referred to in the Pekin despatch are, but it is believed they are rested on the exclusion of the 'irrevocable' clause which the government has all along insisted must not appear in the preamble to the note.

Mr. Conger had positive instructions from his government on this subject, and the preamble to the joint note, it is understood, will not contain that word. The Chinese peace envoys will be given a reasonable time within which to consider the demands made, and then will follow the formal negotiations for the settlement of the peace terms.

Officials here still decline to make public the text of the note agreed upon, but it is believed that the essential features of the agreement do not differ materially from the points already made public. It is now learned that the entire misunderstanding which has delayed the consummation of the agreement at Pekin was caused by the change or omission of a single digit in a complex group of figures making up one of the cipher messages of instruction to Mr. Conger. Curiously enough, the change in this single digit exactly reversed the meaning of the entire message, so that Mr. Conger in opposing the English view was acting exactly contrary to the spirit of his instructions, though in accordance with their letter.

A TRAITOR IN THE CAMP.

Pekin, Dec. 20.—Yesterday's meeting of the foreign envoys was protracted and somewhat stormy owing to the desire to discover who discloses to the Chinese what every minister had pledged to keep secret. Li Hung Chang invariably knows within two hours of the close of a meeting what has happened.

The ministers admit that yesterday was a critical moment for the preliminary joint note, as it was felt that a point had been reached where, if they did not agree, other difficulties might occur. As a matter of fact, there was a threat by one of the ministers that his government would have other modifications, and that he had not reached a decision.

The original note will be written in French. Mr. Conger and Sir Ernest Satow will enclose an English translation, while a Chinese copy will also be attached.

Four days will elapse before a reply can be expected, owing to the necessity of communicating with the Chinese Court.

The modification proposed by the British Government was that, until China had proved that she intended complying with the terms of the note, and rendering full satisfaction to the powers no hope could be held out that the occupation of the province of Chihli by all the forces would cease.

QUESTION OF INDEMNITY.

CLAUSE DOES NOT SET FORTH THE AMOUNT REQUIRED.

London, Dec. 22.—Dr. Morrison, in a long despatch to the 'Times' from Pekin, dated Dec. 20, gives extracts from the joint note. After a long preamble recounting and condemning the outrages, he proceeds to quote the demands, which are virtually identical with the ten set forth in the despatch to the Associated Press from Tientsin, dated Dec. 14, but not, as in the case of that despatch, setting forth the amount of the indemnity.

According to Dr. Morrison's information the clause referring to indemnity reads as follows:—

'Equitable indemnity is to be paid to states, societies and individuals, and also to Chinese, who have suffered injury on account of their employment by foreigners. China will adopt financial measures acceptable to the powers to guarantee the payment of indemnity and the service loans.'

According to the 'Times's' correspondent, the note contains the following stipulations, in addition to those cabled to the Associated Press from Tientsin:

'Reparation to Japan for the murder of Sugiyama.

'Expiatory monuments erected in all foreign cemeteries where tombs have been desecrated.

'The posting of a proclamation throughout the Empire for two years enumerating the punishments inflicted upon the guilty officials, and threatening death to any one joining an anti-foreign society.

'An Imperial edict to be issued holding viceroys and governors responsible for anti-foreign outbreaks or violations of the treaties.

'China to undertake negotiations for a revision of the commercial treaties.'

Dr. Morrison goes on to say that in the discussion of the translation of the word 'comply,' in the British proposal not to remove the troops until the demands should be satisfied, one minister suggested 'Accepter.' The German minister wanted 'Remplir.' Finally it was agreed to use the expression, 'Se conformer a.'

The despatch concludes with an expression of regret at 'the delay caused by Mr. Conger's not signing, especially in view of Li Hung Chang's health and advanced age, which cause much anxiety.

HEAVY LOSS INFLICTED IN A FIVE DAYS' SIEGE.

Brussels, Dec. 19.—The following despatch, dated Vladivostock, Dec. 18, has been received at the headquarters of the Scheut Missions here: 'In the district of Pins all our interests have been entirely destroyed except the episcopal residence. The bishop, 19 Belgian missionaries, four Chinese priests and three hundred Christians were saved by Russian troops arriving in haste in five columns.

'Commander Eletz, with a flying column, arrived first, on Oct. 28, and made a heroic defence for five days. During the terrible siege he lost in dead and wounded one-third of his force. Although twice wounded, he refused to leave his post until the arrival of reinforcements.'

SCANDINAVIAN MISSIONARIES MURDERED.

Boston, Dec. 20.—News has been received by Prof. F. Ridolf Risberg, at the Scandinavian Alliance Mission of North America, from Mr. N. J. Fridstrom, a missionary in China, that all the Scandinavian missionaries to Mongolia are killed, and among them Carl Johan Suber, of Boston.

MURDERED AT TAIYUANFU.

Winnipeg, Dec. 18.—Mr. J. H. Farthing, of Millwood, Man., has received information which goes to show that his brother, the Rev. G. B. Farthing, M.A., of the English Baptist mission, together with his wife and entire family of three children, and a number of other missionaries and their families, were massacred on July 9, at Taiyuanfu, province of Shansi, North China.

EXODUS FROM MAINE.

FRENCH-CANADIANS TALK OF LEAVING THE STATE OF MAINE.

Boston, Dec. 21.—This month Messrs. Dupont, Ulric Barthe, the editor of the 'Soleil,' a prominent French paper of Quebec, and a number of others, all strong speakers, have been touring Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine, speaking in Worcester county, Fall River, Lowell, Lawrence, Salmon Falls, Dover, Ranford, Maine, Biddeford and other mill towns. In Worcester county the speakers were told of the dissatisfaction among a portion of the French people there because of the dispute at North Brockfield with the Right Rev. Thomas D. Beaven, Roman Catholic bishop of the diocese of Springfield, who declined to give the French-Canadians a parish separate from the old one.

In Maine, it appears, there is also some dissatisfaction in some localities due to similar causes, viz.: In not being able to secure a sufficient number of priests of their own tongue. The French-Canadians have one bishop in New England, in Vermont, but it is known that they had made an effort to have one of their race appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Bishop Healy, of Portland. Notwithstanding this, it is thought Mr. Dupont's figures concerning the Maine exodus next spring (150,000) are far too large.

HELEN KELLER SPOKE.

FAMOUS BLIND DEAF MUTE AMAZED HER FELLOW-STUDENTS IN BOSTON.

Boston, Dec. 17.—Miss Helen Keller, the deaf, blind and heretofore dumb-student, at Radcliffe College, recently astonished and delighted the freshman class, of which she is a vice-president, by making a short address. It was at a class luncheon in Fay hall, and Helen, who has recently become able to make sounds, which can be understood by those familiar with her, responded when called on by the chairman. She spoke only a few words in a low, unmodulated voice, which did not lack in strength and was even musical. Up to this point she has mastered but comparatively few words, but Miss Sullivan, her constant companion and guardian, can now understand her quite readily, as can others who have become accustomed to her.

Miss Keller, who is now nineteen years old, shows a steady improvement in her new and wonderful accomplishment. Even those who knew her and her remarkable mental capacity, express astonishment at the headway she is making. Every day she has long conversations in her own way with Miss Sullivan, who some time ago could understand her only from the movement of the lips. Now she takes up words and sentences and repeats them until she improves in tone and modulation.

Miss Keller is an eager student. All of her time is taken up with her studies, which include French, English and history.

GALE IN SCOTLAND.

LOSS OF LIFE AND SERIOUS DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

London, Dec. 22.—The telegraph wires are being slowly restored and news is arriving. The gale has done great damage generally in the north of England and Scotland. A Glasgow correspondent says: 'Not since the storm, which destroyed the Tay bridge, has such a storm raged in Scotland. High walls have been wrecked in Glasgow. At Coatbridge, ten miles east of Glasgow, several people have been killed, while at numerous other places roofs and chimneys have been destroyed and persons injured. Some of the buildings of the University of Aberdeen have been seriously damaged and everywhere telegraph wires, telephone and railway lines are interrupted.

ESTERHAZY IS STARVING.

MAN WHO PERSECUTED DREYFUS DYING IN ABJECT POVERTY.

Paris, Dec. 20.—Major Count Ferdinand Walsin Esterhazy (who figured so prominently in the Dreyfus case, and who was denounced by Mathieu Dreyfus as being the writer of the famous bordereau, which brought about the two convictions of Captain Alfred Dreyfus, on the charge of treason), has sunk into utter misery. His divorced wife's suit against her mother, the Marquise De Batencourt, for an allowance on the grounds that she is in profound distress and unable to support or educate her young daughters, has brought forth the following letter, written by the Major to his wife on Nov. 1:

COUNT ESTERHAZY.

'I have been unable to write to my children recently, not having the money to buy a postage stamp. I am at the last extremity of strength, courage and resources. I have not eaten for two days, until this morning, in the workhouse. I have no clothes, am shivering with cold and compelled to warm myself by entering churches and museums. Every one will say this is a confession of guilt, but you can say I am killing myself because, after having struggled to the utmost of my courage, my voice is stifled by my persecutors. Without bread, home or clothing, I shall die of privations of all kinds, unless a revolver bullet puts everything in good order. Kiss my children. Tell them I adore them, and if a frightful fatality has put me into an abyss, I die the victim of human cowardice. I never committed the crime whereof I am accused by scoundrels in order to save themselves.'

MAJOR CUIGNET IN TROUBLE.

Paris, Dec. 20.—Major Cuignet, who figured in the Dreyfus court martial at Rennes, has been arrested and imprisoned in Fort Mont Velerien, where he is awaiting trial by court martial on two charges. The first is a charge of accusing M. Delcassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs, of having told the Chamber of Deputies an untruth. The second charge is being guilty of disclosing a confidential document.

WRECKS ON BRITISH COAST.

GALE ONE OF THE WORST ON RECORD.

London, Dec. 21.—The latest news from the White Star steamer 'Cufic,' which was in need of assistance yesterday off the Skerries while on her way from Queenstown to Liverpool in tow, is that she is still riding heavily at anchor a mile south-west of the Skerries.

The steamers 'Somerhill' and 'Westernland' are now riding safe at anchor in West Bay, near Weymouth, after a fearful night, which kept the coast guards busy from nightfall to daylight. They had the rocket apparatus in the vicinity of the storm-beaten craft in readiness to assist the ships, which were about a mile from the shore. The 'Somerhill' is apparently damaged, and tugs have gone to her assistance.

The British ship 'Clan Macfarlane' drifted on a sand bank north of Southport. A lifeboat went out to her, and found she had been abandoned. Her sails were blown to shreds, and she will probably be a total wreck.

Skibbereen reports a large unnamed steamer with a red funnel and black top on the rocks off Sherkin Island. She will be a total wreck. Her crew of 24 men is reported to have reached the shore.

The Dominion line steamer 'New England,' for Boston, had such a bad time in the Channel that several of her crew were injured. There have been numerous minor wrecks. The gale lasted all night, and blew almost with hurricane fury at times.

Telegraph lines are down in all directions. Communication with Scotland is cut off, the Mersey ferry boats have suspended service, and Channel passages have been the most tempestuous in years. The storm at Belfast and in its neighborhood was the most severe in a decade. Great damage was done to property, many persons were injured, and Belfast lough is crowded with vessels which have sought shelter from the wind's fury.

The storm appears to have reached its height during the night, and while the gale is still severe and the seas very heavy, it is hoped that the worst is over. Stories of wrecks and damage are coming from all directions. Happily, the fatalities are few.

HAY-PAUNCEFOTE TREATY

Davis Amendment Carried by a Vote of Three to One

THE LONDON 'TIMES' CORRECTS A MISAPPREHENSION.

Washington, Dec. 20.—After spending the greater part of the past fortnight in considering the Hay-Pauncefote treaty for the modification of the Clayton-Bulwer convention of 1850, the Senate to-day consumed only one hour and ten minutes in amending and ratifying it as amended. During this time there were six roll calls, and several viva voce votes. The first five of the roll calls were on amendments offered by individual senators and the last one on the resolution to ratify the treaty as amended. All the amendments, except those offered by Senator Foraker, and reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations, were voted down by majorities averaging about nineteen. The ratification resolution was adopted by a vote of 55 to 18.

The Senate was in executive session for about an hour before the time for voting arrived, listening to speeches by Senators Thurston, Gallinger, Wolcott and Bard, explanatory of their attitude.

All the amendments suggested having been acted upon, and those of the committee adopted, Senator Allen asked for the reading of the treaty as amended. This request was complied with, and the vote was taken on the treaty itself.

TEXT OF THE TREATY.

The following is the text of the treaty as amended :—

'The United States of America and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, being desirous to facilitate the construction of a ship canal to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and to that end to remove any objection which may arise out of the convention of April 19, 1850, commonly called the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, to the construction of such canal under the auspices of the government of the United States, without impairing the "general principle" of neutralization, established in article VIII. of that convention, have for that purpose appointed as their plenipotentiaries : the President of the United States and John Hay, Secretary of State of the United States of America, and Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, the Right Hon. Lord Pauncefote, K.C.B., G. C. M.G., Her Majesty's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the United States, who, having communicated to each other their full powers, which were found to be in due and proper form, have agreed upon the following articles :—

'Article I.—It is agreed that the canal may be constructed under the auspices of the government of the United States, either directly at its own cost or by gift or loan of money, to individuals or corporations, or through subscription to or purchase of stock or shares, and that, subject to the provision of the present convention the said government shall have and enjoy all the rights incident to such construction, as well as the exclusive rights of providing for the regulation and management of the canal.

'Article II.—The high contracting parties, desiring to preserve and maintain the "great principle" of neutralization established in article VIII. of the Clayton-Bulwer convention, which convention is hereby superseded, adopts as the basis of such neutralization the following rules, substantially as embodied in the convention between Great Britain and certain other powers signed at Constantinople on Oct. 28, 1888, for the free navigation of the Suez maritime canal ; that is to say :

'(1) The canal shall be free and open in time of war as in time of peace, as to the vessels of commerce and of war of all nations, on terms of entire equality, so that there shall be no discrimination against any nation or its citizens or subjects in respect of the conditions or charges of traffic or otherwise.

'(2) The canal shall never be blocked, nor shall any right of war be exercised nor any act of hostility be committed within it.

'(3) Vessels of war of a belligerent shall not revictual nor take any stores in the canal, except as far as may be strictly necessary, and the transmit of such vessels through the canal shall be effected with the least possible relay in accordance with the regulations in force and with only such intermission as may result from the necessities of the service. Prizes shall be in all respects subject to the same rules as vessels of war of the belligerents.

'(4) No belligerents shall embark or disembark troops, munitions of war or warlike materials in the canal except in case of accidental hindrance of the transit, and in such case the transit shall be resumed with all possible despatch.

'(5) The provisions of this article shall apply to waters adjacent to the canal, within three marine miles of either end. Vessels of war of a belligerent shall not remain in such waters longer than twenty-four hours at any one time, except in case of distress, and in such cases shall depart as soon as possible ; but a vessel of war of one belligerent shall not depart within twenty-four hours from the departure of a vessel of war of the other belligerent.

THE DAVIS AMENDMENT.

'It is agreed, however, that none of the immediately foregoing conditions and stipulations in sections No. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this article shall apply to measures which the United States may find it necessary to take for securing by its own forces the defence of the United States and the maintenance of public order.

'(6) The plant, establishments, buildings and all works necessary to the construction, maintenance and operations of the canal shall be deemed part thereof, for the purpose of this convention, and in time of war, as in time of peace, shall enjoy complete immunity from attack or injury by belligerents, and from acts calculated to impair their usefulness as part of the canal.

'(7) No fortifications shall be erected commanding the canal or the waters adjacent. The United States, however, shall be at liberty to maintain such military police along the canal as may be necessary to protect it against lawlessness and disorder.

'Article III.—The present convention shall be ratified by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof and by Her Britannic Majesty ; and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington or at London within six months from the date thereof, or earlier if possible.

'In faith whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed this convention and thereunto affixed their seals.

'Done in duplicate at Washington the fifth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred.

'JOHN HAY.'

HOW THE MEMBERS VOTED.

The roll call is as follows: Yeas: Aldrich, Allison, Bacon, Beveridge, Burrows, Carter, Chandler, Clay, Cullom, Deboo, Dillington, Elkins, Fairbanks, Foraker, Foster, Frye, Gallinger, Hale, Lane, Hensbrough, Harris, Hawley, Hoar, Jones (Nevada, Kean, Kenney, Lindsay, Lodge, McBride, McComan, McCumber, McEnery, McLaurin, McMillan, Mallory, Morgan, Nelson, Penrose, Perkins, Pettus, Platt (New York), Pritchard, Proctor, Quarles, Scott, Shoup, Spooner, Stewart, Sullivan, Taliferro, Thurston, Turner, Warren, Wetmore, Walcott—55.

Nays—Allen, Bard, Bate, Berry, Butler, Cockrell, Culberson, Daniels, Heitfeld, Martin, Mason, Money, Pettigrew, Teller, Tillman, Turley, Yost, Welington—18.

London, Dec. 20.—The 'Times,' reverting to the subject of the isthmian canal in view of the fact that the American Senate will vote on the Hay-Pauncefote treaty to-day, adopts a much stronger attitude on the question than it took in its previous comments.

It is informed by its New York correspondent that Great Britain's calm attitude is misrepresented, perhaps misunderstood, in some quarters, as a symptom of indifference, and adds: 'The error is absurd. It betrays on the part of those who honestly hold it a curious unfamiliarity with our habits and methods of action. We are not in the least indifferent to the canal scheme. We are perfectly calm about the vote on the Davis amendment and the possible vote on more offensive amendments, because we know that our legal and moral position is unassailable. We have not agreed and we are not going to agree to the proposed variation of our treaty rights save upon terms acceptable to ourselves.'

The paper refers to the vote on the Davis amendment as a practical repudiation of the most essential provision of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, and it accepts the probability of the Senate sanctioning other amendments involving an implicit repudiation of that convention. It says: 'We deplore the action of a body which not many years ago commanded the unfeigned admiration of Englishmen, but we are not disturbed by it because we cannot bring ourselves to believe that a one-sided denunciation of a solemn international agreement, simply and confessedly because it is inconvenient, will commend itself to either President McKinley, Mr. Hay or the American people. So naked a denial of international right seems to us to be inconceivable.'

The 'Times' discusses Mr. McKinley's position relatively to that of the Senate. It declares that if the President has the courage of his convictions and adheres to them, the Senate's action will not acquire international importance. It says it does not doubt that if Mr. McKinley appealed boldly to the people, explaining the situation, they would support him and Mr. Hay. It concludes: 'The senators, we are told, in their present mood, will ratify no treaty with England but a treaty of surrender. In that case the Hay-Pauncefote treaty is doomed, and we will be relegated to rights under the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. We shall stand upon these rights. It is not the custom of this country to conclude treaties of surrender with any nation, even with those whose friendship we value most, and that is a custom from which we have no mind to depart.'

BRITISH PRESS COMMENT.

London, Dec. 21.—Nearly all the morning papers have editorials on the action of the United States Senate in connection with the Hay-Pauncefote canal treaty. They express regret, rather than surprise, at the suppression of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and unanimously declare that it will be impossible for Great Britain to accept the amended treaty.

GROWTH OF MORMONISM.

IT HAS TAKEN ROOT IN NINE STATES OF THE UNION.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 18.—A mass meeting of women to protest against polygamy was held here last night, the principal speakers being Dr. S. J. Elliott, an Episcopal deaconess, of Utah, and the Rev. W. R. Campbell, a missionary among the Mormons. The meeting was one of a series being held throughout the country under the auspices of the International Council of Women for Christian and Patriotic Service. Miss Helen Gould is vice-president of the council.

Dr. Elliott, in the course of her remarks, said: 'Polygamy is spreading with Mormonism. It is not confined to Utah, but exists in Idaho, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, Nevada and Colorado. If four more states are added to the nine in which the Mormons already have political power it will be impossible to legislate against them.'

Resolutions were adopted urging Congress to take action in favor of an amendment prohibiting polygamy and making its practice punishable by disfranchisement.

STEAMER 'ALPHA' LOST.

THE CAPTAIN, FOUR OFFICERS AND THREE OF THE CREW PERISH.

Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 18.—The famous steamer 'Alpha,' which led the Cape Nome fleet to Alaska this year, went to the bottom of Union Bay, Vancouver Island, on Saturday night. The same storm that made her founder swept the whole coast, and telegraphic communication has not yet been established. The news was brought to this city by the steamer 'Czar,' which came direct from Union Bay, the large coaling station of Vancouver Island, and that vessel barely succeeded in weathering the gale on the way across the Gulf of Georgia. The captain, four officers and three of the crew were drowned, including the managing director, Mr. Sam Barber, an American, who had lately resided in Vancouver.

The 'Alpha' was trying to make Union Bay on her way to coal, but was forced by the gale to go on the wrong side of the Yellow Island lighthouse. She could not free herself, and five minutes later ran high against the rocks, which smashed her to atoms in a few hours. She had the full force of the gale against her, as the hurricane blew down the gulf. One member of the crew displayed great heroism by swimming ashore with a life line, and over this twenty-five of the thirty-four members of the crew found safety. It was two hundred feet through the breakers.

Capt. York, an old mariner, was swept overboard. His body has since been found. Mr. Barber was also swept away, and neither his body nor that of the purser, Mr. White, has yet been recovered. The engineer, Matterson ; the second engineer, Dunn, and the third engineer, Murray, were all drowned through sticking to the engine room to the last. Sullivan, an able seaman, was drowned, and his body has been recovered. Crosby and an unknown stowaway were drowned likewise. There is not enough of the wreck left to be rendered visible in the storm.

All day Sunday the shipwrecked people stayed on the island. Early yesterday morning they were landed by a small steamer. Others of the crew will possibly die from exposure.

The 'Alpha' left Vancouver two weeks ago with a cargo of salt salmon for Japan. She had 700 tons aboard, and was three days at sea when she began leaking. She put back to Victoria, and there her chief engineer and all the crew deserted. They alleged that she was unseaworthy, but it was proved that the engineers opened the sea-cocks to make a scare. The steamer got a new crew, was pronounced safe by the provincial inspector, and left Victoria on Saturday to resume her voyage to Japan. The steamer was thirty years' old, worth $50,000, and her cargo was valued at $80,000. Her insurance was $60,000, and her Vancouver agent is Mr. A. L. Russell.

Bradford, Ont., Dec. 19.—The wreck of the steamer 'Alpha,' at Vancouver, brings sorrow to a home here. Mr. Samuel Barber, banker, and part owner of the boat, together with his brother, John Barber, who were both drowned, were sons of Mrs. Henry Barber, who lives about three miles out of this town.

YOUNG BOOZ'S DEATH.

TESTIMONY BROUGHT OUT AT THE INVESTIGATION.

West Point, N.Y., Dec. 19.—The Military Court of Enquiry which began taking evidence in Bristol, Pa., yesterday, arrived at the Military Academy to-day, and resumed the investigation of the charges of hazing and brutal treatment made by the parents of former Cadet Oscar Booz, who died a couple of weeks ago in his home in Bristol, Penn. Generals Brooke and Clous and Capt. Dean questioned the witnesses as to the practice of hazing in the academy, both in camp and barracks. Sixty-eight members of the class of '02, to which Booz belonged until he resigned in September or October, '98, were summoned to the court, and were brought in in squads and kept in an ante room in the academy building.

Fourteen of the sixty-eight cadets were examined during the afternoon, and all of them who knew Booz declared that his standing with his classmates was not very high, as they looked upon him as a coward. The story of his fight with Kellar in 1898, was told by Cadet O. N. Tyler, who seconded Booz. When asked by the court why he did so, Tyler said: 'Well, Booz asked me to be his second, and I could not well refuse.'

Every one of the witnesses denied that any brutal hazing occurred, and two of them described the 'bracing' and 'setting up drills' as only 'correctional measures,' and neither injurious or humiliating. Every one of them seemed to give a straightforward story, and one and all denied that Booz had been interfered with on account of his religious belief or tendencies.

West Point, N.Y., Dec. 19.—There was some very interesting testimony brought out to-day by the court of inquiry which is investigating the alleged hazing of cadets at the military academy here. Thirty-five cadets were examined during the morning and afternoon session, and of these one was the brother of Lieut. R. P. Hobson, of 'Merrimac' fame. Another was the son of General Phil. Sheridan, and a third, Mark Brooke, of Pennsylvania, is a nephew of General Brooke, who is presiding officer of the court. All three told of the hazing they got at the encampment of 1898 at the time Oscar L. Booz was their class mate, and not one of them said that the treatment they received or the things they had to do were either brutal or degrading.

Hobson's worst ordeal was when he had to stand on his head in a bath tub in which there was about ten inches of water. He said he was partially strangled, but was all right in a few minutes.

Young Phil. Sheridan was made to ride a broomstick along the company's street in commemoration of his illustrious father's ride, and he had to keep shouting, 'Turn boys, turn,' all the time. He did not think this was humiliating, he said, although he did not relish it.

In nearly every instance the witnesses said that these forms of hazing were obsolete, and while 'bracing' was still practiced secretly, it was against the regulations, and if any one was detected violating these regulations he would be punished. There are about a score more of Booz's classmates to be examined, and as there are several of the first class men to be heard from, as well as some of the officers, the court may not get through the taking of testimony until Saturday.

ANOTHER CASE.

Altoona, Pa., Dec. 19.—The Congress committee investigating the death of former Cadet Oscar Booz may probe a similar case in this city. The family of Cadet John Breth, who died in this city a year and a half ago, have advised the committee that his death was also due to debility resulting from hazing at the academy. While convinced that Cadet Breth's death was due to hazing, his parents refused to make the matter public until Congress named the committee to inquire into young Booz's death.

Breth was appointed to the academy in June, 1897. Early in 1898 he was sent home broken in health, and he died shortly afterward of typhoid pneumonia.

RIGHTS OF THE PAPACY.

THE POPE STILL UNHAPPY OVER EXISTING CONDITIONS.

Rome, Dec. 18.—The Pope's allocution at the secret consistory to-day contained besides an expression of thankfulness to God for sparing him to complete the Holy Year, the customary condemnation of the Italian Government and lament for the Papacy's temporalities. His Holiness said:

'Truly, it is a calamity for us that force has deprived the Pontiff of his just and legitimate sovereignty, which is closely bound up with his freedom. His ministry is now under the power of other men. The Pope is entirely subject to their caprices.

'The difficulties were increased when a short time ago we saw authority over Rome pass from one hand to another, as if it were a mere matter of right and not the outcome of injustice. We wish the rights of the Papacy to remain safe and intact, and declare that neither time nor succession of governments can suppress or diminish the inprescriptible rights of the Pontiff.'

DR. PARKER'S PAPER.

THE HEIR TO THE THRONE CRITICISED.

London, Dec. 18.—The Rev. Dr. Joseph Parker, pastor of the City Temple, who has assumed for a week the editorship of the London 'Sun,' in to-day's issue of the paper, under the heading, 'Betting and gambling forecasts,' tilts at the Prince of Wales and Lord Rosebery as follows : 'Woe to any country in which the heirs to the throne and prime ministers favor the race course as it exists among us to-day. If princes are guilty it is a poor consolation for us to rebuke peasants. If the premier can blaspheme he has no right to rebuke ribaldry upon the street. I would rather have as premier a man of solid character than one of brilliant mind addicted to habits that may have the effect of a pestilence upon the rising generation.'

JUST AS ANTICIPATED.

PREMIER OF MANITOBA OBLIGED TO ENLARGE HIS CABINET.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 22.—The Government of Manitoba again consists of five members with portfolio, the Hon. Robert Rogers, M.P.P. for Manitou, having been sworn in as Minister of Public Works by His Honor Lieutenant-Governor McMillan. The government now is as follows:—

The Hon. R. P. Roblin, Minister of Agriculture and Immigration and Railway Commissioner.

The Hon. Colin H. Campbell, Attorney-General and Minister of Education.

The Hon. J. A. Davidson, Provincial Treasurer and Commissioner of Public Lands.

The Hon. D. H. McFadden, Provincial Secretary and Municipal Commissioner.

The Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of Public Works.

Owing to the Hon. Mr. Rogers's acceptance of a portfolio a by-election will be necessary in Manitou. The writ has been issued setting Dec. 31 as nomination day and Jan. 7 as election day should there be a contest. Mr. James Morrow is returning officer. It is not expected that there will be any opposition offered to Mr. Rogers's return.

SHOT THE MARSHAL.

New Orleans, Dec. 19.—A special to the 'Picayune' from Gulf Port, Mississippi, says: This evening about 5 o'clock Albert Lewis, a negro, became involved in a quarrel with Marshal W. E. Richardson over the arrest of his nephew. The nephew shot and killed Richardson. After firing three shots Lewis and his nephew and son ran westward along the railway. Bloodhounds from Biloxi, Mississippi, were given the trail. About two hundred men are following the dogs. Great excitement exists and a lynching is thought to be inevitable if the negroes are captured.

A HERO'S WELCOME.

MONTREAL GAS COMPANY HONORS AN EMPLOYEE.

No heartier 'reception' has been tendered any returning South African hero than that which was given to Corporal John Bailey, in Unity Hall, 1149 Notre Dame street, on Wednesday. Corporal Bailey is an employee of the Montreal Gas Company, and Mr. S. Skinner, superintendent of the Gas Company's works, was the prime mover in the undertaking.

Mr. H. S. Holt, president of the company, honored the gathering with his presence and presented the guest of the evening with one of the handsomest medals it has been the lot of any soldier to receive. It is of gold, handsomely chased, and on the front bears the following inscription, '1st Canadian Contingent, 'E Company,' 'For Queen and Empire,' 'Paardeberg.' The reverse will bear Corporal Bailey's name and indicate the date of presentation and the donors. The presentation was made before the dinner, as Mr. Holt had another engagement. In making the presentation Mr. Holt expressed his pleasure at being able to participate in the happy event. All loyal subjects of Her Majesty appreciated the services, risks and hardships the brave soldiers had gone through. England might well be proud of her colonies. Mr. Holt had read with regret that some soldiers on their return found their former positions occupied by others. He was glad to say that the company he represented kept the positions open for its gallant representatives and he would be ashamed to belong to a company that did not do so. Fevers, wounds, short rations, etc., were bad enough to bear, but to shut a man out of a position because he had responded to the call to arms was a disgrace to any company. In presenting the medal he wished to assure Corporal Bailey that it was a tribute not only to his bravery on the field of battle, but to the sympathy, friendship, honor and good will of his fellow-employees and the officials of the company.

CORPORAL BAILEY.

THE GOLD MEDAL
Presented to Corporal John Bailey.

Corporal Bailey briefly replied, saying that he had tried to do his duty and was glad he had done so and returned safely. Many who went from Canada were practically raw recruits and Col. Otter had no 'cinch' getting them into condition, but before they got through the regulars found they had to look well to their laurels. There had been some hardships, but these had to be expected. He hoped to wear the medal for many years and if there was another fight he would probably try to win another medal.

The toast to the president and the guest was honored in good style and as Mr. Holt had to leave Mr. Skinner took charge of the proceedings.

Dinner being duly disposed of the programme commenced. Among those who took part were Messrs. C. Sheppard, elocutionist, who recited some of Drummond's tales to perfection; Stanley Oliver, W. Summerley, James Dougherty, R. Booth, jr., and R. L. Werry, who sang 'Khaki Heroes' Welcome Home.'

Corporal Bailey and several of his fellow-employees also sang or gave brief addresses, including M. McDonald, foreman; Mr. C. Osler, chief engineer, and Mr. George Hurcumbe, whose sister, Nurse Hurcumbe, is now on her way home from South Africa.

Mr. Arthur James, another returned soldier, who was Corporal Bailey's chum while in South Africa, was also present as a guest. Both were dressed in their khaki uniforms.

Mr. T. A. Grant was the accompanist of the evening.

The proceedings were brought to a close by all joining heartily in singing 'Auld Lang Syne' and 'God Save the Queen.'

OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

Customs of Ye Goode Olde Dayes to be Revived in England.

HOW THE DAY WILL BE SPENT BY THE ROYAL FAMILY AND THE NOBILITY.

(Special cable letter by the Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 22.—There will be a merry Christmas in England, though, at present, London is already one of the dullest spots in the United Kingdom. The fashionable world has incontinently deserted the metropolis and sought refuge in the country places. There will be such a round of house parties as has been unknown for several years. They will be accompanied by the revival of the queer, old customs which, a century ago, made the season the occasion for unrestrained merrymaking among the rich and poor alike.

At Osborne the Queen will be surrounded by the Duke and Duchess of York, the Princess of Battenberg, and several of her grandchildren.

At Sandringham the Prince of Wales will entertain the Duke and Duchess of Fife and their children, with royal Christmas trees.

Welbeck Abbey, Blenheim Palace, Hatfield House and all the stately homes of England's aristocracy are filling up with scores of guests, prepared to make the most of Yuletide. Balls, amateur theatricals, and entertainments without end have been arranged, conspicuous among which is the old English custom of a dance in the servants' hall. At the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire's, Earl and Countess Spencer's, the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry's, and other places of the nobility, Christmas eve will be marked by the strange spectacle of butlers dancing with duchesses, footmen with countesses, and grooms with the daughters of belted earls. The ancient practice of the land-owners enjoying the servants' quadrille had almost lapsed, except in the case of a fem families.

THE MAYBRICK CASE.

Once again Mrs. Florence Maybrick spends an unhappy Christmas in her prison cell. In spite of the various reports, her chances of liberty are no brighter than last year. Secretary Hay has forwarded to Mr. Choate several private letters, which will shortly be presented to the new Home Secretary, Mr. Ritchie, in accordance with the custom of approaching each new occupant of that office. But, the Associated Press learns, there is no possible chance of anything being done so long as Lord Halsbury is Lord High Chancellor. Were the cabinet to discuss the matter, as it did once before, it could only refer it to the Crown's chief adviser, Lord Halsbury, who apparently made the Maybrick case the basis of a feud with the late Lord Chief Justice, Baron Russell of Killowen, and cherishes it just as bitterly now as before Lord Russell's death. When a new Chancellor is appointed Mrs. Maybrick will have a good chance of freedom. The Duchess of Bedford, who is reported to be especially interested in Mrs. Maybrick, tells the Associated Press that she only sees the celebrated prisoner in the course of her regular visits to Aylesbury prison, not especially in the interest of her case, and does not intend to express any opinion of her guilt or inocence.

CANADIAN FURNITURE COMBINE.

W. R. Hobbs, head of the recently formed Canadian furniture combine, now in London, has decided that the Canadians have no need of the assistance or co-operation of English finaciers, which was originally projected. A significant fact, showing Canada's progress, is that sufficient funds are easily obtainable there, while the new law, coming into force Jan. 1, in the United Kingdom, imposes an almost prohibitory taxation on new corporations.

CANDIDATES FOR THE PEERAGE.

Another American woman is likely to be soon elevated to the British peerage, as Lord Salisbury intends to recognize the Right Hon. Arthur Hugh Smith-Barry's services to his party by putting him in the House of Lords. Mr. Smith-Barry married the widow of Mr. Arthur Post, of New York, whose sister, Mrs. Adair, is also well known in London society. Others mentioned for a peerage include Mr. Henry Cosmo Orme Bonsor, chairman of the South-eastern Railroad, and Mr. James Lowther, M.P. Lord Salisbury has already created nearly ninety peers. If the present rate is kept up the upper house will soon be in numerical superiority over the House of Commons.

CHICAGO UNIVERSITY GIFT.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Friends of the University of Chicago gathered at Studebaker Hall this afternoon were told by President Harper, in his quarterly convocation statement that Mr. John D. Rockefeller, who has untied his purse strings so often for the benefit of the university, had made another princely gift of $1,500,000. Of this sum, $1,000,000 is to be used as an endowment and the university is to derive the benefit of the income of it. This means an income of $50,000 or more each year. The $1,000,000, it is stipulated, is to be in the university's name, and is to be considered its absolute property for all time.

Incidentally, Mr. Leon Mandel, who gave the $50,000 to the institution some time ago, has added $25,000 to his former contribution.

Of Mr. Rockefeller's Christmas gift $500,000 is to be regarded as a fund to be drawn on for immediate purposes and for general needs. It is suggested by the multi-millionnaire that $100,000 of this be used for the construction of a university press building.

ONTARIO.

Mr. W. E. Gowling, principal of the Berlin Business College, has resigned and accepted the position of principal of the Ottawa Business College.

The London 'Advertiser' is booming Mayor Rumball for re-election to the office of mayor of that city.

The London city council has held their last session for this century, and left no legacy of deficits for their successors to meet.

The 48th Highlanders' Band boasts of a drum-major who stands almost seven feet tall, and is perfectly proportioned, and a bandmaster over six feet tall.

The annual meeting of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association was held at Brantford on Wednesday last.

The Minister of Public Works has ordered a survey of the French river, with the view of improving navigation on it.

It is announced that a conference will be held in Ottawa next January, under the auspices of the Dominion Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.

Messrs. D. B. Wood and A. G. Montgomery are candidates for the mayoralty of Brantford.

A cadet corps numbering 45 was formed in the Strathroy Collegiate Institute recently.

Mr. J. B. Grey, school inspector, of Lincoln county, has been appointed inspector of the St. Catharines schools. Mr. Ireland, of the Niagara High School, will succeed him.

A number of graduates of the Athens Model School have refused offers of schools on account of the meagre salaries attached.

Returns received from the Rainy River district show that during the past year the cut of pine logs has reached between 30,000,000 and 40,000,000 feet. This is considerably above the cut of former years. One million feet was taken out by the C.P.R. alone.

Four gentlemen from Buffalo visited Cobourg and inspected a number of properties with a view of locating in that town an educational institution for the preparation of young men for the university and theological schools.

The winter fair at Guelph last week was a great success. The numerous exhibits of fat stock, poultry and thoroughbred animals proved most interesting to the visitors. It was a practical school for farmers and breeders, which was greatly appreciated, and will doubtless be held annually in future.

There is a movement on foot in Oshawa to have the hours of school shortened half an hour in the morning and the same time taken off the afternoon session.

It is reported that the Farmers' Binder Twine Company paid a dividend of ninety percent for the past year.

Fifty-four persons have been drowned in the Detroit river and adjacent waters during this year, an increase of fifty percent over the records of 1899.

Mr. George Moore, of Berlin, who exhibited three teams at the big Chicago horse fair, swept everything before him with ease. There were 200 teams in the competition.

A number of the rural schools in Western Ontario are engaging teachers for next year at $300.

Large shipments of poultry have been made from all parts of Ontario to the English Christmas market.

Capitalists are interested in the construction and operation of an electric railway between Windsor and St. Thomas. It is proposed to use the highways and no bonus will be asked. Passengers will be carried at one cent per mile, and freight at low rates. The trains will contain refrigerator compartments. The cars will run at a speed of forty miles an hour.

A by-law is to be submitted to the electors of Tilsonburg in January to grant a bonus of $5,000 to the firm of Pintler, Payne and Wheaton to assist them to establish a canning factory there.

Berlin has a labor candidate for the mayoralty, Mr. C. K. Hagedorn. He declares it to be his intention, if elected, to fulfil the obligations of the office with truth, honor and righteousness.

Chicken thieves are infesting the country between Hamilton and Dundas.

Brantford is prosecuting tobacco dealers who sell cigarettes to minors.

John Hill, an old Woodstock boy, was recently elected a member of the Dakota legislature.

The Woodstock Poultry Association held a big poultry show from Dec. 18 to 21. Live birds, dressed fowl and eggs were exhibited. A plucking and trussing contest, open only to farmers' wives and daughters, was an attraction on the last afternoon of the show.

Mr. Tinsley, chief game warden of the province, estimates that the number of deer killed this season will reach about five thousand.

It is said that a company has been formed for the purpose of boring for natural gas in Pickering township, Ontario county. They have taken an option on the Calvin Campbell farm, and will push the experimenting business to a finish.

An Ontario newspaper announces that a new cigarette has been invented. The novelty consists in the fact that every time you open a box a hidden musical instrument favors you with a few bars of 'See that my grave is kept green.'

A number of prominent young ladies of London have formed a basketball club.

A woman came nearly choking in London recently from eating pop corn. One of the kernels stuck in her throat, and could not be dislodged till her frantic motions attracted a man who went to her assistance and relieved her by pounding her on the back.

An industrial exhibition investigation has been occupying the attention of prominent Toronto gentlemen.

Messrs. White and Kennedy, evangelists, have closed a very successful series of meetings at Harriston. About 200 persons professed conversion, and the work is reported to have been of a very substantial character.

London ice men began to harvest on Dec. 18. The frigid commodity was eight inches thick.

The town of Galt does not enjoy an all-night light service, but 'The Reformer' announces that the mayor has arranged on his own account with the gas company to have the streets lighted from five o'clock to seven these dark mornings.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MAPLE LEAF CHEERING THE QUEEN AT WINDSOR.

'I am very glad to see you here to-day, and to express my warm thanks for the admirable services rendered in the war by the Canadian troops. I wish you all a safe and happy return to your homes.'—'Navy and Army Illustrated.'

Dr. Barrie, Canadian Y. M. C. A. representative to South Africa, spoke in Galt at the Y. M. C. A. anniversary on Dec. 18.

Private Percy C. Howell, formerly of London, who is serving with the United States army at Malabon, Luzon, Philippine Islands, writes interesting letters to his home. He says the government did not want to kill too many men before the Presidential election, but now that McKinley has been sustained, hostilities will be vigorously waged against the rebels. Three expeditions will traverse the island from end to end and put down with a firm hand all those in revolt. He relates an unpleasant incident that befel him in that distant land. Although serving under the Stars and Stripes, Percy is still a Britisher at heart. One day a discussion arose over the merits of the American and British armies. When Percy persisted in maintaining the superiority of the British army, he was seized by his companions and given a good ducking in a tub of water.

A BRUTAL ASSAULT.

St. Catharines, Ont., Dec. 18.—As Mr. Hugh Cameron, an employee of the Welland Vale Company, was returning home from work last evening he was accosted by a burly negro named Alex. Jones, who asked him if he had any money, and on being answered in the negative, he struck Cameron a heavy blow in the face, knocking him down. As Cameron arose he was again struck by Jones and again felled, this time the victim's head striking the curbstone with such force as to fracture his skull. Cameron was removed to his home, where he now lies in an unconscious condition. His condition is very critical. Jones was captured and locked up.

PROF. BELL RETURNS FROM HIS VISIT SHORT A MAN.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—Surveys of the great lakes of the North-West Territories have been progressing for a number of years under the Geological Department, until now the last of them, that is of Great Bear Lake, has been accomplished by J. M. Bell, M.A., who returned to Ottawa yesterday. Mr. Bell brought the news that one of his party, Charles Bunn, was lost on the trip coming out. Bunn, who was an old prospector, joined Mr. Bell's party at Fort Resolution, and made the journey with him, Mr. Charles Campbell and packmen. While coming along the west shore of Great Bear Lake, Bunn fell behind, and as the party were making for a cache, he told them to go on and he would overtake them before night. He did not come into camp that night, nor did they see him again. They spent ten days searching for him, but found no trace of him. Mr. Bell does not think Bunn is dead, but that he was picked up and taken off by Esquimaux, who journey through that region. They have a fashion of picking up men and taking them away, not as prisoners exactly, but because they like the company of strangers, and try to keep such with them. They have now two Indians from the south with them. It is not difficult to get away from them, as they would not use force to detain any one. In the belief that Bunn had been carried off in this way, Mr. Bell left a canoe, a rifle, ammunition, fishing lines and a cache of food for him at the point where he disappeared, and if he returns he will have ample means of getting out to civilization.

MR. TARTE AT HAMILTON.

Hamilton, Dec. 17.—The Hon. J. Israel Tarte, Minister of Public Works, was in Hamilton to-day, accompanied by Engineer Coste, Major Gray, and his private secretary, Mr. Hains. The party arrived in the minister's private car, and at once went to Hamilton Beach on a special radial car with Messrs. A. T. Wood, Mayor Teetzel, Captain Sutherland and other interested parties to examine the piers leading from Lake Ontario to the bay. The government has been requested to deepen the canal in order that deep draught steamers can pass through, and also to lengthen the piers on the lakeside. Mr. Tarte looked over the ground carefully, and noted the suggested improvements. He was afterwards dined at the Hamilton Club, and left this evening for Walkerville.

PARIS FAIR AWARDS.

Toronto, Dec. 17.—The Hon. John Dryden to-day received a letter from Mr. George Jardine, Canadian commissioner to the Paris exhibition, stating that the final jury have given an additional five grand prix, twenty-five gold, fifteen silver and five bronze medals to Canadian fruit, the Canadian, Ontario and Quebec. Ministers of Agriculture being among the prize winners.

Canada, he says, must have two hundred awards for agriculture and horticulture alone, beating all foreign countries, including the United States, while in other groups, including manufactures, Canada has more than held her own.

GRAND MASTER SENT FOR.

Toronto, Dec. 19.—The men, Sullivan and Delaney, who were the chief figures in the trouble at the King shoe factory yesterday, have left for their homes in the United States. Trades unionists charge that the union at the King factory is unconstitutional, as the firm is not called upon to pay a scale rate of wages until the end of the season, and then not the union figures. The executive officers of the International union are strongly censured for having authorized the firm to use the union stamp. The indications are that the union will break up. Mr. Tobin, the grand master of the union, has been summoned, and is expected here before the end of the week.

DEMAND FOR HIGHER SALARIES IN TORONTO.

Toronto, Dec. 19.—Lady teachers of the city have started a movement to have their salaries increased. Teachers now get $324 a year at starting, with a raise of $24 a year, until the maximum of $360 per annum is reached. They contend that it is impossible to live properly on $325 a year, and they want the initial salary at a higher figure, and after that an increase of $25 a year until they are receiving $850. So long as they do as good work as male teachers they think that they should be as well paid.

MR. WALLACE'S DEFENCE.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—The Hon. Clarke Wallace filed his defence this morning in the slander action brought against him by Senator Fulford for having stated that the senator had paid $50,000 for his seat in the Senate. The defence in effect is that if these words were uttered they were spoken in good faith and in reasonable belief of their truthfulness, there being a generally accepted rumor that seats had been purchased in the Senate.

PONY ATE LIVE CHICKENS.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—Mr. Robert Gore, superintendent of the provincial greenhouse in Queen's Park heretofore known as truthful, startled his friends to-day with the story that a Welsh pony owned by him has turned to flesh-eating, and that its favorite meal is live chicken. In the stable where the pony is kept a brood of Golden Seabright chickens were also housed, and the chickens have been disappearing mysteriously. Finally, after carefully watching the stable, the pony was discovered in the act of killing and eating one of the chickens. It had been fond of gnawing bones in the stable when it ran loose as a colt, and the supposition is that it then acquired the flesh-eating instinct. Mr. Gore claims to have lost about fifty valuable chickens within the past few weeks.

SWALLOWED A NAIL.

Brockville, Ont., Dec. 18.—Yesterday a child named McNaul, aged two years, had a most miraculous escape from death by strangulation. In playing around the floor it came into possession of a nail two and a half inches long, which it swallowed head first. A crook on the other end fortunately caught in the wind-pipe, thus preventing it from going all the way down. The child was noticed strangling, but the mother and other members of the household were unable to relieve it. A doctor was on the scene in ten minutes, and after much difficulty succeeded in removing the obstruction with the aid of a pair of forceps. By this time the child showed no signs of life, but the doctor eventually brought it around again all right.

SHOT A WHITE MOOSE.

Winnipeg, Dec. 18.—The young Indian, near Grand Rapids, Lake Winnipegosis, who recently shot a moose almost entirely white, and considered sacred by Indians, was tried by a council of medicine men. As a result he will have to undergo a series of punishments of a most cruel character, which may cause death.

TYPHOID IN MICHIPICOTEN.

Toronto, Dec. 17.—From a letter received at the parliament buildings, it appears that a serious state of affairs exists in Michipicoten. Typhoid is said to be raging, and some 125 patients are reported to have been taken from the place, while other cases exist there now. Several deaths are reported. The Provincial Board of Health state that they have received no reports from Michipicoten.

ONTARIO FRUIT-GROWERS MEET.

Brantford, Ont., Dec. 19.—The Ontario Fruit-growers' Association's annual meeting is being held in the City Hall here, and will continue three days. There is a good attendance of delegates. The president, Mr. Orr, opened the meeting this morning, extending a hearty welcome to the visitors, and trusting they would continue their interest in the work. Invitations from Brighton, Walkerton, Orillia, Cobourg and Kingston were received for the next annual meeting.

Mr. J. Tweedie read a report on the codling moth, and Mr. Bunting a report on 'Transportation.' The forenoon was taken up with preliminary matters.

TWENTIETH CENTURY SOCIETY.

Smith's Falls, Dec. 19.—Last Sunday the Rev. Mr. Pitcher, pastor of the Methodist Church, proposed to the large Sunday-school that all the boys and young men accept this pledge:

PLUCKY SOCIETY.

This certifies that ..... is a member of the Plucky Society, pledged to abstain in the twentieth century from the use of cigarettes and spirituous liquors.'

The proposition was accepted so enthusiastically and with almost entire unanimity, that the matter was presented to the congregation in the evening. A beautiful card with the pledge, that the members will be proud to hang in their room, is being prepared, and an effort will be made to get every boy and young man to sign. This society will require no meetings, no officers and no money.

SOCIALIST FOR MAYOR.

Toronto, Dec. 19.—The Socialist labor party of Toronto have entered the mayoralty campaign. Their candidate is Mr. Woodley, a printer, who has the necessary property qualification. This element of the community ran four candidates for aldermen a year ago, without success. As they have split with the trade unionists their vote is expected to be a small one.

NEW CONSERVATIVE LEADER.

Kingston, Dec. 20.—A message to the 'Whig' from Ottawa intimates that parliamentary authorities say Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper will be the Conservative leader in the House until a new leader is named. This is due to the fact that he is the senior Privy Councillor in parliament from his party, of whom there are only four, Messrs. Tupper, Haggart, Prior and Tisdale.

BAD FIRE IN TORONTO.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—A disastrous fire broke out at eight o'clock this morning in the heart of the city, and within one hundred feet of the Bay street fire hall. The building burned was the factory occupied by Matthews Bros. & Company, manufacturers of mouldings and picture frames, 48 and 52 Temperance street. It is owned by Andrew W. Carrick, wholesale baker. The fire was caused by a youth dropping a lighted candle into a heap of shavings which he had just emptied from a barrel. The flames instantly shot up the hoist shaft and fired the floor and stairway. The building was a death trap of the worst kind, and terrible scenes occurred in the upper floors, where about a score of men were at work. Alarmed by the smoke and flames, and escape by the stairs being cut off, they rushed to the windows. Fortunately the adjacent roofs were near enough for a bold jump to save them from death by fire, and to afford a fair chance for escape. In the excitement of the escape, however, eight or nine were more or less severely injured. Ambulances were summoned, and the injured conveyed to hospitals, where surgical aid is being rendered. The interior of the building and contents were completely consumed.

Matthews Bros. place their loss at this morning's fire at about thirty-five thousand dollars, covered by insurance.

A. W. Carrick had $3,500 insurance on his building, which is damaged to the extent of five thousand dollars.

FIRE AT HANOVER.

Hanover, Ont., Dec. 21.—This town was visited by a disastrous fire yesterday afternoon. It originated in the Knechtel furniture factory, one of the largest in the Dominion. There was practically no fire protection system in the town and aid was summoned from Walkerton, Palmerston, Neustadt and Chesley. The first brigade arrived in the course of an hour or so, but the factory was burned to the ground. It covered about two acres of land and not a wall is left standing. About ten million feet of lumber in the yard and the sawmill were saved. The loss was about a hundred and twenty thousand dollars and the insurance sixty thousand dollars. The fire spread to adjoining buildings and the following places were also completely consumed: The Greutzner Furniture Company and undertaking establishment, T. Poehlman & Co., flour and feed; B. F. Ahrens, hardware; Graff & Weppler, general dry goods; W. Roloff, photographer; H. Maurer, blacksmith and carriage works; Charles Doepel, flour and feed.

The total loss in the town is about a quarter of a million dollars. The situation is a serious one as the Knechtel factory, employing two hundred and fifty hands, was the mainstay of Hanover, which has a population of about 2,200.

AWARDED DAMAGES.

Toronto, Dec. 19.—Three years ago Andrew Rudolph, now of this city, but then living in Detroit, was so frightfully burned by the explosion of a plumber's gasoline torch, manufactured by the Arnestine Company of Chicago, that it was not expected that he would recover. His hands were burned to the bone, and his face was a charred mass. Mr. Rudolph did recover, however, and on being discharged from hospital he instituted an action for damages against the company that sold him the gasoline torch. The company fought the case from court to court, but Mr. Rudolph persisted in his efforts to get redress, with the result that he has just received word from Lansing, Mich., that $12,000 damages had been awarded to him.

KILLED IN A QUARREL.

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—Stabbed to the heart with a knife in the hands of Emory Carisse, a man named Joseph Laurencelle was killed here last night. The affair occurred about ten o'clock. The two families lived in a shack on the old Rideau Rifle Range, and during the evening a quarrel ensued between their wives. The older woman, who was the wife of Carisse, appears to have been getting the worst of it, and her husband went to her assistance. He was attacked by Laurencelle, and says he was smashed over the head with a chair. Carisse then drew a knife and stabbed his combatant, who ran upstairs, flung himself on the bed and died in a few minutes.

He was immediately placed under arrest. In addition to receiving the heart stab, the dead man's nose was broken. A common jacknife proved the instrument of death. The dead man was thirty-six years old, while the one charged with the murder is nearly eighty. The latter claims he did the deed in self-defence.

DEATH OF A CLERGYMAN.

Toronto, Dec. 18.—The Rev. Thomas Stobbs, a retired Methodist clergyman, died to-day at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. A. L. Langford, Brunswick avenue. On Thursday he would have been 80 years of age. His death was due to general debility. The deceased was a pioneer minister of the Methodist Church, and labored in Western Ontario.

CONFERENCE ON TUBERCULOSIS.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—Dr. P. H. Bryce, secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, returned from Ottawa this morning, where he went to confer with Sir James Grant, president of the Dominion Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. Arrangements have been made for a Dominion conference on tuberculosis at Ottawa in January, which will be called by the Earl of Minto, honorary president of the association. The programme for the conference will be published in the course of a few days.

OLD RAILWAY CONDUCTOR GONE.

Brockville, Dec. 20.—Samuel Dear, a freight conductor on the Grand Trunk Railway, died last night while on duty. He complained of feeling ill when his train was at Kingston, and his crew arranged a bed for him in the van. A telegram was sent from Mallorytown for a doctor to meet the train at Brockville, but when the train reached here Dear was dead. Death was due to heart failure. Mr. Dear was about sixty years of age, and was the oldest G.T.R. conductor in the division. A wife and two daughters survive him. The deceased was well known among the Grand Trunk Railway men at Point St. Charles.

THREE PEOPLE KILLED.

Barrie, Ont., Dec. 20.—Mr. Thomas Lennox, a farmer, about 60 years of age, residing in Flos township, near Phelpston, his daughter and daughter-in-law, Mrs. James Lennox, were instantly killed by the Penetang express, between Elmvale and Phelpston, about seven o'clock this morning. Just as they drove out from their gate the Penetang express was rapidly approaching the railway crossing, which was not over a few rods away. Mr. Lennox whipped up his horses into a gallop in an attempt to cross before the train, but the sleigh was struck, and all the occupants and both horses killed. Lennox was a well-to-do farmer. He leaves a widow and a family of six boys and two girls, mostly grown up. Mrs. James Lennox leaves a husband and a family of little children. The engineer claims to have sounded his whistle before reaching the crossing and applied the brakes when he saw the sleigh approaching in the dim twilight, but it was too late to stop the train in time.

DEATH OF DEAN LAUDER.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—A cable was received this morning announcing the death in Liverpool of Dean Lauder, of Christ Church Cathedral, who has been slowly sinking for months.

The Very Rev. John Strutt Lauder, Dean of Ottawa, was born at Moate, County of Westmeath, Ireland, March 21, 1829. Educated at private schools, he came to Canada in 1849 and continued his studies at Trinity University, taking the degree of B.A. in 1857, M.A. in 1860 and D.C.L. (honorary) in 1877. He was ordained deacon in 1853, and

THE LATE DEAN LAUDER.

priest in 1854 by the late Bishop Strachan of Toronto. He became curate of St. Catharines, Ont., 1853; rector of Carleton Place, 1854; incumbent of Merrickville, 1856, and rector of Christ Church, Ottawa, in 1857. He was appointed Archdeacon of Ottawa, 1874; chaplain to the Senate, Nov. 9, 1883, and Dean of the new Diocese of Ottawa, 1897. The Dean has served as a delegate to the Provincial and General Synods of the Church. He was chairman during its existence of the Ottawa Protestant Ladies' School, was one of the founders and a vice-president of the Dominion Association for the Better Observance of the Lord's Day, and was a member of the college council of Trinity University, Toronto. At the opening of the new Synod of Ottawa, in 1896, the late Dean entered a plea for separate Anglican schools, and until they are obtained he desired a cry to go forth from every pulpit for religious instruction to form part of the work of every public school. He married, in October 1856, a daughter of the late Capt. Lewis, 88th Foot, and relict of Wm. Lee, Richmond, Ont. Mrs. Lauder died 1893.

OUR BEST PREMIUM.

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The 'World Wide' is a Paper 'Witness' readers will enjoy.

SHOCKING INHUMANITY.

SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST THE NURSES IN BELLEVUE HOSPITAL.

New York, Dec. 18.—Shocking inhumanity and reckless cruelty, said to have been practiced by the Bellevue Hospital male nurses upon patients in the alcoholic ward, were charged in information laid before Mr. John W. Keller, commissioner of charities, yesterday.

Death, it is asserted, has followed the mal-treatment of helpless patients or ensued after overdoses of narcotic drugs had been given.

Gross neglect of duty and the violation of hospital rules in the taking of money from patients or their friends are also charged against the nurses.

Mr. Thomas D. Wright, who was an inmate of the ward for five weeks, told a story of almost incredible abuses. This was corroborated in every detail by Dr. James Lent, a graduate of Bellevue, who was in the ward with Mr. Wright.

Dr. Lent is quoted as stating: 'The absence of the one physician in charge of the alcoholic ward is habitually regarded by those succeeding to authority as affording opportunity and license for the exercise in work or even amusement of brutal instincts of torture and torment unchecked by any consideration of even life or death. I have seen methods employed to subdue delirious patients that were fiendish in their inhumanity. I have witnessed instances of brutality and incompetence that were followed by the death of the victim.'

Former patients and the relatives of patients who died in the hospital, substantiated the account given by Mr. Wright and Dr. Lent.

Mr. Keller began an investigation yesterday, and has promised to probe the charges.

Edward O. Dean, Jesse R. Davis, and Clinton Marshall, three Bellevue Hospital nurses, were dismissed last night from the hospital staff for brutality, and immediately arrested, charged with manslaughter in having caused the death of Lewis Hillaire, a patient in the insane pavilion. They were taken before Coroner Fitzpatrick to-day. The coroner admitted them to bail in $1,000 each, pending the inquest, which will probably take place on Friday.

PROTESTS ALL DROPPED.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 22.—It is understood that all election protests in this province have been dropped.

END OF A TRAIN ROBBER.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 18.—With a gaping wound in the back, and another in the left wrist, inflicted by the police, Channing B. Barnes, train robber, drew the keen edge of a hunting knife across his throat in a swamp near this city to-day, and ended his career. Since the hold-up of the Chicago limited mail on the Illinois Central, in the suburbs of this city on Thursday night, officers have searched in vain for two men who had escaped from them after a running fight near the scene of the hold-up. It was known that one was badly wounded, and that he was compelled to drop a United States mail bag in his flight. In a swamp nearby all traces of the men were lost, however. Notwithstanding, the officers felt sure the wounded man had not gone far, and to-day, in the midst of the swamp, they found his body. It bore two bullet wounds, one in the back, the other in the left wrist. With a hunting knife, the robber, knowing that his wounds were fatal, and that escape from the swamp was impossible, had cut his own throat. In the pockets were found the watch of the conductor of the mail train, many registered letters and a quantity of dynamite. The body was brought to police headquarters, and identified as that of Channing B. Barnes, with many aliases, and who was wanted for participating in the daring hold-up of an Illinois Central train at Wickliffe, Kentucky, last July, and who, when attempts were made to arrest him in St. Louis, soon after, shot the chief special agent of the Illinois Central Railway and escaped over the housetops, evading hundreds of pursuers. His brother and a comrade were later captured and confessed.

DRAGGED HIMSELF SIX MILES WITH A WOUNDED KNEE.

Vancouver, B.C., Dec. 20.—A remarkable feat in physical endurance was performed by a former Torontonian who accidentally shot himself while out hunting alone at Nanoose, B.C. Barker, the man's name, is a barrister, and played in the forward line of the Osgoode Hall football team of '90, has always been an athlete, and is a devoted disciple of Nimrod. While pursuing a deer down the mountain at Nanoose he tripped and fell, accidentally discharging his rifle, the ball of which entered beside his knee. It was six miles to the nearest house, over a rough and unfrequented road, and if he waited for voluntary assistance it might be days before he was found. There was nothing for it but to attempt to make the trip unaided, so, as he was unable to walk, he crawled on his hands the entire distance over a fearful path, dragging his wounded leg. The pain was intense, and was only surpassed by his pluck and determination. He eventually reached his destination after nightfall, and is being nursed back to health.

DISGRACEFUL RIOT OVER A PENNSYLVANIA WEDDING.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 19.—The marriage of a white man to a colored woman yesterday caused a good-sized riot in Lower Allegheny to-day, and may yet result in death or serious injuries to the principal. William Zoller, a traction employee, married Jennie Henry, a colored woman, and went to his home on Laurel street. Richard Zoller, a cousin of the groom, together with the father, tried to break into the house where the couple were, while the large crowd, numbering nearly a thousand, encouraged the besiegers with shouts of 'Kill them,' 'Lynch them,' and kindred phrases. At midnight the bridal couple were barricaded in their home under police protection. The father, in his intense excitement, is said to have threatened to kill his son or commit suicide.

QUEEN MOTHER A PRISONER.

Kumassi, Dec. 21.—The loyal chiefs have captured the Ashanti Queen Mother and the rebel King Kokofu and hope soon to capture the remaining rebel chiefs.

NEW AUSTRALIAN CABINET.

Sydney, N. S. W., Dec. 19.—The Earl of Hopetoun, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, has requested Mr. William John Lyne, the premier of New South Wales, to form the first federal ministry. Mr. Lyne is considering the proposition.

FOUR NEW COLONELS.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—Lieut.-Cols. Pinault, Macdonald, Neillson and Cotton are to be raised to the rank of colonels for their services in despatching the South African contingents.

DECEMBER RENEWALS.

Remember to have the renewal subscription to the 'Weekly Witness' mailed in good time. None better for the home, office, factory. See the special inducements for clubbing offers in another column.

DR. PARKER'S EXPERIMENT.

New York, Dec. 23.—The 'Evening Post's' London correspondent says: 'Dr. Parker's experiment with the 'Sun' newspaper, on the lines of Mr. Sheldon's Topeka adventure, concludes to-day, and is felt, even by his friends, not to have been by any means a success. The printing of Scriptural texts, under the head of "Stop the Press News," and other, if less obtrusive, vagaries, have repelled the Englishman's interest in the undertaking, and, while the paper has been largely purchased out of curiosity the effect on the mind of the religious and general public alike has been anything but favorable. In a column of final notes this morning, Dr. Parker suggests the starting of a daily religious paper, and says: "I leave the idea wholly in the hands of others, and will accept their decision, be it what it may." He is anxious that the paper should be named the 'Daily Witness,' and that it should be wholly nonsectarian, and then calls upon the Bishop of London, Dean Farrar, and the editors of the 'Contemporary Review,' 'Nineteenth Century,' 'British Weekly' and 'Christian World' to make his proposal the burning question of the hour, and to discuss it thoroughly.'

London, Dec. 24.—The Rev. Dr. Parker has not cut much of a figure here with the religious daily which he edited during last week. The proprietors announced in the last of his issues that they would resume to-day the so-called spot competition, which is a species of lottery, and on which the paper chiefly depends for its precarious circulation, this despite the fact that Dr. Parker declaimed throughout the week against all forms of gambling. Dr. Parker's last article was a discussion of the brilliant opportunities for a successful religious daily in London.

ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION.

London, Dec. 21.—Dr. E. C. Thompson has been elected without opposition to the House of Commons from the north division of Monaghan, in succession to the late Mr. Daniel MacAleese.

STREET CAR SYSTEM FOR DAWSON.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 19.—Capitalists believe that Dawson City has come to stay. The announcement that the Alaska Commercial Company are to put in machine shops and boat building plants has hardly got cold when a proposal by the Alaska Exploration Company to build a million-dollar street car system has come to the front.

THE POST FOUNTAIN PEN.

A useful premium and easily obtained. Send three new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' at one dollar each, or five renewal subscribers at one dollar each, or a club of ten and $8.90. The sender of any of the three foregoing clubs will receive a Post Fountain Pen, one of the best self-filler fountain pens obtainable. The regular price of this pen is three dollars.

DOCUMENT SIGNED

IT WILL BE PRESENTED TO LI HUNG CHANG WITH THE LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY.

Pekin, Dec. 23.—The last obstacle having been removed, the joint note was signed to-day by all the foreign ministers, including the envoy from the Netherlands, who arrived only recently. The note will be delivered to Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching, the Chinese plenipotentiaries, as soon as the former shall have sufficiently recovered from his indisposition. The Chinese close to Li Hung Chang still prefer to believe, despite the signing of the note, which they did not believe would take place, that the principal negotiations must be carried on in Europe or America. They resent the British modification of the note, for, as they say, some power or powers might not be satisfied until the indemnity had been paid in full, which would mean the occupation of Pekin for an indefinite time, as it cannot be expected that China can raise what would be required all at once. As a matter of fact, it will take several years.

Li Hung Chang, answering an inquiry from the foreign envoys regarding his health, said he believed he would be able to attend the meeting to-morrow, in order to accept, with Prince Ching, the preliminary joint note.

The note will be presented by the Spanish minister, Senor B. De Cologan, doyen of the diplomatic corps, with a few words expressive of a hope of as prompt a reply as possible to a note which has been carefully prepared, with every desire to continue the dynasty and not to be hard toward the nation, and a further hope that the Chinese plenipotentiaries will urge upon Emperor Kwang Su the necessity of immediate compliance. An answer is expected about Thursday.

SAYS CHINA WILL ACCEPT.

London, Dec. 23.—Dr. Morrison, wiring to the 'Times' from Pekin, on Saturday, says that official Chinese declare that China will accept all the conditions of the joint note.

PRESENTED AN ADDRESS.

Cornwall, Ont., Dec. 24.—The beautiful life-size portrait of Judge Pringle, which citizens of Stormant, Dundas and Glengarry have had painted by Miss C. Berthon, of Toronto, was hung in the Cornwall court house, on Saturday afternoon. A large number of prominent men of the town and neighboring townships were present, and they took advantage of the occasion to present Judge Pringle with an address expressive of the high esteem in which his honor has been held by all classes during the sixty-seven years he had been connected with the legal profession, as student, barrister and junior.

Mr. P. E. Campbell, mayor of Cornwall, presided, and the address was read by Mr. J. A. Chisholm, secretary of the citizens' committee.

Judge Pringle spoke briefly in acknowledgment, and his formal reply was read by his son, Mr. R. A. Pringle, M.P. Mayor Campbell, Mr. T. S. Edwards, of Iroquois, warden of the counties council; His Honor Judge O'Reilly, D. R. McLennan, Q.C., Mr. James Leitch, Q.C., Mr. A. McNab, sheriff of the united counties, the Rev. C. Burnet, of Summerstown, and others gave utterance to sentiments similar to those in the address. All spoke in the highest praise of Judge Pringle, both as a citizen and his unblemished record of thirty-four years on the bench, twenty-two of which he was senior judge. The judge then held an informal reception in the grand jury room, where refreshments were served by the ladies. Judge Pringle retired last spring, and was succeeded by Mr. J. R. O'Reilly, of Prescott, present senior judge. Although over 83 years of age, the venerable is still quite smart, and his faculties unimpaired. Cornwallites are proud him and delight to do him honor.

HIS HONOR JUDGE PRINGLE.

COMMERCIAL.

WITNESS OFFICE, Dec. 24, 1900.

MONTREAL STOCKS.

There was no stock market on Monday, in consequence of the holidays.

Reported for the 'Witness' by G. B. Meller, Banker and Broker, 1721 Notre Dame st.

	Buyers.	Sellers.	Counter.
New York Funds	1-64 dis	1-64 prem	⅛ to ¼
Sterling, 60 days	8 3-16	8¼	8⅛ to 8⅛
Sterling, Demand	8 15-16	9	9 3-16 to 9¼
Sterling Cable	9 3-16	9¼	9¼
Paris Cheques	5.17½		

LONDON CLOSING PRICES.

BOTH CANADIAN PACIFIC AND GRAND TRUNK STOCK ADVANCE IN PRICE.

London, Dec. 24, 4 p.m.—Consols for money, 97¾; consols for the account, 97¾; Atchison, 48⅝; Canadian Pacific, 92⅝; St. Paul, 143⅝; Illinois Central, 134½; Louisville, 90⅝; Union Pacific, pfd., 86⅝; N.Y.C., 146½; Erie, 26¼; Penna., 75; Reading, 12¾; Erie, first pfd., 60¼; Northern Pacific pfd., 91⅝; Grand Trunk, 7½; Anaconda, 9⅞; Rand Mines, 3⅝; bar silver, steady, 29⅛d per ounce; money, 3¼ to 3⅝ per cent. The rate of discount in the open market for short bills is 4⅛ percent; do., three months' bills, 4 to 4⅛ percent.

Montreal Wholesale Markets.

GRAIN—There is no change in the market, oats moving locally at 30c to 30½c ex-store. A moderate business is being done by shippers from points east and west.

We quote: — Peas, 70c west freight; barley, 40c to 40½c east freight; rye, 47½c to 48c; buckwheat, 50c to 50½c east freight.

Liverpool cables are: Spring wheat, 6s 1½d; red winter, 5s 11½d; No. 1 Cala., 6s 2½d; corn, 4s 1½d new, 4s 2½d old; peas, 6s 7½d.

FLOUR—The market is quiet at unchanged prices.

We quote as follows: Manitoba patents, $4.25; strong bakers, $3.90 to $4.05; straight rollers, $3.20 to $3.40; in bags, $1.60 to $1.70; winter patents, $3.65 to $3.85.

ROLLED OATS—Demand for rolled oats continues to be of a peddling character, and values are steady.

We quote $3.70 to $3.25 per barrel, and $1.55 to $1.60 per bag.

FEED—The market is active and firm.

We quote as follows: Manitoba bran, $16 in bags; shorts, $17; Ontario bran, $15 to $16; shorts, $17 to $18 per ton.

HAY—Trade is fairly active, and prices are firm.

We quote as follows:—No. 1, $10 to $11; No. 2, $9 to $9.50; clover, $8 to $8.50 per ton in car lots on track.

PROVISIONS—Trade continues fairly active and values steady. Dressed hogs rule very firm.

Dressed hogs are quoted at $7.25 to $7.75; bacon, 12c to 14c; hams, 11c to 14c; heavy Canadian short cut mess pork, $18 to $18.50 per barrel; pure Canadian lard, 10½c to 11¼c per lb.

Liverpool advices quote lard at 38s 3d; bacon from 42s 9d to 46s 6d; pork, 72s; tallow, 25s to 27s.

EGGS—A fair jobbing business is passing and prices are firm.

Strictly new laid are quoted at 29c to 30c; Montreal limed, 16c to 17c; held fresh, 22c to 24c.

CHEESE—Buyers and sellers are still apart in their ideas and there is not much activity expected until after the holidays.

We quote, nominally, finest Western Sept., 11c; Oct., 10¼c to 10½c; late made, 9c to 9½c.

Liverpool cable quotes 51s 6d for white and 52s 6d for colored.

BUTTER—Demand continues to exceed supply of finest goods, and prices are firm.

Prices are as follows: Choice creamery, 22c to 22¼c; seconds, 21½c to 21¾c; dairy, 19c to 20c.

MAPLE PRODUCTS — The market continues quiet and steady. We quote: Syrup at 70c to 75c in large tin, and 50c to 60c per small tin, and 6½c to 7c per lb. in wood; sugar, 9c to 10c.

HONEY—Business is fair and prices are steady. We quote the following prices today: White clover comb, 13c to 14½c; and white extracted, 8½c to 10c; buckwheat, in comb, 10c to 12c, and extracted, 7c to 8c.

BEANS — The demand is fairly active and prices are firm. We quote $1.40 to $1.45 for primes.

POULTRY—The market is active and firm.

We quote as follows: Turkeys at 9½c to 10c; chickens at 6c to 7c; fowls at 5c to 6c, and geese at 6c to 6½c; and ducks, at 8c to 9c per lb.

LIVE STOCK MARKET.—Dec. 20.

There were about 500 head of butchers' cattle, 40 calves and 500 sheep and lambs offered for sale at the East End Abattoir to-day. The butchers were rather slow in coming out and the best butchers had already bought their Christmas cattle in the early part of the week, the top prices being about 5c per lb., except for a prize heifer from Guelph, which was sold at 6c per lb. Good prime beeves sold to-day at from 4¾c to 4½c per lb.; pretty good stock at from 3½c to 4c, and the common animals at from 2¾c to 3¼c per lb. Nearly 200 head of cattle were bought here yesterday at about 1½c per lb., for canning purposes. Calves sold at from $2.50 to $15, good veal calves from a month to six weeks old sold at from $7 to $11 each. Sheep sold at from 2¾c to 3¼c per lb., and the lambs at from 3¾c to 4½c per lb. Fat hogs have still a downward tendency, only very choice lots bringing 5¾c per lb., while heavy fat hogs sell at about 5c per lb., weighed off the cars.

LIVE STOCK MARKET—Dec. 24.

There were about 250 head of butchers' cattle, 30 calves and 200 sheep and lambs offered for sale at the East End Abattoir to-day. There were only a few butchers looking around and they were not anxious to buy, consequently sales were few and far between. A large fat cow was sold at 4c per lb., plus one dollar, and several other pretty good cattle were sold at from 3½c to 4c per lb. Common stock sold at from 2½c to 3½c per lb., and canners at from 1½c to 2c per lb. The calves were a rather poor lot, being the culls from last week's markets. The sheep also were a bad lot and sold at from 2½c to 3c per lb. Lambs sold at from 4c to nearly 4½c per lb. Fat hogs sold at from 5½c to 5¾c per lb., weighed off the cars.

FARMERS' MARKET PRICES.—Dec. 21.

Christmas market is always a busy time and although the country roads abound with cahots, making it very difficult to draw heavy loads over them, still there were more farmers' sleighs at the market to-day than have been seen there any day for many years past, and very large quantities of dead poultry, beef quarters, pork carcases and coats were offered for sale. The bargains made who come to the city by rail both of the market halls. Dead were offered in thousands, but as many of the citizens seemed almost the prices were kept up at pretty ten or eleven cents being the but choice small sized birds rates, while the butchers and grocers bought large lots at about 9½c per lb.; geese sold at from 6½c to 8c do.; ducks and chickens 9c to 11c do; fowls, 7c to 8c do.; dressed hogs, 7¼c to 7¾c do.; beef hindquarters, 5c to 6½c do.; do., forequarters, 3½c to 4½c do.; mutton carcases, 5½c to 8c do.; lamb, 7c to 7½c do. Oats, 65c to 70c per bag; buckwheat, 90c do.; potatoes, 40c to 50c do.; turnips, 35c to 45c do.; onions, 70c to 80c do.; beets, $1 to $1.25 do.; parsnips, $1 to $1.25 do.; cabbages, 50c do.; celery, 10c to 50c per dozen; cauliflowers, $4 do.; apples sell at about $3 per barrel for common sorts, choice spies bring $4 and choice Fameuse from $4.50 to $5 per barrel; Jamaica oranges, $4.50 to $5 per barrel; California navel oranges, $3.50 to $3.75 per box; lemons, $2 to $2.50 do.; cranberries, $7 to $9 per barrel; bananas, $1.50 to $2.50 per bunch. The numerous deep cahots on the country roads prevent the farmers from bringing large loads of hay to the market, and prices have been advancing; hay sells at from $7.50 to $10 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw, $4 to $5 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

MINING NOTES

ROSSLAND SHIPMENTS OF ORE—CANADIAN MINISTER OF MINES WANTED.

Rossland, B.C., Dec. 22.—The following are the shipments for the past week and the year to date:

	Week.	Year.
Le Roi	3,781	159,355
Centre Star	20,040	39,032
War Eagle	——	10,278
Le Roi No. 2	——	2,922
Iron Mask	150	2,773
Giant	——	563
I.X.L.	——	552
Evening Star	——	428
Monte Cristo	——	273
Spitze	——	155
Iron Colt	——	80
Totals	5,908	216,411

Grand Forks, B.C., Dec. 15.—At a largely attended public meeting held here on Tuesday evening a resolution urging the Dominion Government to create a Mining Bureau, and to appoint a Cabinet minister having special charge of mining and mining interests, was adopted. It was also decided to seek the co-operation of the various boards o ftrade and kindred associations throughout the Dominion. The resolution, which was proposed by Ald. McCallum, seconded by H. N. Galer, assistant treasurer of the Granby smelter, is as follows:

'That the rapid development of the mining industry in our opinion justifies the creation of a mining bureau and the appointment of a minister having special charge of mining and mining interests.

'That since the year 1887 the Province of British Columbia has produced in gold, silver, lead and copper, values amounting to $28,375,451.

'That the average value of 185,000 tons of ore produced in Rossland camp last year was $13 per ton.

'That the tonnage of the Boundary district is at present estimated at 100,000 tons of ore in round numbers, which will probably be quadrupled within the next year.

'That the development of coal mining along the Crow's Nest Pass Railway, on Vancouver Island, and in the Eastern Provinces, makes it, in our opinion, necessary that a great industry, such as mining, should have a special department in the Government of Canada. Be it therefore,

'Resolved, that in the opinion of this meeting, the Governor-General-in-Council, be petitioned to create a new portfolio to be known as the Mining Bureau, and that a minister to take charge thereof be appointed, and that, in the opinion of this meeting, such minister should be one of the representatives of the Province of British Columbia, as being the greatest mineral producing province of Canada, and being at present unrepresented in the Cabinet.'

The following committee was appointed for the purpose of communicating with boards of trade and mining associations:—H. N. Galer, L. P. Eckstein, Dr. Westwood, William Spier and W. A. Spencer, the local managers of the Eastern Townships, and the Merchants Bank of Halifax respectively, and W. A. Harkin, secretary.

GOLDEN STAR MINE.

NEW COMPANY TO BE FORMED WITH $1,500,000 CAPITAL.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—At an adjourned annual meeting of the shareholders of the Golden Star Mining Company yesterday, in the neighborhood of 700 percent of the stock being represented, a resolution was passed empowering the directors to apply for a charter for the formation of a new company to require the assets of the Golden Star Company. The new enterprise will be capitalized at $1,500,000, in one dollar shares. Shareholders in the old company are to receive share for share in the new company, the stock to be paid up to 95c, the remaining five cents per share to be called for at the discretion of the new board of directors.

The reorganization means an increase in the capitalization of $300,000, and the levying of an assessment of 5c per share on the stock now held by the shareholders. It is believed that on the formation of the new company an assessment of one cent per share will be made.

BRADSTREET'S WEEKLY SUMMARY.

The activity in holiday goods at Montreal is a promising feature for general wholesale business. Sales reported by retailers have been large and have been the means of circulating much money which will put retailers in a good position to enter on the trade for the ensuing season. In wholesale circles at the moment trade is quiet, as is usual so near the Christmas holidays. The milder weather has checked the demand for sorting parcels of heavy goods. Values continue steady to firm for nearly all lines. Country remittances have been a little quiet, doubtless owing to the fact that retailers have been busy with the holiday business.

There has been a fair movement in trade at Toronto this week, although it would have been larger if the weather had not turned mild again. The large distributing houses have been preparing for the spring trade. Stocks of goods are coming forward in staples and some deliveries have already been made. The sales of holiday stuff have been large this month, the dry goods houses having contributed largely to that trade in various useful lines which are always in good demand for this season. Grain deliveries in Ontario are increasing, and country remitances are improving. The mills and factories are busy, the masses are well employed and good wages are paid. The markets for staple and imported goods are generally firm. There is a good demand for money and rates are well maintained.

There has been increased activity in trade circles at Hamilton this week. While this has been due largely to the holiday business, the trade done for spring has been very satisfactory. Reports from travellers for Hamilton firm speaks hopefully of the outlook for the spring. The conditions of retail trade, they say, this month, have been excellent and indicate liberal ordering after the turn of the year.

The weather in Manitoba has done much for trade since the first of the month. Winnipeg firms have received large sorting orders for seasonable winter goods and the holiday business has been large. The finish of the year's trade in wholesale circles has been very satisfactory. Deliveries of wheat have set in large and the grain does not appear to be grading any better. Payments are only fair.

Trade at the Coast cities has been more active. Sales of light goods, including novelties and seasonable lines, since the first of the month have been large. The lumber industry is suffering, owing to scarcity of ocean freights. Building operations at Vancouver are not as active as they were. Remittances are only fair. There is considerable room for improvement in that connection.

Business at Ottawa has been quite active this week. There has been a large movement in holiday lines this year and the purchase by traders from the jobbers have shown a larger percentage than usual of expensive lines. Money has been circulating more freely lately and the prospects for trade are good.

Freer grain deliveries as a result of the improvement of the country roads has created some improvement in payments at London, and this, with the increase in the retail trade usual at this season, has imparted a better tone to general business. Travellers for jobbers report a promising outlook for next season.

MANITOBA WHEAT.

The local market is dull and stagnant, and very little business is doing. Lake navigation is closed, and the movement of wheat from the west shows a considerable falling off. As yet little is doing for all rail shipment, the demand from Ontario is very light, and export is not seriously thought of. Quotations at the end of this week are as follows: 1 hard, 76½c; 2 hard, 72c; 3 hard, 65c; 3 northern, 61½c; 2 hard, tough, 67c; 3 hard tough, 61c, and 3 northern tough, 59c, all in store, Fort William. —Winnipeg 'Commercial,' Dec. 15.

CANADIAN LUMBER.

Farnworth & Jardine's Wood Circular, Liverpool, Dec. 1, 1900.—The arrivals from British North America during the past month have been 14,402 tons register, against 22,886 tons register during the corresponding month last year, and the aggregate tonnage to this date from all places during the years 1898, 1899, and 1900 has been 481,347, 505,391 and 545,974 tons respectively.

The business generally during the past month has been quiet, and although there is not much change to report, still for some of the leading articles it has been difficult to maintain values, and in some instances a slight decline has taken place. The arrivals have not been excessive, the deliveries fair, but stocks as a rule are ample.

Canadian Woods — Waney Pine, Prime Wood, the arrivals, which have been on a moderate scale, have chiefly gone to Manchester direct; the deliveries have been very large, values are firm, and stocks are light. Second class wood has met with rather more favor, and stocks are fairly moderate. Square—There has been no import, but with only a limited demand, stocks are too large. Red Pine—The demand continues quiet, and stocks are sufficient. Oak has not been imported; with rather more enquiry the deliveries have been fairly satisfactory, but stocks sufficient; values for prime wood are firmer. Elm—There have been no arrivals, and as the deliveries have again been on a large scale, prices continue fairly steady, but stocks are large. Ash continues in limited demand, values are steady, and stocks are light. Pine Deals—The arrivals, although considerably less than the previous month, have been on a fairly large scale; the deliveries, however, show some improvement, but stocks are sufficient; prices rule high. Red pine deals continue in fair request, at steady prices.

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Spruce and Pine Deals—The arrivals during the past month have been moderate, namely, about 2,100 standards, against 7,020 standards for the corresponding month of last years. The deliveries have been fair, but present values are difficult to maintain, and stocks are too heavy. Pine Deals—Values, in sympathy with other pine goods, have improved, and stocks are light.

Birch—Logs, there has been no import; the deliveries have been disappointing, stocks are ample, but values are fairly steady. Planks—The import has again been too heavy, the consumption has not been satisfactory, and stocks are too large, values show a further decline.

Pitch Pine—The arrivals have been five vessels, 5,080 tons, against five vessels, 4,437 tons, during the like period last year; there has been a moderate import and a satisfactory consumption; stocks are ample but not excessive. Hewn continues in good demand, the stock is slightly increased but still omderate. Sawn—The consumption has again considerably exceeded the import, the stock is consequently further reduced, prices are fairly steady. Deals and boards have again been imported on a moderate scale, the deliveries have been satisfactory, and the stock is on the small side; values remain unchanged.

British Columbian Pine—The recent import referred to in our last is going largely into consumption, values are steady and the stock is light.

BANK STATEMENT.

BUSINESS IS EMPLOYING NEARLY $62,000,000 MORE THAN IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR.

The monthly report of the Canadian banks for November continues the story of expansion of business and increase of resources. The total liabilities of the banks have increased $4,075,810 compared with October this year, and $48,284,313 compared with November a year ago. The total assets have increased $5,148,425 compared with October this year, and $62,400,068 compared with November a year ago. The most noticeable of the changes are the increase of deposits, which amounts to $5,188,147, compared with October, and $39,794,181 compared with November last year, and the increase of loans and discounts, which amounts to $322,246 compared with October of this year, and $31,934,268 compared with November a year ago. The call loans have increased $3,180,545 compared with October this year, and $29,985,848 compared with November, 1899. The money in use this fall, therefore, on loan from the banks amounts to nearly $62,000,000 more than at the corresponding period last year, and is a very telling illustration of the constant expansion of Canadian trade.

CHICAGO CATTLE MARKET.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—Cattle—Receipts, 9,500; steers, fifteen to twenty-five cents higher; butchers' stock, ten to fifteen cents higher; good to prime steers, $5.40 to $6.25; poor to medium, $3.75 to $5.30; stockers and feeders, $2.50 to $4.40; cows, $2.50 to $4.10; heifers, $2.60 to $4.50; canners, $1.75 to $2.40; bulls, $2.40 to $4.40; calves, $4.35 to $5.50; Texas fed steers, $4 to $4.90; Texas grass steers, $3.30 to $4; Texas bulls, $2.50 to $3.25. Hogs—Receipts to-day, 27,000; to-morrow, 15,000; left over, 1,041; opened ten cents higher; closing easier; top, $5.05; mixed and butchers', $4.75 to $5.62½; good to choice heavy, $4.85 to $5.05; rough heavy, $4.70 to $4.80; light, $4.70 to $5.02½; bulk of sale, $4.90 to $5.

COUNTRY CHEESE MARKETS.

Woodstock, Ont., Dec. 19.—Factories offered 3,945 boxes cheese, 200 white and 3,745 colored. No sales; 9¾c highest bid. Market adjourned until second Wednesday in May.

New York, Dec. 19.—Butter, steady; creamery, 17c to 23c; factory, 11½c to 16c; June creamery, 17c to 23c; imitation creamery, 14½c to 19c; state dairy, 16c to 23c. Cheese, dull; fancy large fall made, 11¼c to 11½c; fancy small fall made, 11½c to 12c.

BERLIN BANKING HOUSE IN TROUBLE.

Berlin, Dec. 19.—The banking house of Anhalt & Wagener is in difficulties, owing to its connection with the Prussian Hypotheken Aktien Bank and the Deutsche Grundschuld Bank, and is asking for a moratorium. The proprietor, Herr Schmidt, is the Kaiserin's private banker, and president of the board of overseers of the two embarrassed mortgage banks.

A moratorium is an emergency act of legislation authorizing a government bank to suspend specie payments for a given period.

TORONTO CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Dec. 22.—Business at the western cattle market to-day showed no great improvement over the conditions which prevailed yesterday. The run of cattle was a little larger, and there was perhaps a little more choice for buyers, but business on the whole was dull. The demand was light, and the majority of the sales were of medium or inferior beasts. Prices were steady and practically unchanged. Sheep and lambs were weaker, and hogs were steady. The total run was 20 loads, including 220 cattle, 404 sheep and lambs, 7 calves and 1,000 hogs.

Export Cattle—There was a good inquiry for choice cattle, but the offerings were small, and only a limited volume of business was done. Quotations were steady at $4.60 to $5 for heavy, and $4.25 to $4.60 for light. Two loads of good cattle sold last night at $4.75; they averaged 1,400 lbs.

Butchers' Cattle—The sales were chiefly of small bunches, picked up for immediate consumption. Some choice cattle sold at $4.25, but there were few at any higher price. Local butchers have been well supplied for some days past, and they were not in evidence in the trading. Offerings of second-rate were fairly heavy; but they sold slowly at poor prices.

Export Bulls—Trade was rather active and some fine bulls were sold. They brought good prices, selling as high as $4.37½. The demand for superior stock continues steady, and heavy are worth $3.75 to $4.50. Light are steady at $3.25 to $3.75. They are not very plentiful.

Feeders—The only business is in light, which are selling well at $3 to $3.40. The offerings are small.

Stockers—Trade good, with steady demand. Prices are unchanged at $2.50 to $3.25 for choice weights of 500 to 800 lbs.

Milch Cows—Good cows are scarce, and prices are very high. One buyer says that holders are asking more for their cows than at any time during the past five years. One pair of fine beasts sold for $103, and another pair brought $100. The offerings included several inferior cows, but all sold well. Quotations range from $35 to $55.

Sheep and Lambs—Prices are lower. Export ewes are weak, and values have dropped 12½c to 25c per cwt. They are quoted at $2.75 to $3. There is practically no demand for them, and they are hard to sell. Bucks and butchers' sheep are steady. Lambs are lower at $3.50 to $4 per cwt., and $2.50 to $3.50 each. Calves are steady and unchanged at $2 to $10 each.

Hogs—Offerings large and market steady. Prices are unchanged at $5.87½ for selects and $5.50 for lights and fats.

AMERICAN CATTLE MARKETS.

New York, Dec. 21.—Beeves, receipts, 3,478; steers in good demand, 10c to 15c higher; bulls firm and cows steady; steers, $4.30 to $5.30; bulls, $2.70 to $3.50; cows, $1.65 to $3.15. Cables quoted live cattle firmer at 11c to 13½c; refrigerator beef at 9¼c to 9½c per lb. Shipments—None. Calves, receipts, 111; steady for all grades; veals, $4 to $8.25; grassers nominal. Sheep and lambs, receipts, 5,355; slow for all sorts of stock; sheep weak to 10c lower; prime lambs barely steady; others 10c to 15c lower; sheep, $2.25 to $3.87½; a few choice, $4; culls, $2; lambs, $4.75 to $5.75; culls, $3 to $4; Canada lambs, $5.50 to $5.70. Hogs, receipts, 4,222; quoted weak.

East Buffalo, Dec. 21. — Cattle generally dull, and hardly up to Monday's close; calves were in fair supply and good demand; choice to extra, $7.25 to $7.50; good to choice, $7 to $7.25. Sheep and lambs—Lambs, choice to extra, $5.35 to $5.50; good to choice, $5 to $5.35; sheep, choice to extra, $4 to $4.27; good to choice, $3.75 to $4; the supplies of Canadas were light, 2½ loads, and the basis was $5.80. Hogs — General opening price for heavy, mixed and Yorkers was 5c; pigs, $5.10; roughs, $4.40 to $4.60; stags, $3.50 to $4; after the first few sales the market declined 5c, and was very dull, with several loads left over.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS.

Edinburgh, Dec. 10.—Messrs. John Swan & Sons' weekly report on the live stock trade says:—The supplies of fat cattle on offer this week have been much larger, and a considerable portion of inferior quality. For the best class of bullocks, trade has been good at quite late rates, but secondary and inferior cattle have been cheaper at a reduction in price of about 10s a head. Fat cows have sold at late rates. The supplies of fat sheep have also been rather larger. Good shop sheep have quite maintained late high prices, but hoggs and heavy weighted ewes have met a slow trade. Exceedingly small supplies of both fat calves and pigs, and these met a very dear trade. In the store market there has been a fair show of sheep, and a good selling trade was got. Store cattle have been a very small show. Notwithstanding the exceptionally bad weather, the best class of bullocks have met some enquiry at fair prices, but inferior cattle have almost been unsalable. A good show of milch cows have met high prices. Quotations:—Top price best beef from 8s to nearly 8s 6d; current, 7s 9d to 8s per stone. Mutton from 7d to 8¼d per lb.

London, Dec. 10.—Much larger supply in beast market, especially from Scotland. For both prime and second quality trade slow, but late prices well maintained, there being too many fat cows and bulls. Sales forced at decline of 2d per 8 lbs. Top value—Primest Scotch, 4s 10d, and occasionally 5s per 8 lbs.; Herefords, 4s 9d to 4s 10d. Arrivals, 217 Scotch, 99 Irish, 360 Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex, 1,354 midland, home and western counties, 120 Devon. Sheep trade opened slow for wedders, higher rates being asked; sales, however, governed by Monday's quotations, with exception of ewes, which were easier. Fair demand for pigs. Beasts, 2s 10d to 4s 10d; sheep, 3s 2d to 5s 8d; pigs, 2s 8d to 4s 4d per 8 lbs. Total supply: Beasts, 2,150; sheep, 6,400; pugs, 190.

Liverpool, Dec. 10.—Beasts, 1,515; sheep and lambs, 5,476. Best beast, 6d to 6¼d; second, 5¾d to 5¾d; third, 4½d to 5d. Best Scotch sheep, 7½d to 8d; other sorts, 5½d to 6½d; lambs, 6d to 7d. A decrease of 237 beasts and an increase of 120 sheep and lambs. Slow demand for all classes at about late rates. Christmas Show, Dec. 17.

BUTTER.

Manchester, Dec. 12.—Arrivals of Danish, Swedish and Finnish showed a considerable falling away yesterday in consequence of the delay of the Malmo cargo. The demand was quiet, and last week's rates were barely maintained. A fair quantity remained unsold. The weather continues mild. Irish creamery in small supply, and soon cleared. Canadians sell freely at figures as below. Quotations:—Finest Danish and Swedish, 122s to 124s; Irish creamery, 114s to 116s; Canadian, 108s to 112s.

Cork, Dec. 11.—First, 103s; second, 91s; third, 85s; fourth, 73s. Mild cured—Superfine, 110s; fine, 97s. Choicest boxes, 116s; choice boxes, 99s. Fresh butter 106s. In market, 77—firkins, 41; mild, 34; boxes, 2.

Limerick, Dec. 11.—Choicest pure Irish centrifugal creamery butter was officially quoted by the Price Committee at Limerick at 114s to 118s to dairies. Demand good. Ascertained shipments of pure creamery butter from Limerick city from 3d to 8th inst. reach 48 tons 14 cwt., equal to 1,949 pyramid boxes 56 lbs. each. Shipments from other centres not reported.

INGERSOLL MARKET.

Ingersoll, Ont., Dec. 24.—White wheat, 62c to 63c per bushel; red fall wheat, 62c to 63c per bushel; spring wheat, 62c to 63c per bushel; barley, 38c to 40c per bushel; peas, 55c to 60c per bushel; oats, 24c to 25c per bushel; corn, 38c to 40c per bushel; bran, $12 to $13 per ton; shorts, $16 to $17 per ton; potatoes, 45c to 60c per bag; onions, 90c to 95c per bushel; live hogs, $5.25 $5.50 per cwt.; flour, $1.65 to $1.95 per cwt.; oatmeal, $2 to $2.50 per cwt.; cornmeal, $2 to $2.50 per cwt.; butter, 23c to 25c per lb.; creamery, 26c to 27c per lb; eggs, 18c to 20c per dozen; hay, $8 to $9 per ton; hides, $7 to $8 per cwt.

GUELPH MARKET.

Guelph, Ont., Dec. 22.—Flour, $1.90 to $2.10; red wheat, 64c to 65c; goose wheat, 60c to 62c; bran, $13; middlings, $16; barley, 40c to 42c; oats, 25c to 26c; rye, 45c to 46c; peas, 55c to 60c; hay, $8.50 to $9.50; potatoes, per bag, 30c to 35c; sheepskins, 75c to $1; hides, $6.50 to $7; live hogs, $5.75 to $5.90; dressed hogs, $7 to $7.25; butter, 20c to 21c, eggs, 22c to 25c; chickens, per pair, 40c to 75c; ducks, per pair, 60c to 80c; geese, per lb., 6c to 7c; turkeys, per lb., 9c to 10c.

RUSSIAN BANK WANTS TO BORROW.

London, Dec. 21.—The Russian Bank, according to a despatch to the 'Daily Express' from St. Petersburg, is endeavoring to raise a loan in New York for rebuilding the Manchurian Railway.

NEW INVENTIONS.

Messrs. Marion & Marion, patent attorneys, Montreal and Washington, furnish a list of patents recently granted to Canadian inventors by the Canadian Government:

No. 69,564—Ben. Broughton, Hamilton, Ont., bicycle tire; 69,582—Jos. Gauthier, St. Johnsbury, Vt., holdback hooks; 69,590—W. Jas. R. Sims, Kirkfield, Ont., and Alfred L. Davis, Peterborough, Ont., means for extracting roots and foreign matters from peat; 69,591—Sims & Davis, compression box for extracting moisture from peat; 16,592—Sims & Davis, process for treating and drying peat; 69,595—Geo. Wedlake, Brantford, Ont., gang plough; 69,597—Fred. Henning, Toronto, Ont., compressor; 69,603—Joseph M. Mackin, Palmerston, Ont., cash register; 69,604—Geo. B. Dowswell, Hamilton, Ont., washing machine; 69,605—Wm. H. Smith and Martin Love, Toronto, Ont., wire mattresses.

MR. C. M. HAYS HONORED.

The retiring general manager of the Grand Trunk Railway system, Mr. Chas. M. Hays, was surrounded on Monday evening, Dec. 17, by the business and banking interests of Montreal in the Windsor Hotel dining room, represented by Mr. Robert Mackay, president of the Board of Trade, in the chair; Mr. Henry Miles, and Mr. John Macfarlane, vice-presidents; Mr. E. F. Craig, president of the Corn Exchange, and Mr. Charles Chaput, all in the vice-chairs. The Hon. Sydney Fisher, Mayor Prefontaine, Mr. Charles Drinkwater, Mr. Robert Bickerdike, M.P., and many of the leading business men, were seated on the right and left of the guest, and letters of regret were read from the Governor-General, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier, and other distinguished people. The speeches made evinced much good feeling, and Mr. Hays, who is now president of the Southern Pacific Railway, was shown that his presence in Montreal had won him many friends. On Thursday evening there was a sort of family gathering of the officials of the road, who took occasion to honor Mr. Hays by a banquet. It was given at the Windsor, and it was attended by quite a number of the oldest officials in the company's service.

Mr. Hays left for St. Louis on Sunday night.

A MARRIAGE ANNULLED.

Mgr. Racicot has just pronounced judgment in an ecclesiastical case brought before him to annul the marriage contracted in 1894 between Dr. Joseph Masson and Miss Blanche Prevost. The marriage ceremony took place in Paris, France, after which the young couple came back to Canada. Married life did not seem to bring happiness to the parties for any considerable time, and Dr. Masson ultimately went to live in San Francisco, where he obtained a divorce, and afterwards took out the present proceedings to have the marriage annulled by the religious authorities. The ecclesiastical tribunal declared the marriage to have in reality been null and void because the contracting parties had not elected domicile in Paris, and no proper delegation had been received from the religious authorities here empowering the officiating priest in Paris to celebrate the marriage. Mrs. Masson did not oppose her husband's demand, but, on the contrary, favored the judgment just pronounced.

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The Post Fountain Pen is considered one of the best in the market. It is a self-filler and self-cleaner, and is recommended by leading literary and business men, bankers, politicians, clergymen and writers generally. Subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' sending a list of three new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' at one dollar each, the sender will receive a Post Fountain Pen free.

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A subscriber sending a club of ten subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness,' renewal or otherwise, and $8.00 cash can secure a Post Fountain Pen free.

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ALASKAN BOUNDARY.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—The 'Globe's' Ottawa correspondent says it was learned last night that while there is no immediate prospect of the resumption of the sittings of the joint high commission negotiations with respect to the Alaska boundary have recommenced between the United States and the British Governments and that an active interchange of diplomatic notes is in progress. The Imperial authorities are, of course, well informed as to the contentions of Canada in this matter, the Dominion Government having some time ago placed in their possession a history of the question which was prepared by Sir Louis Davies. The report in question is an elaborate document of some three hundred pages, which deals with the former treaties bearing on the Alaska boundary and the correspondence connected therewith and comprehensively presents the Canadian side of the case. The members of the Canadian ministry, in view of the confidential character of the negotiations at present going on, absolutely refused to discuss or even refer to the matter, but it is hinted a despatch from Washington was some time ago laid before the British Foreign Office and that a reply to this document was recently transmitted from Canada. It is impossible to say, owing to the absolute secrecy maintained, whether any progress has been made towards a settlement of the question, but possibly negotiations may be so far advanced by the time parliament meets as to permit of a ministerial statement being made.

THE NEW 'WITNESS' DROP-HEAD SEWING MACHINE.

Only thirty-one new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' at one dollar each secures this machine, or forty renewal subscribers at one dollar each. Subscribers desiring to pay part cash and balance in subscribers, the following liberal offers are open to them: Twenty renewal or new subscribers at one dollar and $9.50 additional. Ten renewal or new subscribers at one dollar and $14.50 additional. Five new or renewal subscribers at one dollar and $17.50 additional. One subscriber to the 'Weekly Witness' and $19 additional. Transportation to be paid by receiver.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

The name of Layton has been identified with the manufacture and sale of pianos for the past 75 years. Therefore the public when purchasing from Layton Bros. have the satisfaction of knowing that they are buying their pianos from a reliable and practical firm. Agents for Behr Bros.', Evans Bros.', R. S. Williams, and Whaley-Royce Pianos, Thomas, Uxbridge and Berlin Organs, Angelus Piano Players, etc., etc. Warerooms, 144 Peel street (Dominion square), Montreal. N. B.—Open evenings.

A TERRIBLE END.

RESIDENT OF ST. ROCH'S FALLS DOWN AN ELEVATOR SHAFT.

Quebec, Dec. 22.—A terrible accident occurred in St. Roch's last evening by which Mr. J. A. Chevalier, a well-known boot and shoe manufacturer of Arago street, lost his life. Mr. Chevalier was in the habit of closing up his establishment after all the hands had left work and last evening a forewoman who was waiting after six o'clock to give in her returns, missing him from the office, sent two of the men to hunt him up in the building. Upon reaching the basement they were horrified to find the inanimate body of their employer at the bottom of the elevator shaft with the elevator on top of him. How the unfortunate man got there appears to be a mystery, which may be solved at the coroner's inquest to-day. Deceased was only thirty-five years of age.

THE POST FOUNTAIN PEN.

A useful premium and easily obtained. Send three new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' at one dollar each, or five renewal subscribers at one dollar each, or a club of ten and $8.00. The sender of any of the three foregoing one of the best self-filler fountain pens obtainable. The regular price of this pen is three dollars.

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.

ANDERS — At 25 Arcade street, on Dec. 21, 1900, the wife of Ernest Anders, of a daughter. 24

BROWN.—At Westmount, on Dec. 5, 1900, the wife of F. W. Brown, L.D.S., of a son. 19

CASSIDY—At Pointe aux Trembles, on Dec. 9, 1900, the wife of Richard Cassidy, of a son. 18

CHARLESWORTH — In Guelph, Ont., on Dec. 8, 1900, the wife of Mr. John W. Charlesworth, of a son.

MAXWELL—At 184 Cote St. Antoine road, Westmount, on Dec. 24, 1900, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Maxwell.

McAULAY—At Fisher Hill, Lingwick, Que., on Sunday, Dec. 16, 1900, a son to Mr. Mrs. M. D. McAulay. 24

PERCIVAL.—At 4032 Tupper street, the wife of John L. Percival, of a son, on Dec. 14, 1900. 22

MARRIED.

ANDERSON — STENNING — On Dec. 20, 1900, at the residence of her brother, W. A. Stenning, M.D., Coaticook, Que., Harriet Victoria, youngest daughter of the late Rev. George Stenning, to Gordon Anderson, of Pembroke, Ont., by the Rev. Chas. A. Sykes, B.D. 24

ANDREWS—CAMERON—At the residence of the bride's parents, on Dec. 19, 1900, by the Rev. D. McColl, Hattie Cameron, daughter of James Cameron, Esq., of Leeds, County of Megantic, Quebec, to Mr. John Andrews, of New York city. 21

BAIRD — DAVIS — On Dec. 19, 1900, at the manse, Beechgrove, Que., by the Rev. H. T. Kalem, B.A., John Henry Baird, to Mary Jane, daughter of Mr. James Davis, all of the Township of Eardley, County Ottawa, Que.

BEATON — ROGERS — At the residence of the bride's parents, Deer Park, Toronto, by the Rev. Dr. Bruce, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Milligan, on Dec. 18, 1900, at 2 o'clock, Alexander Hector Beaton, barrister-at-law, to Mary Logan, daughter of Elias Rogers, Esq.

BOOMER—MOORE—At St. George' Cathedral, Kingston, Ont., on Dec. 19, 1900, by the Very Rev. B. B. Smith, D.D., Dean of Ontario, rector, assisted by the Rev. Canon Sweeny, D.D., rector of St. Philip's Church, Toronto, brother-in-law of the groom, George Anthony Boomer, of Osgoode Hall, barrister-at-law, to Louisa Alberta (Bertha), third daughter of the late Robert Marton Moore, Esq., of Kingston.

BROWNELL—NICHOLIS — At the Methodist parsonage, Avonmore, on Dec. 12, 1900, by the Rev. T. H. Richards, Albert E. Brownell, of Castleman, to Elizabeth Nicholis, of the same place.

CHEESE — BRYCE — On Dec. 19, 1900, at the residence of the bride's parents, 915 Dorchester street, by the Rev. T. S. McWilliams, D.D., Mary Grace, daughter of James Bryce, to George Ewing, son of William E. Cheese.

CLYNE — SOUTTER — At New York, on Dec. 3, 1900, by the Rev. Walter Buchanan, of Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church, J. B. Clyne, of Cleveland, Ohio, to Joen, youngest daughter of the late Alexander Soutter, of Petsrhead, Scotland. 18

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MILLIONS OF WOMEN USE CUTICURA SOAP FOR THE Hands Hair AND Skin.

For beautifying the skin, for the stopping of falling hair, for softening and whitening red, rough hands, in the form of baths for annoying irritations, for too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, for many sanative antiseptic purposes, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery, it is incomparable.

Sold by all Colonial Chemists. Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston, U.S.A.

EISENHAUR — CUNNINGHAM— At Milton, Queen's County, N.S., on Dec. 17, 1900, by the Rev. C. Moore, Mr. Jason Eisenhaur, of Liverpool, N.S., to Miss Amanda Cunningham, of Sandy Cove, N.S. 24

FOUSE — DILKIE — On Dec. 21, 1900, at Dominion Church, Ottawa, by the Rev. Dr. Rose, Dr. Clyde Everett Fouse, of Philadelphia, to Elsie Irene Dilke, of Guelph, Ont. 24

HOUGH — TINKESS—On Dec. 19, 1900, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. F. De Long, of Lombardy, Ont., assisted by the Rev. T. H. Richards, of Avonmore, Ont., Wesley F. Hough, to M. Maude, daughter of Levi Tinkess, all of Avonmore, Ont.
Cornwall papers please copy.

JAMIESON—EGBERT.—At Hillside Farm, Greenbank, the residence of Leonard Burnett, ex-M.P., on Dec. 19, 1900, by the Rev. J. C. McFarlane, assisted by the Rev. J. C. Seccombe, Nellie Gertrude Burnett to Victor Egbert Jamieson, both of Greenbank, Ont. 22

KENNEDY -- FINDLAY — At the residence of the bride's parents, Eardley, Que., on Dec. 12, 1900, by the Rev. H. T. Kalem, B.A., William F. Kennedy, of Gloucester, Ont., to Margaret Jane, daughter of Mr. James Findlay. 24

KERR — WILKIE—At All Saints' Church, Toronto, on Dec. 18, 1900, by the Rev. A. H. Baldwin, assisted by the Rev. H. J. Cody, M.A., William Archibald Hastings Kerr, barrister-at-law, to Marion Angelique, daughter of D. R. Wilkie, Esq., of Toronto. 20

McCAUSE—NYE.—At Corbin, Que., on Dec. 18, 1900, at the residence of the bride's uncle, Mr. Francis Orr, by the Rev. J. R. Hodgson, Samuel McCause, of California, U.S., to Florence A. Nye, of Corbin, Que.
Huntingdon 'Gleaner' and Ormstown 'Bulletin' please copy. 22

MILLER—McRAE—On Dec. 4, 1900, at half-past seven p.m., at Calvary Congregational Church, Montreal, by the Rev. Dr. Warriner, Miss Harriet (Hattie) McRae, of Moose Creek, niece of Mr. Neil McLean, and grand-daughter of Mrs. Samuel McLean, of Moose Creek, Stormont County, Ontario, to Mr. Harry Manhatten Miller, of the Canadian Transfer Company Montreal, Quebec. 18

MURRAY — REDFERN — At Ferncliffe, Owen Sound, Ont., the residence of the bride's parents, on Dec. 19, 1900, by the Rev. Dr. Langford, Edith Louise, eldest daughter of J. W. Redfern, Esq., to Thomas Murray, B.A., mathematical master in the Owen Sound Collegiate Institute. 24

PASHLEY — CUTHBERT — In Calvary Church, Montreal, on Dec. 20, 1900, by the Rev. E. Munson Hill, D.D., Frederick W. Pashley, to Jean, elder daughter of R. D. Cuthbert, Esq.

PATTERSON — WEBBER — At the family residence, 6 Sultan street, Toronto, on Dec. 19, 1900, by the Rev. George Webber, father of the bride, assisted by the Rev. W. H. Hincks, Millicent Louise and Rev. Gaylard Hawkins Patterson, M.A., Ph.D., Smethport, Pa.

PHIPPS—ELWORTHY — At All Saints' Church, on Dec. 12, 1900, by the Rev. J. Musson, Helena C. Elworthy, youngest daughter of E. Elworthy, Esq., of Collingwood, Ont., to Frank Hamilton Phipps, son of the late W. B. Phippe, of Toronto, Ont.

SAYER — WILSON — At Ottawa, on Dec. 18, 1900, by the Rev. Mr. Jones, Billings' Bridge, Katherine (Letitia), only daughter of the late John Wilson, of Shawville, to Wm. James Sayer, son of Alderman T. D. Sayer, of Aylmer, Que. 24

SHOULDIS—PARKER.—At the Stewarton Presbyterian Church, Dec. 19, 1900, by the Rev. Robert Herbison, M.A., Miss Ida Agnes Parker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Parker, 81 Third ave., Ottawa, to Albert Henry Shouldis, of Ottawa. 21

STEWART—McNEILL.—On Dec. 17, 1900, at St. John's Church, Ottawa, by the Rev. Canon Pollard, Edith Winifred, eldest daughter of the late Allan N. McNeill, R.N., to Douglas Patterson, son of Robt. Stewart, Ottawa. 19

TINGEY — McDOUGALL — At the residence of the bride's mother, Verna, Assa., on Dec. 12, 1900, by the Rev. W. P. Adams, Mr. William Tingey, of Marieton, Assa., to Miss Annie Christina, youngest daughter of Mrs. McDougall. 18

DIED.

BARBER.—At Quebec, on the evening of Dec. 17, 1900, Elizabeth (Ettie) Barber, eldest daughter of the late William Barber, Inspector of Marine and Fisheries. 19

BEAMENT — At Ottawa, on Dec. 9, 1900, of typhoid, Eleanor Ada Josephine Beament, eldest daughter of the late Thos. Beament. 24

BLACK — At Longueuil, on Tuesday, Dec. 18, 1900, Ewan McLellan, only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Black, aged 2 years and 6 months. 19

BLACK—At Longueuil, on Wednesday, Dec. 19, 1900, Mona Miriam Campbell, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Black, aged 6 years and 6 months.

BLACK—At Montreal, on Thursday, Dec. 20, 1900, Jessamine Campbell, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Black, aged 4 years.

BLACK—At Longueuil, on Thursday, Dec. 20, 1900, Clarice Marcy, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Black, aged 13 months.

BRADWIN—Suddenly, in Vancouver, B.C., on Dec. 13, 1900, Charles Henry Bradwin, British Columbia representative for Robinson, Little & Co., wholesale dry goods, London, Ont., third son of Joseph E. Bradwin, Esq., Wingham, Ont., aged 27 years. 20

CAMERON.—At Dominionville, Ont., on Dec. 10, 1900, John Cameron, a native of Perthshire, Scotland, carpenter and millwright, aged 84 years and six months. 18

CHITTY.—At the residence of her son, George, 15 Archibald street, Ottawa, on Dec. 20, 1900, Catherine Maria Hill, relict of the late John Chitty, aged 97 years. 22

CHRISTIE — At Christieville, Township of Morin, Que., on Dec. 15, 1900, Emerson E., aged 2 years and 6 months, only son of Ebenezer and Isabella Christie. 19

COWAN—At Cowans, on Dec. 15, 1900, after a lingering illness, Mary Wilson, widow of the late William Cowan, aged 72 years and 8 months.
We mourn our loss.

CURRIE — On Dec. 24, 1900, at Glenwalter, Ont., Daniel Currie, in his 87th year, a native of Tarbolton, Scotland.
Ayrshire, Scotland, papers, please copy. 24

DUNLOP—At Sioux City, Iowa, Dec. 18, 1900, Matilda, second daughter of the late Rev. John Irvine Dunlop, of Toronto, in the 48th year of her age. 24

GAGE—At his late residence, No. 68 Victoria avenue south, Hamilton, Ont., on Dec. 18, 1900, George W. Gage, in his 64th year.

GEDDES — At 72 Major street, Toronto, on Dec. 18, 1900, Susan Stewart, widow of the late Rev. J. Gamble Geddes, dean of Niagara, and daughter of the late Hon. John Stewart, of Beauvoir, Que., in the 84th year of her age.

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HENRY MORGAN CO.,
MONTREAL.

GOUDIE — At Tocantico Hills, New York, on Dec. 20, 1900, Norval Goudie, aged 83 years, formerly of Quebec.

GRIFFITH.—At Detroit, Mich., on Dec. 13, 1900, Beatrice Griffith, youngest daughter of the late Capt. E. W. and Frances Griffith, of London, Ont. 19

LAREAU—In this city, on Dec. 20, 1900, aged 43 years and 7 months, H. W. Lareau, Esq., Alderman, president of the Butchers' Association, and member of the Royal Foresters, of the I.O.F., A.O.U.W., Artisans, etc.

LAUDER.—In this city, on Dec. 19, 1900, Frederick W. Lauder, youngest son of the late Geo. Lauder.

McCOLL—At West Lorne, Ont., Donald, only son of John McColl, aged 36 years.
Oban 'Times,' Scotland, please copy. 24

McDONALD—At Port Morien., C.B., N.S., on Nov. 28, 1900, Archie McDonald, section master, aged 48 years, killed by the Express a mile from his own house, leaves a wife and numerous friends to mourn his loss. Greatly missed. Our loss his gain. 21

MILLAR — On Sunday evening, Dec. 23, 1900, William Millar, suddenly, of pneumonia.

MULLANEY — Killed at Thamesville, Ont., on Dec. 2, 1900, John W. Mullaney, son of the late Patrick Mullaney, of Toronto, and grandson of the late James Beaty, sr., first mayor of Toronto. 18

MURRAY — Mrs. Murray, wife of Mayor Thomas Murray, M.P., for Pontiac, died at her residence in Pembroke, Ont., at 7.15 on the morning of Dec. 16, 1900. 18

MURRAY—At Lerwick, Shetland, Scotland, Nov. 23, 1900, Mary Murray, aged 67 years, sister of James B. Murray, of Unity, Baker County, Oregon.

NELSON—At Richmond, Que., on Dec. 15, 1900, Mary Arbuckle, wife of Alexander Nelson, in her 69th year.

ORAM — In this city, on Dec. 23, 1900, Elizabeth Bennett, wife of Henry Oram, sr., in her 82nd year.

O'NEILL—At Quebec, on Dec. 21, 1900, of meningitis, Margaret (Maggie), youngest daughter of the late Thomas O'Neill, and sister of T. H. O'Neill, tobacconist.

QUINN — On Dec. 20, 1900, at 388 Pare Logan West, Edmond Joseph, aged 5 months, dearly beloved son of Michael and Annie Quinn, and grandchild of Edward Brennan, Lachine.
Toronto papers please copy.

REIKIE—At his late residence, Wiarton, Ont., on Dec. 12, 1900, the Rev. Thomas Miller Reikie, Congregational minister, formerly of Bowmanville, Ont., born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1819. 18

ROBERTSON.—At his residence, No. 49 Park avenue, on Dec. 18, 1900, James Robertson, president of the James Robertson Company, Limited, a native of Fintry, Stirlingshire, Scotland, in the 68th year of his age.
Glasgow, Winnipeg and St. John papers please copy. 19

SAYERS—In this city, on Dec. 20, 1900, Robert Sayers, aged 48 years.

SCOTT — At his residence, Scarboro', Ont., on Dec. 11, 1900, Joseph Scott, native of Roxburghshire, Scotland, in his 73rd year.

SHIRMAN.—On Dec. 20, 1900, at his late residence, 106 Grande Allée, Quebec, Thos. Downs Shipman, Esq., of Mansfield, England, aged eighty-one years.

SHIPPERLEY — At Purl Brook, Antigonish, N.S., on Dec. 7, 1900, Susanna Louisa, widow of the late Rev. James Shipperley, Congregationalist minister, in the 79th year of her age.

SMITH.—At Huntingdon, Que., on Dec. 17, 1900, Mary (Polly) only daughter of Henry Smith. 22

ST. JOHN.—On Dec. 14, 1900, in her twelfth year, Arabella, daughter of Henry Bolinbrooke St. John, Esq., at 1212 St. Lawrence street, Montreal, Can.
London papers please copy. 22

STOBBS — At 50 Bismarck avenue, Toronto, on Dec. 18, 1900, the Rev. Thomas Stobbs, in the 80th year of his age.

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STRONG—At Montreal, suddenly, on Dec. 20, 1900, of diphtheria, Frances Bryson, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allan W. Strong, aged six weeks and two days.

SWEENY — In this city, on Dec. 17, 1900, Charles Sweeny, native of Donegal, Ireland.

THOMSON — At Grand Rapids, Mich., on Dec. 19, 1900, Hattie Gwendolyn, wife of Dr. A. B. Thomson, and eldest daughter of Dr. E. T. Edwards, formerly of London, Ont. 24

WHEELER — At Martiney, California, Richard Dennie, second son of the late Captain Wheeler, of the 'Rocks,' Kilkenny, Ireland, and of Mrs. Wheeler, 79 Second avenue, Ottawa.

IN MEMORIAM.

MORRIS—In loving memory of Emma, the beloved wife of Richard Morris, of St. Catharines, who entered into rest on Christmas Day, 1893. 24

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