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ISSUED LAST WEEK.

Number copies of WEEKLY WITNESS	35,100
" " " DAILY WITNESS	79,250
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Total	165,650

We invite communications from farmers giving their experience on matters interesting to them as a class; also enquiries, to which, if we cannot answer them ourselves, some of our readers may be able to furnish satisfactory replies.

The Witness.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1884.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER.

Sir Charles Tupper's withdrawal from the Ministry, which has been expected ever since he accepted the office of High Commissioner for Canada in England about a year ago, is now announced upon his own authority. In his own words, he finds himself unable, from ill-health, to continue performing the duties of both the offices he has held during the past year. He has, therefore, made his choice, and accepted the responsible position of the representative of the Canadian Government in England. His withdrawal will appreciably lessen the strength of the Government in the House, where, and in the country during an election campaign, much dependence has hitherto been placed upon his well-known debating powers by his colleagues and his party. As Minister of Railways he has been successful in defending to the satisfaction of a large party majority schemes and projects which, on the face of them, were indefensible. The majority were, of course, determined to ratify the Canadian Pacific contract in accordance with the caucus dictate, but the slashing speeches of Sir Charles enabled them to do it with less shamefacedness than they would otherwise have had to manifest. There are few better able to defend an indefensible proceeding than he. Sir John Macdonald decided the direction of, if not the broad lines on which the railway policy of the Government should run just as he decided the change in the fiscal policy, but Sir Charles Tupper worked out and defended the details of the railway policy as Sir Leonard Tilley did those of the fiscal policy. That that policy has been such a good one and so economically carried out that the Minister of Railways should be enlarged for it is a matter for doubt even to many Conservatives. The Canadian Pacific Company, though given extraordinarily favorable terms, failed to carry out their contract on the terms principally because they rushed into and undertook immense obligations in other directions, and they had to apply for a loan which with the former money grant should enable them to complete their contract without expending a cent of their own. With a majority ready and willing to endorse anything, no great skill or economy was necessary in carrying out the huge railway policy. That the administration of railways will suffer through the absence of Sir Charles Tupper can hardly be supposed, as he has already been away a year without causing any apparent detriment to the efficiency of the department. Sir Charles has retired from the Government when the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's greatest needs have all been supplied, when the provinces have all been granted railway subsidies, and when, in fact, all the money that the people can afford to grant to railways for some time to come has been granted. The session with which his Parliamentary career ended added thirty or forty millions to our debt as a result of the Government railway policy. Now that the time for economy has come Sir Charles retires just as his colleague Chapleau did from the Quebec Government, when the Treasury was empty. Like Chapleau, he ended his Governmental career with a wild financial

org. His retirement from the Ministry does not, we should suppose, imply that he has given up his claim to the succession of the Conservative leadership which he and Sir Leonard Tilley each, it is understood, regard as his own right. Our Conservative contemporary, who, we suppose, speaks with authority in the matter, says that the Conservative party will not long consent to his absence from the Ministry. The reins are not likely to soon fall from the hands of Sir John, who, as every one is glad to know, is apparently in exceptionally good health. As High Commissioner Sir Charles Tupper performed on one occasion good service for his country, for which he has been unstintingly praised. He is energetic and indefatigable and has good oratorical powers, so that he may be expected to fill the office of advertising agent to Canada and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company very well.

WEAK-KNEED DEMOCRATS.

The Morrison bill, which proposed a large reduction in the Customs tariff of the United States, has been defeated in the House of Representatives by one hundred and fifty-six to one hundred and fifty-one. A majority of five in a house of three hundred and seven members is not a large one for protection, especially in the face of the enormous pressure, social and otherwise, that was brought to bear, even the ladies of the protected nabobs having turned out to share in the conflict and cheer for the victory. The vote was in fact an encouraging one for the free traders and tariff reformers, for the vote was not one on party lines, but on the merits of the question. A large section of the democrats who, through conviction, self-interest, or fear of their constituents were against the proposal to reduce the tariff as radically as was proposed by the Morrison bill, secured leave from the Caucus which was called to decide the party's course on the bill, to vote according to their own views. The result has been that by casting their whole strength with the Republican campaign cry, they have managed to just defeat the bill and no more. The defeat is not one so much for the tariff reformers as for the Democratic party. It will probably settle their chances of success for the next presidential election. The Democratic party won most of its successes during the elections since the last presidential campaign by appealing for a reduced tariff. While gains were thus being made it was understood that tariff reduction would be a firm plank in the policy of the party. When Congress was assembled the House of Representatives elected a Democratic tariff reformer as its Speaker, which was regarded as a sign that the party was in earnest on the subject. Now, when brought to the practical test of a vote upon a measure to reduce the tariff, the Democrats have split and the minority of the party has defeated the bill. The country will not believe the party to be sincere on the question. Henry Ward Beecher, a persistent free trader and a Republican, on being attacked for not being willing to vote against his party on this question, declared that he would not vote for the Democratic party, because he has never found it willing to embody in legislation the principles which it advocated in the country. There is not much hope for reform in a country where reform is advocated only by the party of expedients, the party which includes the liquor dealers and those who foster race or national prejudices. As for free trade it will force its own way. Time is on its side.

THE GREATEST ENGLISH WRITERS.

Who is the greatest living English poet? Who is the greatest critic? Who is the greatest philosopher of the day? are questions derived from a certain kind of school girl's album which are continually being asked and to which, judging from the question and answer columns of newspapers, many people think a positive and indisputable answer can be given. In former times there were men of taste who were supposed to settle such questions, and actually did so to some degree for the people of their age. Those were the times when poets and scribblers flourished under patrons while really great thinkers lived in garrets and starved or poisoned themselves, according to their predilection. In those days Shakespeare was thought of as a bad poet. Stout old Samuel Johnson commenced by waiting rather impatiently among the flunkies of a great man in order to secure his "patronage," and he was not successful, and he lived, and prospered too, in his own way, until he lived to see himself in a position in which he could in turn reject the advances of his patron. Since his days patronage is sought for mostly by "hair oil" and "perfume" makers. When a book writer nowadays offers a book for publication the only question, perhaps unfortunately, is, will it sell? A writer has only to please the public taste and no publisher can long stand between him and his audience. The question who is the greatest poet, philosopher or historian is now put to the popular vote. It is doubtful if people read most the works they most admire, or the mere sale of the work would furnish a complete answer to the question. An English newspaper recently called for a plebiscite to say who were the ten greatest living English writers. The plebiscite almost unanimously placed the names of Tennyson, Browning, Swinburne, William Morris and Matthew Arnold in the list. The newspaper appointed a judge who, against the will of the majority, placed Browning's name as first on the list instead of Tennyson's, and gave the prize to the person who so placed them. Imagine Mr. Arnold's disgust at being one of the chosen of the ever wrong majority. An American journal followed the example thus set, but proposed to accept the judgment of the majority, a thing which an English journal, written for professional admirers of Matthew Arnold, could not very well do. The five most popular living American writers are, it would appear, Holmes, Lowell, Whittier, Aldrich and Steadman. One writer set Mr. Ruskin against Mr. Richard Grant White, Mr. Matthew Arnold against Mr. Steadman, Mr. George Meredith against Mr. Howell, Mr. Browning against Dr. Holmes, and Lord Tennyson against

Mr. Lowell. In England, where a plebiscite called upon American writers, Bret Harte would, according to the *Daily News*, take a first place. Bret Harte has always been a great favorite on the other side, where his work is considered more original and more characteristic than that of any other living American writer. Mark Twain's name does not appear anywhere in the prize list of the first ten American writers. "We would not," says the *News*, "give Mark Twain for a wilderness of 'Aldriches and Grant Whites.' Imagine Mark Twain being considered worth a wilderness of Ruskins against whose name that of Richard Grant White is placed. Yet although, as a matter of course, the majority hold Mr. Ruskin in higher estimation than Mark Twain, they read Mark Twain more eagerly, and, perhaps, more persistently. Probably the minority who would rather give up Mark Twain's fan than Mr. Ruskin's serious teaching is a very small one. The majority will be tried by this judgment in the days to come, and not the poets and writers, who will then stand or fall upon their own lasting merits. 'No man can be written down except by himself,' and no man can be written up or 'placed' up permanently, even by a 'majority.' The whole list of both countries will, we fear, make in history a poor show for the literature of the later Victorian era.

A GIGANTIC PLAGUE SPOT.

It is said to think that one of the most interesting spots of earth, the site of the world's greatest engineering work and the probable highway of untold commerce, should be one of the most deadly to man. It seems from a letter signed by Dr. Wolfred Nelson, formerly of Montreal, now of Panama, and Mr. John Stevens, a sanitary engineer of the same city, and published in *La Estrella de Panama*, that the frightful mortality which has swept away the laborers engaged on the canal is not without a cause in the degradation of man. It is stated that the principal cemetery of Panama, in which are buried the poor of the city and the dead from the prisons and the hospitals, is but three-quarters of an acre in extent, and in order that accommodation may be found for the constantly increasing number of the dead, it has to be dug over at least once a year, and has, therefore, become an immense mass of corruption, seething beneath a tropical sun. The other principal cemetery is an immense series of stone vaults, in which the bodies of the dead are placed for a season, to be taken and cast into a heap without even a covering of earth to hide the terrible mass of decayed mortality from sight. Surely there never was a more terrible example of the effect of custom upon mankind, for this state of affairs has come about from an absurd following of the "colonial traditions" of the country. Not only is the air contaminated and the sight outraged, but the wells from which the city derives its water supply are so situated as to receive the drainage, in part, of the present cemeteries, while a new one, built after the manner of the old one, is to be so placed that it will be inevitable that all the water supply of the city will be affected. When it is remembered that it has been discovered that no matter how deeply the body of a victim of yellow fever may be buried the earth will be some impregnated with yellow fever germs, some idea of the effect of these cemeteries upon the health of the community can be formed, and there can be but little wonder felt at the enormous death rate of the Isthmus. For if this is the state of affairs in the capital of the Republic, where there are many foreigners, what must it be in the country districts? The same paper states that the cattle are dying in hundreds on the plains behind the city, and the flesh of these animals is sent into the country to be used as food. Probably a more disgusting state of affairs does not exist beneath the sun. Even New Orleans, Cairo or Cayenne become positive sanitariums when compared with it.

THE RULES OF THE ROAD.

Until the court of enquiry has given its decision as to the cause of the terrible disaster which has befallen the steamer "State of Florida," it would be indeed invidious to lay the blame upon any one, but this much is manifest that the "rule of the road" and the signal system has again, as in many another collision, failed utterly to keep passing vessels apart. It may be, and the presumption is certainly created by the statements of the survivors, that a dire neglect of duty caused the loss of the "State of Florida," but the record of the all too numerous collisions which have taken place on the Atlantic alone during the last few years, shows directly that it is often utterly impossible for the officer in command to tell exactly what course a vessel is taking even if he sees her lights in time to alter the course of his vessel. At present all vessels are by law compelled to carry a red light on the port bow and a green light on the starboard and steamers carry a white light at the foretop to show their class. The rule of the road is simply to turn to the right and all steamers must give sailing vessels the right of way, for the obvious reason that they can be manoeuvred independently of the wind. The obvious simplicity of these rules, which have been all compressed into a couple of jingling rhymes, is one great point in their favor, but they must be alarmingly defective even when the lights are easily distinguished, and from the number of changes in them which have been proposed and discussed it would appear they are generally admitted to be susceptible of great improvement. The collision which took place many years ago between the steamers "Ville du Havre" and the "Loch Earn" off a beautifully clear night, as well as many other similar cases, proves conclusively that the system can be far too easily misunderstood even under the most advantageous circumstances. The circumstances are not, however, always advantageous, for fogs and snow storms are not uncommon on the Atlantic, and then the present signals are useless, for they cannot be seen. On the third of this month the steamship "Nevada" collided with the steamship "Romana" some four hundred miles from St. John's, Nfld., in a dense fog and had

it not been that the bulkheads of the "Romana" kept her above water for an hour, enabling her passengers and crew to make their escape, the disaster would have been quite as dreadful as the "State of Florida" tragedy. That collision was due entirely to the vessels not being able to make their presence known to each other through the fog. Last year a number of splendid steamships were lost in English waters, by collisions due to precisely the same cause. As year by year the ocean lanes become more crowded and the speed and momentum of steamships increase, this question becomes more important and pressing. If the present rules of the road are defective, there are only two reasons why they should not be improved. Either it is impossible to discover a more trustworthy system, or the naval authorities of the world are not sufficiently alive to the importance of the question, and are too conservative to make a change. It is hardly possible or conceivable that owing to the advance which has of late taken place in our knowledge of the laws of light that a radical improvement upon the oil lamps of our ancestors cannot be made. On shore the electric light has performed marvels, and it is hard to see why its great strength and penetrating powers would not be extremely valuable at sea. It may be a difficult matter to arrange a system of signals that will plainly show the position of a vessel under any circumstances, but far more difficult things than this have been accomplished. It may be also that if the high qualities of courage, sobriety and intelligence, which it is absolutely necessary all the officers of a passenger vessel should possess, and the immense amount of responsibility they are compelled to assume were taken into a little greater consideration than they now are, there might be fewer accidents. As things stand at present, *Punch's* statement that "the rule of the road appears to be, to be suddenly launched to eternity," is moderately correct.

AN IRISH AGITATOR RETIRES.

The announcement that Michael Davitt has finally determined to give up his part as one of the leaders of the Irish Nationalist party and retire to private life is not in any sense a surprise. Davitt and Parnell have long been at variance with regard to the land policy of Ireland. Both were agreed that the land should not be owned by the landlord. The recent Land Act made the tenant farmer the permanent occupant, with all the privileges of an actual proprietor, on payment of a sum fixed by valuers appointed by the Government. This is only a first step. Upon the next step Davitt and Parnell could not agree. Davitt was a pure Socialist with regard to land. He declared that the land should not belong to the peasant any more than to the peer, that it should be the property of the people as a people and not that of individuals, and that the individuals who cultivated it should hold it during the will of the people by paying a fixed sum for the government and well-being of the whole people. The nationalization of the land was his policy. Mr. Parnell is not a pure theorist, but a politician and a man of expedients. He declared against nationalization of the land and in favor of peasant proprietorship. The land should belong to the man who lives upon it and cultivates it, said Mr. Parnell, and not to the State. Mr. Parnell knew that, though the people elect the representatives, the people are only the individuals collectively, and that individuals are fond of ownership. The peasants want to own their farms. They would probably rather have personal landlords than a State landlord. Their character makes them a feudal people. They naturally love a lord, if he is generous and somewhat reckless, and not a landlord. They are always inclined to rebel against any impersonal authority, which is merely just. They are "agin the Government," because the Government makes no appeal to their emotions. Mr. Parnell understood the people better than Davitt, and he is a practical man, not aiming high, and they have accepted him and rejected Mr. Davitt.

THE VOTE ON THE MORRISON BILL.

The protected manufacturers of the United States breathe somewhat easier since Tuesday last, when the Morrison bill proposing a reduction in the tariff was voted down, but the time during which the great majority of the people will be taxed to enrich the few of that country will not be much longer. When protection is swept away in the United States, protection in Canada, which is merely a cheap imitation of it, will go also. The protectionists here know this and they are anxiously assuring themselves that Morrison's intention after all was not to attack protection and that therefore the close vote on that measure did not indicate the feeling of the country toward protection. Had they been in the House during Morrison's last appeal just before the vote was taken they would not be found laying that flattering unction to their souls. "Let the 'Republican party,' said Morrison, 'bear on its standard the motto 'Taxation for Tribute,' and the Democratic party will 'bear on theirs 'Taxation for Revenue.' The motto thus chosen is one under which free traders only are willing to march. With this declaration still ringing in their ears, one hundred and fifty Democrats and five Republicans voted in favor of the bill and one hundred and fifty-nine against. The vote brought out every member of the House, with two exceptions, Richelieu Robinson, of New York, who shirked it, and Bass, of Pennsylvania, who was not able to be present. There were eight pairs. Even the Speaker of the House, Mr. Carlisle, asked the Clerk to call his name, and he voted in favor of the bill. The majority was made up of one hundred and seventeen Republicans and forty-two Democrats. The Democratic faction who voted against the bill are, of course, blamed for its defeat, as they departed from the principles of their party. Of these twelve were from Pennsylvania, where manufacturing interests predominate; ten from Ohio, whose wool growing and manufacturing interests decided the cast of its representatives' votes, six were from New York and

three from New Jersey, where party expediency ruled, four from California and one each from Connecticut, Illinois, Wisconsin, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia and Louisiana. The Democratic majority say that the fight will be carried on now to the end, and that the minority of the party will be glad to be received back into the good graces of the party at the convention in Chicago, when they will not have any Republican allies to lean upon. It is said that debates in Parliament very seldom have the effect of changing votes. After a debate of three weeks on the tariff four votes each way were changed.

WE SUPPOSE all human beings are liable to have their reasoning affected by their feelings. To the Reformer all arguments used by Conservatives are simply ridiculous, and all facts carefully misstated, while to the Conservative all the statements of the left press are base calumnies. We have a letter in this paper from one who was a Reformer, and is now a Conservative owing to his interest in the National Policy. When he was a Reformer the Reform leaders were honest and the *Witness*, which, as it is opposed to his National Policy, he now associates with the Reform party, was independent and impartial. Now all is changed. Mr. Blake, as he gathers from his National Policy papers, is a false villain and the *Witness* is no longer independent but bound hand and foot to the Reform party. As for Mr. Blake he can defend himself. We believe him to be a high-minded and honorable man, although there are points in which we differ from him. There is no one against whom many apparent inconsistencies and some real ones could not be proved. The real point at issue between us and our respected correspondent, as well as between him and Mr. Blake, is evidently the National Policy, and on that it is clear that we must agree to differ.

IN NEW ZEALAND all the railways are the property of the people, who have, in order to build them, incurred a very large debt for which, however, they have actual value to show. As a consequence of this all freight charges are imposed by the Government in the same manner as custom charges in all countries, and there is no such thing as private rates, rebates, and similar private arrangements between shippers and railway companies such as are not unknown in Canada, though known only privately. Some little time ago the Government increased the freight rates, particularly upon grain, by a penny a mile per ton of forty bushels. This increase was put into force just at the time when the shipment of grain commenced, and resulted in producing a considerable amount of commotion. Public meetings were held, and a vigorous agitation was commenced. We in Canada are spared all such agitations by the simple device that we have handed over all our railways that we have built and borrowed money to pay for to two great companies that can raise rates when they like, and would be entirely indifferent to any proposal for agitation.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS of Paris are now going on, and, as state politics and not civic affairs decide them, the result is looked upon as being a sure indication of what the result of the next elections for the House of Representatives will be. So far, the two parties that have made distinct gains are the ultra Monarchists and the ultra Liberals, thus attacking the majority of the present Government, that exists only for the opportunity of the moment, upon both sides. The increase in the Monarchists' votes is, however, very small indeed—especially when compared with the increase in numbers of the socialist revolutionists, who have increased their vote nearly fifty percent in three years. This is not at all strange, for there are now thousands of workmen in Paris, attracted there by the great building operations that followed the restoration of order, and these men are now without work and without money, while in 1881 they were rich and well fed. Nothing makes a man a socialist revolutionist so quickly as hunger.

THE AMERICANS have recognized the government of the International Society of the Congo, headed as it is by Mr. Stanley. The English have recognized the authority of the Portuguese. These are not contradictory attitudes. The claims of the society are inland and beyond the region over which Portugal has ever exercised authority. It is a misfortune that the Portuguese are there at all. Their rule has been in the past almost as blighting to the native tribes and as antagonistic to progress as has been the domination of the Arabs on the eastern side of the continent. Had England failed to recognize the claims of Portugal, it is said that France, Germany and Spain would all have had claims of their own in opposition to England and the International Society. Portugal will thus be able to paralyze trade along a great length of coast and at the mouth of the Congo, but a railway is to be built from Stanley Pool to the mouth of the Kwilu, which will make the trade of the Upper Congo to a great extent independent of Portugal.

THE ACTION OF THE PORTS in protesting against a British gunboat being sent to Bagdad, and the size of the Consul's guard is somewhat extraordinary. For the last seventy-five years the British Government has policed the Persian Gulf, putting down piracy, supporting moderately stable governments, or at least preventing revolutions in the little Arab states that border on it, and during this time the Turkish power in Mesopotamia has more than once depended upon English arms. The Arabs, who form the population of the country outside of the cities, hate the Turk fervently, and so weak have been the British gunboats that had it not been for the British gunboats on the Shet-el-Arab, Bagdad would have been burned by Arabs, leagued with Persians. The Turks may protest all they please, however. There is a good amount of British capital invested in Bagdad, and it will be amply protected by England, no matter what the Turks say.

SO DISRAELI turns out to be a myth, not the practical politician Benjamin Lord Beaconsfield whose knowledge of men

stood him instead of statesmanship or principles of any sort, but that "man of mystery," that silent sphinx who only spoke to hide his thought or to shape the settled purposes of a lifetime. There was no such Disraeli. He certainly did sit in the House of Commons with impassive melancholy face that looked as little like speaking as a man of stone; still, he did speak a good deal both alone to the House and to his next neighbors, keeping up a fire of comment on what was said. He was indeed silent in general society, being very shy as conceited men often are; but when among those with whom he was free no one was more voluble. He played the wizard indeed and did his share of muttering, but his incantations were orotund. As for purposes, his only purpose was to manage with elat the Westminster puppet show.

THE MOST OUTRAGEOUS PROPOSAL yet made in the Quebec Legislature, an institution that calls itself a Parliament, is that of the promoters of the lottery bill to take the vote a second time on the "second reading." When the bill fell through we comforted ourselves greatly in the thought that the depth of degradation had been found below which our Legislature would not go, and that we might look for improvement. It seems that there are people who think differently, and who believe that the Legislature should not only turn the country into a gambling shop and a by-word, but would, to this end, trample under foot all parliamentary usage, for from the beginning till now has it never been known that a parliamentary vote was taken on a question a second time in one session.

IT USED to be believed that the supposed excellent young Christian prince who married the Princess Alice was a suitor for the hand of another of our princesses, and that the royal family was very anxious for the union, never failing to turn out to vote in favor of the bill to legalize marriage with a deceased wife's sister. It appears now that His Serene Highness has only one hand for the lovely English princess, whether the right or left, or with what part of his heart is not made clear, the other hand being given to a divorced Russian woman. Will the English princess continue to turn out in favor of the bill? We hope they may, to preserve their dignity, and to put themselves into a better position to kick the Serene Highness out doors.

THE UNITED STATES has lost her most famous surgeon by the death of Doctor Gross, of Philadelphia. In the practice of his profession he was, perhaps, equalled by Doctor Parker, who also died only a few days ago; but, while Doctor Parker only taught locally as a lecturer, Doctor Gross has, since 1839, when he published his first work, been known by English-speaking medical men as an author of ever growing fame. His later works have been translated into German, Russian and French. Doctor Gross received the degree of D.C.L. from Oxford, Eng. In a couple of months he would have finished his seventy-ninth year, so that he died full of years as of honors.

THE "CONSERVATIVE DEMOCRACY" PROGRAMME of Lord Randolph Churchill has in it the elements of success. It will be the same combination of "swallow-tails" and "short-hairs" of which the American Democratic party is popularly understood to be constituted, consisting of the club men on the one hand and the bar tenders on the other. This wing of the Conservatives will carry off a great deal of the voting power of the Tory party and will have the aid of a certain kind of Radicals. It will probably leave the respectable old aristocratic interests very much in the lurch. Farwell then to their Graces and their Lordships as a ruling power in the land.

A GOOD DEAL is heard in the United States annually about British gold dispensed by the Cobden Club being the cause of there being so many Free Traders in that country, just as in Canada, every Free Trader is an "importer" or his hireling. If both these allegations were true, Free Traders would have especially bad reasons for their principles, but they would hardly be as extraordinary as the reasons the "Irish Republican National League," whatever that may be, gives for being protectionist. They declare that free trade is "English," and the Irishmen who compose the rank and file of the Democratic party hate England, and, therefore, hate free trade.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL states that he has not withdrawn from the Conservative party, that no one has the power to eject him from it, and that no one has any right to "censure him for his conduct of the Conservative cause in the House of Commons." Lord Randolph is not alto, gether guilty of presumption in assuming that he has led the party in the House, for he certainly has, sometimes in the face of the nominal leader, Sir Stafford Northcote. Lord Randolph's declaration is a defiance of Lord Salisbury and of his leader in the Lower House.

MINISTERS will, no doubt, be much interested to learn the ingenious notions of some of their hearers as to what a minister should be, should do, and should suffer—how he should live and what he should live on. Low living and high service is evidently the watchword of our correspondent of to-day. They should go where there is most work without counting the salary, and should be careful to avoid all methods of money-making. While they do this, and while their congregations are so conscientiously opposed to pampering them, they will, like St. Paul, know often how to be hungry than how to abound.

DR. LOWRY'S letter puts a new construction on the large prescriptions of liquor ascribed to him by the Government returns. The large quantities were used for sponging not for drinking, and the total amount is so small in proportion to the population that it is in itself a grand testimony to the efficacy of the Scott Act. Both he and his principal patients are warm and conscientious supporters of the Scott Act, and he avoids taking any fee for prescriptions which include liquor lest he should be charged with having an interest in giving them.

THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT is, it appears, at last organizing the expedition which is to relieve Gordon. Already much has been done, and the campaign is to begin on the first of July. Gordon is said to be in ignorance of the Government's intention, and it has become almost impossible to get messages through to him, so that he may evacuate Khartoum before the troops reach him. If one-half that is said of Zobeir Pasha, the slave trader at Cairo, is true, he should be hanged, or at least shut up until the trouble in the Sudan is at an end.

MR. TREASURER ROBERTSON'S BUDGET for the coming financial year gives promise of a most courageous cutting down of expenses, which, if carried out, will entitle the present administration to great praise. The cause of provincial autonomy, so dear to the majority in this province, would gain greatly from an era of competent administration. To yield to a demand from the members for an addition of sixty per cent to their allowance would be, as the Scotch song says, "an ill beginning o't."

PROFESSOR FOSTER shows a natural indignation at the party motives imputed to him in connection with the management of the prohibitory resolutions. His letter will be found in another column. The enthusiastic reception Mr. Foster has received in Glengarry shows that he has been little injured by the expressions he complains of.

GENERAL LEARD'S VALEDICTORY is to the point—terse, frank, soldier-like. He is very discriminating in his thanks, which he confines to those officers and men, of whom there are many, who have striven to improve the appearance and discipline of the force. We shall be glad to learn that he succeeds wherever his duty calls him.

IT IS ABOUT TIME to frame laws which will lay on professed dynamiters the onus of dynamite crimes. If a company of innocent passengers are suddenly sent into eternity, it would be no injustice and would do the world no harm if a number of those who accept the responsibility of the act should be hanged for it.

THE GOVERNMENT HAVE acted wisely in promptly deciding to redeem the Dominion Bank notes stolen from Toronto some years ago and now in circulation.

THE SCOTT ACT IN HALTON.

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

SIR,—An article appeared in the *Witness* of April 23rd, under the heading, "Liquor Sold in Halton," and as my name is mentioned when referring to the Acton "return," I think you will not object to allow an explanation from me a place in your paper. My remarks have reference to the Acton "return," as I know nothing of the other two places mentioned in your article; indeed, I have no means of knowing anything more of their return than the writer of the article referred to has of knowing a single circumstance in connection with one single case of liquor prescription in the past. The report from this place. Not only is my action criticised in giving prescriptions, but, I addition, the names of patients are published and held up as braggart and whiskey drinkers. The writer takes it for granted that all those whose names are on my list are both dishonest and intemperate, and that these prescriptions for improper purposes, when the fact is that four-fifths of the number are sound "Scott Act" men, and a great many of the "short-hairs" of which the American Democratic party is popularly understood to be constituted, consisting of the club men on the one hand and the bar tenders on the other. This wing of the Conservatives will carry off a great deal of the voting power of the Tory party and will have the aid of a certain kind of Radicals. It will probably leave the respectable old aristocratic interests very much in the lurch. Farwell then to their Graces and their Lordships as a ruling power in the land.

A GOOD DEAL is heard in the United States annually about British gold dispensed by the Cobden Club being the cause of there being so many Free Traders in that country, just as in Canada, every Free Trader is an "importer" or his hireling. If both these allegations were true, Free Traders would have especially bad reasons for their principles, but they would hardly be as extraordinary as the reasons the "Irish Republican National League," whatever that may be, gives for being protectionist. They declare that free trade is "English," and the Irishmen who compose the rank and file of the Democratic party hate England, and, therefore, hate free trade.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL states that he has not withdrawn from the Conservative party, that no one has the power to eject him from it, and that no one has any right to "censure him for his conduct of the Conservative cause in the House of Commons." Lord Randolph is not altogether guilty of presumption in assuming that he has led the party in the House, for he certainly has, sometimes in the face of the nominal leader, Sir Stafford Northcote. Lord Randolph's declaration is a defiance of Lord Salisbury and of his leader in the Lower House.

MINISTERS will, no doubt, be much interested to learn the ingenious notions of some of their hearers as to what a minister should be, should do, and should suffer—how he should live and what he should live on. Low living and high service is evidently the watchword of our correspondent of to-day. They should go where there is most work without counting the salary, and should be careful to avoid all methods of money-making. While they do this, and while their congregations are so conscientiously opposed to pampering them, they will, like St. Paul, know often how to be hungry than how to abound.

LOVEST THOU ME.

BY MARGARET E. SANSBERRY.

If Christ the Lord should come to-day
As erst to Peter by the sea,
And low and tenderly should say,
"Oh, my disciples, loveth thou me?"
To those who answer he?
What would the answer be?

"Yea, Lord, Thou knowest," if we should cry,
With ready lip and beaming glance,
We'd stand for thee, "lovely my king,"
With glad and willing answer,
For thou and me.

Would this the answer be?
And if He showed His hands and feet,
Sore and used in the cruel cross—
And asked us still in accents sweet,
"Nay, lo! not in vain I came and lo! I!"
From then and me.

What would the answer be?
For life is like a summer day,
So bright, so full, so glad, so strong,
And roses are so sweet and long,
And we are marching with a song—
For thee and me.

What answer could there be?
Just this: "We surely love Thee, Lord,
Our wills are all to thee and to thy love,
But clinging to Thee in Thy word,
We trust, and we shall say endure—
For thee and me.

This would the answer be.
It would not do us to boast;
We have no merit, we are frail,
Our strength is weakness and our fail,
And oft when we are tried we fail,
But we trust thee—
This would the answer be.

And bliss and love and joy and grief,
And all things work for good if we
Can answer, "Yea, Lord," swift and brief,
To that keen question, "Lovest thou Me?"
For thee and me
This should the answer be.

MRS. BELDEN'S SUNDAY AFTERNOON REVERIE.

It was just like our minister to preach on foreign missions, and every body was subject this beautiful day, when every body was subject to the same thoughts, and we all expected one of his greatest efforts. And of course he asked the old question, "How can you enjoy your children and your pleasant homes when you think of those mothers whose children are killed before their eyes in infancy, or when a little child, sold to help household slavery?"

He said, "I am doing all I can for these heathen sisters, as he calls them—though why he should call them so I do not know. I asked Mrs. Deacon Goodwin, one day, if she liked to have our pastor call every black woman at the South and every tawny Hindu woman her sister. And instead of answering, she opened her eyes wide, and said: "Our Elder Brother gave his life for them as truly as for us, and when we come into our Father's house to be 'joint-heirs with him,' we shall not ask whether they share our inheritance, we are fair or dark, rich or poor, when they dwell in the body." And with her dark blue eyes looking into the very depths of mine, I saw, as if I could see every corner, if we were, the gloomy sister. How solemn and how dreadfully earnest that woman is—though not a prettier nor a better dressed one into our church on Sunday. To be sure, her gown was no particular style about them. They are all of that wavy, clinging kind that might have been made last year or the year before, but they never seem to care a thought for her dress. With that far-away look of hers she is always trying to plan little kindnesses for her poor neighbors, or new methods of interesting our young people in missionary work. I wonder how she manages to keep her children always so neat and pretty. Now I don't believe in wearing singlet, I am in favor for the brethren, always give me my dollar a year, and that is as much as Mrs. Carleton gives, with all her diamonds. There are so many other cases, too, to which I have to give a dollar apiece, that the whole amount would buy a new winter cloak for my Marjorie, or pay for her quarrel's music lessons. And while I am at it, I will give economy's sake, I am principled against giving any more. As Frank says, we shall never live in a house of our own if we do not save our pennies. For what a long time I have been laying aside in that little bank every ten-cent piece that came into my purse towards our new house! It is astonishing how fast they count up, and how soon I find myself with more than I had if I had not my object very much at heart. As Frank says, we do not want our three children to look back upon their childhood's home as a series of dissolving views in various rented houses. We want them to remember a friends around which they played, and studied, and grew to maturity; or at least a certain peace and quietness, which we can give up the flashing firelight. But Mrs. Goodwin will never leave me in peace. She is always asking for a special donation to make up the salary of our missionary, or to build a school-house in some out-of-the-way place, or she asks for a thank-offering at the close of the year. And I have told her so many times that my principles would not permit me to give more than a dollar a year to each charity until we could own our house. Then, last year, when she came for a Christmas offering, she said, "Do not take for this case anything you have set apart for your home, but try for while to save something from your luxuries, which you will feel you have a right to give." But we do not seem to have any luxuries, and she said, "I will permit me to give you a week which Frank gives me to pay the butcher's and grocer's bill is only just enough. If I have any margin left on Saturday I order salmon and turkey, and oranges for Sunday's dinner; but if we have had much company during the week we take a plain beefsteak for Sunday, and are just as comfortable. It is easy to deny one's self for a friend and neighbor. Probably Mr. Goodwin, with her old-fashioned notions, would say we have no friends for whom we should so gladly give ourselves as for the Lord Jesus. How I wish we would come in visible form before us for once, and then we could do so; but to save fifty cents or a dollar a week and not know where it is going, seems to me to be a very good Sunday dinner, that I like to make Sunday the best day in the week in that way, if I cannot in any other. One cannot deny one's children as easily as one's self. Marjorie has such a delicate appetite, and Edith has such a pretty, dainty taste in dress, that I am often tempted to extravagance for her. When I bought my last new spring frock, I had just made up my mind to be one of ten to give five dollars each for our missionary's extra health-tour, which everybody said she needed so much. But Edith thought the old frock would not be pretty with any of her new dresses, and so the five dollars had to go for a new one. And I had to pay five dollars to Mrs. Goodwin to buy the blue velvet Tam o' Shanter that made little Charlie's curly pate and rosy cheeks so perfectly bewitching. But I do not know much about it. I cannot often go to the meetings; and they are sure to be on Tuesday or Friday, and I cannot be away from home either ironing or sweeping day. They tried Thursday for a while in our church, but I found that I could not go, and there are so many rainy days that I must improve every sunny Thursday. And once when I was already to go Frank came to take

me to ride. Of course I would not disappoint my husband, so I believe I would not have attended one meeting this year. And as I do not know much about missions I do not try to interest my face, and eyes. Remember, you are accountable not only for yourself, but for the influence you may exercise over others. What influence I have is always on the right side. Nobody ever heard me say I did not believe in foreign missions, or that the heathen would be more comfortable or more agreeable if I did not talk about missions everywhere I go. I suppose if I should lay away one-tenth or one-eighth of all the money that comes into my hands for charities, and should plan my work so there would be nothing to keep me at home on missionary days, my example would speak for me; and I am sure I should please Mrs. Goodwin better. But how could my sweeping ever be done if not on Friday? I never changed it but once, and that was for Marjorie's birthday party. And who gave any one the right to be a conscience for me? I do not want to hear anything more about the heathen; but I cannot forget them if I try. I never take up my Bible, and I do not let her go to the verse, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." And then the next words that come into my mind are those of my old teacher, "Every one can go by prayer, by purse, or by proxy, if not in person." Giving a dollar a year is not going very far by purse or by proxy, but I begin to think I would like to pray over so small a sum. For I believe I'll give the three dollars laid by for the Tam o' Shanter, at the next monthly meeting, and let Charlie wear his old cap a little longer. And I must wear a couple of dollars out of my table expenses for the next month. After that, we'll see.—*Life and Light.*

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

THE CARRIER-PIGION.

"Vida! Vida!" shouted Roger Lynn, thrusting his head out of the window in the second story of the barn, and calling to his sister, who was sitting on the porch. "I am going to take two pigeons over to Tom's. Run, put on your hat and things; mamma says you may go with me."

"Good!" cried little Vida, clapping her hands, and disappearing instantly through the hall door. Before Roger had caught the birds and climbed down the ladder she was waiting, ready and dressed for her walk, at the garden gate.

"Last time I was here," said Roger, as he came slowly down the path, carefully carrying a small covered basket in his hand, "I promised her two pigeons as soon as she had built a house for them. So I am going to give him Goldcock and Oushat."

"He will have to out their wings," said Vida, playfully, "or else they will fly right home again."

"Roger knows that, and it doesn't hurt them either," answered Roger, as he closed the garden gate after him.

The road the children took led down by an inlet of the bay, where two or three boats lay fastened by long ropes to posts driven in the ground. They were swishing backward and forward now, for the water was rough and cold.

"What's that in papa's boat?" exclaimed Vida, pointing to one that had a great bag lying on the stern.

"Well, I declare, if it's not the bag of corn father sent Jerry for this morning!" answered Roger, as he stepped to peep in. "Jerry must have gone home for his dinner and forgotten all about it. I'll just lift it out and put it in a dry place, for now the water is splashing all over the outside of the boat. Hold the basket, Vida, please, and don't let the cover slip off."

"You will never be able to lift that great bag, Roger; it's most as big as yourself," said Vida, as she took the basket from him.

"I can lift it," said Roger, as he stepped to the shore, although he tugged manfully at the heavy bag of corn, he could only move it a few inches. Presently, however, he managed to do something that he had not intended. As he was hauling first one way and then the other, the cord that fastened the mouth of the bag came undone, and all the bright yellow kernels poured out into a great heap at the bottom of the boat.

"Oh dear!" said Roger, "now you must come and help me, Vida, or we will be too late for our walk."

"Yes, Roger, I'll come, but what shall I do with the pigeons?" answered Vida, looking anxiously around.

"Give them to me and I'll put them under the seat. Now take hold of my hand and jump in. I wish I had never touched the bag!" grumbled Roger, as they both stepped down and began throwing back the corn. The four hands worked as hard and as fast as they could, but it took a long time to gather up the kernels, and besides, after a while the bright yellow kernels began to look like a cornfield.

"There!" said Roger, with a sigh of relief, as he put in the last handful and tied up the bag again, "that's done. Now, come, Vida. He turned to pick up the basket and climb out of the boat, when he was startled to see that there was a great stretch of little white pebbles between him and the land. While the children had been busy engaged with their backs to the boat, the boat had become unfastened and drifted slowly away, and was now many yards from the shore.

"Well, if that's not too bad!" cried Roger, as he looked wistfully at the receding land.

"Can't we push it back somehow?" inquired Vida, as she climbed over the seat and stood by his side.

"I don't know of any way," answered Roger, looking anxiously around. "The oars are not here."

As the boat drifted farther and farther from the shore, the wind increased, and the frail vessel rocked so violently that the two children crouched down in the bottom and held fast to the sides. Roger now and then Vida or Roger would peep over the side to see which way they were going.

Almost at the mouth of the inlet was a long narrow strip of land covered with weeds and rushes. It was called Roger Island, from the name of great blue herons that frequented it, and which the children had often seen while they were there. The children sat and watched the reeds over their heads bend and sway in the wind for some moments in silence. Presently the pigeons in the basket began to coo loudly and rustle about, as though tired of their willow prison.

"Poor little things," said Vida, "why don't you let them fly?" They can find their way home, and it's too late to go to Tom's now."

"I will," answered Roger, "if one doesn't come for us soon. How I wish we had a long stick!"

"What?" asked Vida, "you do with it?" asked Vida.

"Oh, it's a handkerchief to the end and we'll tie it backward and forward until somebody notices it."

Vida looked up at the cloudy sky and then down at the black mud. After a while she said, "It's dreadfully ugly here; I wish I could get out."

"But you can't, Vida. That mud is so soft and sticky it would swallow you in no time. Don't you remember last spring how Will Banks tried to wade ashore, and sunk down, down until there was nothing but his head above the mud, and if some men fishing

WE ARE ON HERON ISLAND IN THE MUD AND TAKEN BY THE TAIL.

Vida held one of the pigeons gently while Roger fastened the note about its neck by a ribbon from his hat.

"Now let him fly," said Roger, as soon as this was accomplished.

Vida opened her hands. The bird plumed its wing, and plucked its tail with the ribbon around its neck; then it flew high into the air, circled around two or three times, and came back. Finally it perched upon the farther end of the boat, turning its glossy neck from side to side.

"Now what is the matter," exclaimed Roger, wonderingly. "I suppose he is waiting for Oushat." "I forgot. Open the basket quick," replied Roger.

But when the other pigeon was free they both kept flying around and above in the most tantalizing manner, always coming back to stand just out of reach, as though they did not quite like to go home alone.

"I wish I had a pole now," said Roger, as he sat, with his back turned to Vida, watching the pigeons; "I would soon make them fly home."

Vida heard what he said. She sat still for a moment, looking thoughtfully at the smooth long rod hidden in the rushes about twenty feet away.

"Roger does not know how light I am," said Vida to herself, "or he would never run over there and back again before he turns around, and I mean to try."

Then, without another thought, Vida slipped over the side of the boat, and cautiously placed her two small feet upon a piece of drift wood. It was quite firm, so she nodded her head triumphantly, and took a step forward.

"I knew it," said Vida, as she stepped to the next bunch of roots. She progressed very safely as long as she had the reeds and rushes to support her. But presently Vida came to a bare, place where the reeds had been cut, and could reach the rod. She looked back at the boat. Roger was still engaged with the pigeons, and had not missed her.

Vida hesitated only a moment, then walked boldly out. At the first movement her foot sank into the mud up to the ankle, at the next she went down, down, down, until she was up to her chest and down. She gave one loud scream of horror.

"Vida! Vida! where are you?" cried Roger, in alarm, as he turned quickly around. In a moment he saw what had happened, and with a shout of encouragement sprang from the boat. Leaping lightly from clump to clump, he reached the bare spot, and grasping the end of the rod, he pulled it up to the boat. Vida was still in the mud, and he was unable to do more than clasp her small hands over Roger's arm, and look imploringly into his face. And Roger, realizing their danger, closed his eyes, and silently prayed for help.

Minutes, which seemed like hours to the children, passed by. The gray clouds turned to black, and far off in the west the golden sun sank nearer and nearer to the water, but still no sound of voice or splashing or broke the silence to give them hope.

At last Vida raised her head and said, with a sob, while the tears rolled down her pale cheeks,

"Don't stay here, Roger. I know you could climb back by yourself if you only would."

"Do you think I would be mean enough to leave you all alone, little Vida?" answered Roger, stonily; for although the hand that grasped the rushes was torn and bleeding, and the slender rod under his feet was bent almost to breaking, the thought of saving himself was never in his mind.

"I have been dreadfully naughty," said Vida, after a pause. "Poor papa and mamma will have no children now." She gave another little sob, leaned her cheek against Roger's arm and cried silently.

"Don't cry, dear," said Roger, coaxingly. "Perhaps some one may find the note we sent by Goldcock, and never enter the island. It's too late," said Vida; "the pigeons went to bed long ago."

"Hush!" cried Roger, earnestly. "I hear a sound."

"Listen, Vida! listen! I hear it again. It is our papa's voice. Papa, oh, papa, come quick, shouted Roger. "Here we are, away behind the rushes."

"Coming," answered their father; and in a moment more the rushes were parted and a boat appeared, pushed laboriously through the mud by Mr. Lynn and Jerry. They both uttered exclamations of astonishment and horror when they saw the plight of the children, and in quickening their efforts, they reached them not one moment too soon. For as Mr. Lynn bent forward to seize Vida, the root under Roger's foot snapped, and he would have been engulfed in the mud but for Jerry's strong hand.

The pigeon had indeed proved a good messenger, and Roger's note safely home. It was discovered just in time to save the children from a dreadful death.

Goldcock was returned to the dove-cote and another bird substituted in its place as a present for Tom. Because Roger declared, he would not part with that one for a fortune; and, besides, he says that he intends to turn it into a carrier-pigeon in earnest some day.

Julia K. Hildreth, in Harper's Young People.

A rushing river is my kind,
Or it may be the tail of a bird;
The first and last in every deed,
The first in duty, last in need.

My whole's a very useful thing,
I found in summer, lives in spring,
The first and last in every deed,
The first in duty, last in need.

REBUS.

M Y I S

By rule hands torn from cozy beds,
These strong, yet tender cases of mine,
The bleeding form of four dear friends,
Then place them by me as I dine.

PHONETIC CHAIRE.

My first is to scatter, my second might tight,
My whole, I think, will surely go right.

DOUBLE SQUARE WORD.

Left hand. 1. Cross word, a wind instrument; 2. a melody; 3. bones in the side; 4. a part of the face; 5. a kind of bird; 6. a kind of bird; 7. a kind of bird; 8. a kind of bird; 9. a kind of bird; 10. a kind of bird; 11. a kind of bird; 12. a kind of bird; 13. a kind of bird; 14. a kind of bird; 15. a kind of bird; 16. a kind of bird; 17. a kind of bird; 18. a kind of bird; 19. a kind of bird; 20. a kind of bird; 21. a kind of bird; 22. a kind of bird; 23. a kind of bird; 24. a kind of bird; 25. a kind of bird; 26. a kind of bird; 27. a kind of bird; 28. a kind of bird; 29. a kind of bird; 30. a kind of bird; 31. a kind of bird; 32. a kind of bird; 33. a kind of bird; 34. a kind of bird; 35. a kind of bird; 36. a kind of bird; 37. a kind of bird; 38. a kind of bird; 39. a kind of bird; 40. a kind of bird; 41. a kind of bird; 42. a kind of bird; 43. a kind of bird; 44. a kind of bird; 45. a kind of bird; 46. a kind of bird; 47. a kind of bird; 48. a kind of bird; 49. a kind of bird; 50. a kind of bird; 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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

QUESTIONS.—[We devote this column to the publication of questions and answers on all subjects of general interest, and we shall be glad to receive questions and answers on all subjects of general interest, and we shall be glad to receive questions and answers on all subjects of general interest.]

TRUMPETS.—Q. W. S., Point St. Charles, Q.—Would the trumpet mentioned in the Bible be called a musical instrument? Ans.—The trumpet mentioned in the Bible is called a musical instrument. It is a wind instrument, and is used for blowing out signals of war, and for other purposes.

SUGAR ICING FOR CAKES—THE ICE PALACE.—Q. Ans.—You can give me a simple recipe for icing for cakes. I want to make a cake for my mother's birthday. I want to make a cake for my mother's birthday. I want to make a cake for my mother's birthday.

LIGHTNING RODS.—Q. D. C. L., Lagan, Ont.—Q.—Is it of any benefit to have lightning rods on a house? Will they protect the house from lightning? Ans.—It is of no benefit to have lightning rods on a house. They will not protect the house from lightning.

POTATOES—PLAX.—Q. SCRIBNER, Ottawa, Ont.—Q.—Is it better to plant potatoes in drills, or in rows? Ans.—It is better to plant potatoes in drills, or in rows. It is better to plant potatoes in drills, or in rows.

ROUGHING OUT MEADOW LAND.—Q. ENQUIRER, Hawdon, N.B.—Q.—In ploughing out meadow land for the purpose of sowing oats, should the sods be taken off or left on the ground? Ans.—In ploughing out meadow land for the purpose of sowing oats, should the sods be taken off or left on the ground?

THE POET PRIZE.—Q. A. C. S., Hyacinth, P. Q.—We do not say that "The Poet Prize" is a contest. It is a contest. It is a contest. It is a contest.

THE NOBLEST ANIMAL.—Q. M. S., Montreal, Q.—Why is "man" called the noblest animal? Ans.—"man" is called the noblest animal because he is the noblest animal.

TO PAPER WOODEN PARTITIONS.—Q. AN INTERESTED PARTY, Point Fortuque, Q.—Q.—What is the best way to paper wooden partitions? Ans.—The best way to paper wooden partitions is to use paper.

"ALL FOUL" DAY.—Q. D. C., Wolfe Island, Ont.—Q.—What is the origin of "All Foul" Day? Ans.—The origin of "All Foul" Day is that it is a day when all things are foul.

THE REV. DAVIDSON BURNS.—Q. In the Daily Witness of the 1st inst., we stated in reply to a question by "T. O. V." Hamilton, that Dr. Davidson was not a member of the church. We were not right. He was a member of the church.

AGRICULTURAL LETTER-BOX.—Conducted by "Rusticus."—Q. W. J., Treasore, Ont.—Q.—What prevent each of lime and gravel will make the best concrete for a walk? Ans.—What prevent each of lime and gravel will make the best concrete for a walk?

CONCRETE BUILDING.—Q. W. J., Treasore, Ont.—Q.—What prevent each of lime and gravel will make the best concrete for a walk? Ans.—What prevent each of lime and gravel will make the best concrete for a walk?

BROWSING.—Q. OLD SCRIBNER, East Nod, N. S.—Q.—What is the cause of cows eating feed in the winter and spring seasons? Ans.—The cause of cows eating feed in the winter and spring seasons is that they are browsing.

CALIFORNIA PROSPECTS.—Q. J. W., Abbottford, Q.—Q.—Information wanted through the Daily Witness of a Province of Quebec man on the advantages and disadvantages of California, by an intending settler in that State. Ans.—Information wanted through the Daily Witness of a Province of Quebec man on the advantages and disadvantages of California.

JUDGING FERTILE SOLLS.—Q. NEWSPAPER-CLERK, Q.—Will you please answer these questions so as to enable me to judge as far as a greenhorn can, by the color, depth of soil, and the timber that grows on it, to locate meadows and other land to grow the following crops: Potatoes, corn, oats, barley and wheat. Ans.—Will you please answer these questions so as to enable me to judge as far as a greenhorn can.

WHOS TO PAY FOR THE DRAIN?—Q. A SCRIBNER, Wingham, Ont.—Q.—A owns a farm next to B. Part of the farm is a swamp. A has a drain made, and pays for it. B has a drain made, and pays for it. Who is to pay for the drain? Ans.—A has a drain made, and pays for it. B has a drain made, and pays for it.

"OUT IN THE COLD."—Q. DERRICK, Beaverton, Ont.—Q.—I am a farmer's son and have two brothers. My father died leaving a will. I am a farmer's son and have two brothers. My father died leaving a will.

RESPONSIBILITY OF ENDORSER.—Q. AN OLD SCRIBNER, Ontario, Q.—Is the backer of a note responsible for the note after the time is expired? Ans.—The backer of a note is responsible for the note after the time is expired.

MEASURING HAY IN THE STACK.—Q. E. W. R., Paudash, Q.—I had occasion to sell a stack of hay, and I was not sure of the weight. I want to know how to measure a stack of hay. Ans.—I had occasion to sell a stack of hay, and I was not sure of the weight.

LOST CUD.—Q. P. D., Beaverton, Ont.—Q.—Is there such a thing as a cow having a permanent cud? Is it an accident? I want to know how to measure a stack of hay. Ans.—Is there such a thing as a cow having a permanent cud? Is it an accident?

WINDMILLS.—Q. OLD SCRIBNER, Newfoundland, Q.—Will you please give me through the Witness the particulars of a windmill that was blown down by a storm? Ans.—Will you please give me through the Witness the particulars of a windmill that was blown down by a storm?

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AYRSHIRE BULL.—Q. SCRIBNER, New Glasgow, P. E. I.—Q.—Could you through the Witness recommend any good Ayrshire bull? Ans.—Could you through the Witness recommend any good Ayrshire bull?

CATTLE SHIPPING.—Q. A CONSTANT READER, Ottawa, Ont.—Q.—Is it better to ship cattle by rail or by water? Ans.—Is it better to ship cattle by rail or by water?

PINE WOOD RAMS.—Q. OLD SCRIBNER, West Ararat, C. B.—Q.—What is the best breed of sheep for a small farm? Ans.—What is the best breed of sheep for a small farm?

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POULTRY AND PETS.

(Conducted by R. J. Andrus, Montreal.)

ROTT SHELLED EGGS.—Q. SCRIBNER, Prescott, Ont.—Q.—What is a good recipe for rotti shelled eggs? Ans.—What is a good recipe for rotti shelled eggs?

"PURE CHICKS."—Q. W. R. A., Dubar, Man.—Q.—I have some pure chicks. I want to know how to measure a stack of hay. Ans.—I have some pure chicks. I want to know how to measure a stack of hay.

POULTRY RAISING IN KANSAS.—Q. (To the Editor of the Witness.)—Ans.—As many of my old friends are desirous of knowing what success I have had in the poultry business in Kansas, I give you my experience. Ans.—As many of my old friends are desirous of knowing what success I have had in the poultry business in Kansas.

WAY LETTERS—GAINERS PROCEEDINGS.—Q. ENQUIRER, Markham, Ont.—Q.—I am a mail carrier in the county of York. I want to know how to measure a stack of hay. Ans.—I am a mail carrier in the county of York. I want to know how to measure a stack of hay.

AN ANATOMY SALE.—Q. FARMER'S SON, Stormont, Ont.—Q.—Our neighbor has a dead cow. I want to know how to measure a stack of hay. Ans.—Our neighbor has a dead cow. I want to know how to measure a stack of hay.

"WYANDOTTES."—Q. According to premise I am able to give to our readers a very good description of the Wyandotte. Ans.—According to premise I am able to give to our readers a very good description of the Wyandotte.

FARM GLEANINGS.—Q. DECEASED FRANCHISE should not be allowed to remain on trees, for, aside from the outward appearance, physical detriment to the trees results. Ans.—DECEASED FRANCHISE should not be allowed to remain on trees, for, aside from the outward appearance, physical detriment to the trees results.

MAKING A GOOD KITCHEN GARDEN.—Q. K. K.—A good kitchen garden, and occupy no more ground than you can easily enrich and keep clean, and have it so laid out that you can cultivate most of it with a horse, at a small expense compared with hand-hoeing and finger-weeding. Ans.—A good kitchen garden, and occupy no more ground than you can easily enrich and keep clean.

THE QUARTERS OCCUPIED BY PIGS.—Q. K. K.—The quarters occupied by pigs are not clean, and do not allow the animals which are to afford food for your stock to be clean. Ans.—The quarters occupied by pigs are not clean, and do not allow the animals which are to afford food for your stock to be clean.

BEANS, CABBAGES, CELERY, CORN, CUCUMBERS, ETC.—Q. BEANS, CABBAGES, CELERY, CORN, CUCUMBERS, ETC. can be relied upon for two to three years; beets, lettuce, turnips, tomatoes, for three to four years; peas, radish, cabbage, for four to six years; cucumbers, melons, squashes, and similar seeds, will germinate after ten years, and more. Ans.—BEANS, CABBAGES, CELERY, CORN, CUCUMBERS, ETC. can be relied upon for two to three years.

IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE DEPTH TO PLOUGH.—Q. IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE DEPTH TO PLOUGH, it is recommended to "find how deep the soil has been enriched, and do not go much below this point. Where the subsoil is poor, with only a few inches of rich ground on top, the result of deep ploughing would be to turn the poor soil up. Ans.—IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE DEPTH TO PLOUGH, it is recommended to "find how deep the soil has been enriched.

TESTING SEEDS.—Q. No reputable seed-house will knowingly send out seeds of doubtful germinating quality; and the testing of the stock of seed before sending any out is now customary in all first-class seed-houses. Ans.—No reputable seed-house will knowingly send out seeds of doubtful germinating quality.

THESE PLANTING.—Q. A hundred trees can be set at a cost of ten to twenty dollars, or for almost no cost, if one has some time and space to spare. Ans.—A hundred trees can be set at a cost of ten to twenty dollars, or for almost no cost.

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a practical farmer in the opinion of some folk, they are welcome to their opinions. I may all say that I have raised more horses than some "Country Studs" have done, yet only one of them became unmanageable while in my service although they were worked hard almost every winter drawing ordnance to market, or drawing saw-logs in the lumber shanties. There is nothing to prevent a mare, that is well cared for, from raising a colt every year for six years in succession, but it would be better to give her a rest every third or fourth year, when her place may be taken for one year by one of her fillies, either three or four years old; and such an arrangement would be advantageous to both the old and the young mare. I might also remark that in some years when the horse work on the farm is lighter than usual both the old mare and one of the young ones might be put to breed, and this would supply any deficiency that might occur from accidents. Twelve or fourteen weeks may do in some cases to let the colt suck its dam, but it would be better to let them run five or six weeks longer before weaning, and in general colts are permitted to suck between four and five months.

I have done a good deal of ploughing and harrowing with a two-year-old colt drawing one end of the double whiffletree (which was made longer to give the colt considerable advantage) yet there was very little Clyde or Canadian blood in it. I also have ridden on the back of a small two-year-old ridg pony over one thousand miles in Manitoba and the Northwest, and he was in better condition at the end of the journey than at its commencement.

I have not the least hesitation in asserting that almost any horse intended for hard work is all the better for doing a considerable amount of light work when they are three years old. The average price of common country horses may be \$120, or less; but good, sound, heavy draft horses, such as are used by the railway companies and millers here, cannot be bought for much less than \$200 each.

FARM GLEANINGS.—Q. DECEASED FRANCHISE should not be allowed to remain on trees, for, aside from the outward appearance, physical detriment to the trees results. Ans.—DECEASED FRANCHISE should not be allowed to remain on trees, for, aside from the outward appearance, physical detriment to the trees results.

MAKING A GOOD KITCHEN GARDEN.—Q. K. K.—A good kitchen garden, and occupy no more ground than you can easily enrich and keep clean, and have it so laid out that you can cultivate most of it with a horse, at a small expense compared with hand-hoeing and finger-weeding. Ans.—A good kitchen garden, and occupy no more ground than you can easily enrich and keep clean.

THE QUARTERS OCCUPIED BY PIGS.—Q. K. K.—The quarters occupied by pigs are not clean, and do not allow the animals which are to afford food for your stock to be clean. Ans.—The quarters occupied by pigs are not clean, and do not allow the animals which are to afford food for your stock to be clean.

BEANS, CABBAGES, CELERY, CORN, CUCUMBERS, ETC.—Q. BEANS, CABBAGES, CELERY, CORN, CUCUMBERS, ETC. can be relied upon for two to three years; beets, lettuce, turnips, tomatoes, for three to four years; peas, radish, cabbage, for four to six years; cucumbers, melons, squashes, and similar seeds, will germinate after ten years, and more. Ans.—BEANS, CABBAGES, CELERY, CORN, CUCUMBERS, ETC. can be relied upon for two to three years.

IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE DEPTH TO PLOUGH.—Q. IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE DEPTH TO PLOUGH, it is recommended to "find how deep the soil has been enriched, and do not go much below this point. Where the subsoil is poor, with only a few inches of rich ground on top, the result of deep ploughing would be to turn the poor soil up. Ans.—IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE DEPTH TO PLOUGH, it is recommended to "find how deep the soil has been enriched.

TESTING SEEDS.—Q. No reputable seed-house will knowingly send out seeds of doubtful germinating quality; and the testing of the stock of seed before sending any out is now customary in all first-class seed-houses. Ans.—No reputable seed-house will knowingly send out seeds of doubtful germinating quality.

THESE PLANTING.—Q. A hundred trees can be set at a cost of ten to twenty dollars, or for almost no cost, if one has some time and space to spare. Ans.—A hundred trees can be set at a cost of ten to twenty dollars, or for almost no cost.

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profits or abundance than their systems require, and consequently the excess is thrown off in the manure and waste. If, instead of feeding on clover entirely, a portion of straw, or hay, such as that grown on wet meadows, or cornstalks, were mixed with it, the cattle might be maintained in equally as good condition at a less cost, some of the poorer kinds of fodder being made to take the place of clover. This point is well illustrated by an experiment made at Moseley, in Germany. Four cows were fed during a period of several weeks with all the green clover they would eat, amounting to 125 pounds per day, containing five and sixteenth pounds of albuminoids and 15 pounds of carbohydrates. During another period they were fed with 57 pounds of green clover and six and seven-tenths of barley straw daily, containing three and eight-tenths pounds of carbohydrates. The result was that the cows which were fed with the clover and straw gave as much milk, which was as rich in butter and casein, as the cows which were fed on clover only. The most of the milk was made to take the place of clover. This point is well illustrated by an experiment made at Moseley, in Germany. Four cows were fed during a period of several weeks with all the green clover they would eat, amounting to 125 pounds per day, containing five and sixteenth pounds of albuminoids and 15 pounds of carbohydrates. During another period they were fed with 57 pounds of green clover and six and seven-tenths of barley straw daily, containing three and eight-tenths pounds of carbohydrates. The result was that the cows which were fed with the clover and straw gave as much milk, which was as rich in butter and casein, as the cows which were fed on clover only. The most of the milk was made to take the place of clover.

WILL CURE OR RELIEVE.—Q. BILIOUSNESS, DIZZINESS, DRUGGINESS, HEADACHE, ACIDITY OF THE STOMACH, DRYNESS OF THE SKIN, LIVER, KIDNEYS, STOMACH, BOWELS, &c. Ans.—WILL CURE OR RELIEVE. BILIOUSNESS, DIZZINESS, DRUGGINESS, HEADACHE, ACIDITY OF THE STOMACH, DRYNESS OF THE SKIN, LIVER, KIDNEYS, STOMACH, BOWELS, &c.

THE "WITNESS."—Q. JOB PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT. 33 to 37 Bonaventure st. IS PREPARED TO TURN OUT ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF WORK IN FIRST-CLASS STYLE. AT MODERATE RATES. Ans.—JOB PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT. 33 to 37 Bonaventure st. IS PREPARED TO TURN OUT ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF WORK IN FIRST-CLASS STYLE. AT MODERATE RATES.

OUR FIRESIDE.—Q. A Family Magazine, published monthly, containing a full and complete list of all the latest and most popular fiction, poetry, and other literary works. Ans.—OUR FIRESIDE. A Family Magazine, published monthly, containing a full and complete list of all the latest and most popular fiction, poetry, and other literary works.

BRISTOL'S VEGETABLE Sugar Coated Pills.—Q. BRISTOL'S VEGETABLE Sugar Coated Pills. Regulate the Stomach and Liver. Ans.—BRISTOL'S VEGETABLE Sugar Coated Pills. Regulate the Stomach and Liver.

EMBROIDERY.—Q. Our Book of Manual Embroidery. Contains a full and complete list of all the latest and most popular embroidery designs, and a full and complete list of all the latest and most popular embroidery designs. Ans.—Our Book of Manual Embroidery. Contains a full and complete list of all the latest and most popular embroidery designs, and a full and complete list of all the latest and most popular embroidery designs.

ON HAND, APRIL 1st, 1884, AT OAKLAND FARM, 50 Imported Stallions, 100 Younger Stallions, and 125 Imported Mares.—Q. ON HAND, APRIL 1st, 1884, AT OAKLAND FARM, 50 Imported Stallions, 100 Younger Stallions, and 125 Imported Mares. Ans.—ON HAND, APRIL 1st, 1884, AT OAKLAND FARM, 50 Imported Stallions, 100 Younger Stallions, and 125 Imported Mares.

THE CARPET WAREHOUSE.—Q. THE CARPET WAREHOUSE. Established 1859. One of the largest and most complete Carpet Houses in the City. Ans.—THE CARPET WAREHOUSE. Established 1859. One of the largest and most complete Carpet Houses in the City.

WALNUT BEDROOM SUITES.—Q. WALNUT BEDROOM SUITES. With large square Mirror 7' x 9'. Ans.—WALNUT BEDROOM SUITES. With large square Mirror 7' x 9'.

40 CARDS, ALL COVERED.—Q. 40 CARDS, ALL COVERED. With large square Mirror

