It is to the credit of Canadians that this valuable daily is being more and more appreciated by them. — 'Observer, Coaticook, Que.

Montreal Weekly Witness
and Canadian Homestead.

The 'Witness' has shown itself one of Canada's leading papers. It is deserving of warm commendation from all who are interested in the development of Canada.—'Tribune,' Sackville, N.B.

SIXTY-SECOND YEAR. MONTREAL, TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1907 MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS $1.00 Post-Paid; 5c a Copy.

ANTI-ALCOHOLIC LEAGUE ORGANIZED.

Eloquent Addresses on Practical Temperance Given Before Mass Meeting in the Monument National Sunday.

A mass meeting that will be of historic interest in years to come and that was probably of greater significance than any meeting ever held in Montreal with a similar object, was that held in the Monument National on Sunday for the purpose of formally organizing the Anti-Alcoholic League of Montreal. The appeal of Archbishop Bruchesi and the Roman Catholic clergy of the city for a large attendance met with a hearty response and the audience, which was a most representative one filled not only the main body of the large hall but the spacious galleries as well. A considerable number of ladies were in the audience and took great interest in the proceedings, many of them being already well known advocates and workers in the cause of temperance.

Among those present were: Chief Justice Taschereau (chairman), Mr. Justice Lafontaine, the Hon. Mr. Beaubien, Senator David, Dr. Guerin, the Hon. J. A. Ouimet, Mr. P. E. Leblanc, Hon. A. R. Angers, the Rev. Fathers Columban, Ladislas and Ethelbert, of the Franciscan Order; the Rev. G. G. Huxtable, secretary, and Mr. S. J. Carter, president of the Dominion Alliance; the Rev. Abbés Cherrier and Tranchemontagne, Aldermen Laviolette, Giroux, Ward, Dagenais, Lariviere; Messrs. M. J. Walsh, M.P., Judge Sicotte, S. Lachance, J. M. M. Duff, Dr. Bernier, F. X. Martineau, J. H. Semple, Chas. Chaput, Victor Morin, L. E. Geoffrion, A. Gagnon, Ludger Gravel.

Mr. Justice Lafontaine, chairman of the provisional committee, opened the proceedings by submitting to the meeting the names of those chosen as chief officers of the League, and when he mentioned Chief Justice Taschereau as president, Archbishop Bruchesi, as honorary president, and Mr. Victor Morin, notary, as general secretary, a unanimous vote ratified the choice of the committee.

Having taken the chair amidst rounds of applause, Judge Taschereau thanked the citizens for the honor conferred upon him, and said he felt he had no right to refuse the task of taking part in the grand national work they were about to undertake. He relied on the support of both men and women. The work before them was nothing less than the raising of the nation, already threatened with ruin, and expecting the help of friendly hands. This help should come from the great metropolis which, while progressing in every branch of industry, was also, like all large centres, exposed to the vices and demoralization inherent to cosmopolitan cities. Old Quebec had already given a noble example in that direction, following the generous impulse of the Bishops and clergy.

Continuing, the learned judge said that the first duty was to attack the enemy in his own citadel and demolish his bulwarks so strong and numerous in the city of Montreal. This required an army, weapons and ammunition, which could all be secured by zealous efforts and wise organization. The object of the present meeting was precisely to organize the forces and get the arms and ammunition.

The first attack would be on those entrenchments known under the peculiar name of 'license'—so called, no doubt, after their founder, license, the great enemy of all true civilization. Those entrenchments were so numerous that they could hardly be counted, and in one of the city parishes there was one for every seventeen families. They must not be alarmed, however, for they knew of a subterraneous mine that could, by a single blast, if not destroy them completely, at least reduce their number to a minimum, if the engineer whom they would employ followed instructions. That engineer, called 'Legislator,' would follow their instructions, for he never rebelled against the authority of the people's will, and after this first success, he could almost promise sure victory. (Prolonged applause.)

Judge Lafontaine followed. In his opening remarks he said that they had to deal with a cosmopolitan evil worse than the plague, famine or war, worse, even, than the plague, famine and war combined. The league, with a view to securing the help of all men of good will, would not demand heroic virtues from its members, but ordinary temperate habits. The fight would be not against alcohol, but against alcoholism. Alcohol in itself was a beneficial agent, of immense value in industry, but very detrimental as a beverage. Now, how would the league reach its end? By propaganda, by public meetings, by lectures. It would rely on the help of temperance societies, of educational bodies, from the university down to the primary school, and more especially the primary school. It was not sufficient to tell the child at school that drunkenness was a sin, but he ought to be taught the rules of hygiene on the subject, and all other things necessary to the preservation of his health. In conclusion, Justice Lafontaine said the league would look for support to the mutual benefit societies, to the influence of women, as well as to everybody interested in the improvement of present social conditions.

The Hon. Alderic Ouimet then proposed the adoption of the broad lines of the constitution of the league, which have already been referred to in these columns. Speaking on the proposed work of the league, the hon. gentleman expressed the opinion that the clergy ought to take a leading part in the direction of the league's affairs, so as to preclude the possibility of its assuming a political character. When they would go before the Legislature, they meant to be heard, and for that purpose, they needed to come there not as 'rouges' or 'bleus,' but as an imposing mass of honest citizens. (Applause.)

Continuing, the speaker referred to the nefarious effects of adulterated liquors sold to the poorer classes and insisted on the necessity of strict government control. He contended that saloons ought to be separated from restaurants, and restaurants from large hotels, and that saloons should be shorn of their social aspect by having no other furniture than the counter. The comfort afforded by most saloons led the poor laborer or workman to spend most of his leisure hours there in preference to his less comfortable home, with the result that he generally acquired the liquor habit.

The ex-judge also denounced the treating habit, and declared that every member of the league should bind himself to never pay a treat. In his concluding remarks he deplored the conditions which allowed young men to group in private rooms of fashionable hotels and there drink glass after glass, ruining their health and prospects. The league would have to see to reforms in that direction.

Mr. J. M. M. Duff was then called upon to address the meeting in English. He expressed his pleasure to endorse the movement which had his full support, not only on account of its object, but as being entirely cosmopolitan and outside of all race or creed consideration. Mr. Duff's remarks were received with enthusiastic applause.

After short addresses by Messrs. J. V. Deslauriers and A. Germain, the other officers of the league were elected as follows:—First vice-president, Mr. Justice Lafontaine; assistant vice-presidents, the Hon. J. D. Rolland, Dr. E. P. Lachapelle, ex-Ald. S. D. Vallieres and Dr. Guerin; treasurer, Mr. Arthur Gagnon; assistant-secretaries, Messrs. A. Germain and R. Delorimier.

A vote of thanks was passed to the clergy of all denominations, to the civic and civil authorities and to the press for their past efforts on behalf of the temperance cause.

A resolution of condolence was also passed relative to the bereavement of Archbishop Bruchesi, the death of whose venerable mother was announced.

The chairman, Mr. Justice Taschereau, closed the meeting by declaring once more that the movement was not one exclusively French or Catholic, but that the co-operation of all honest citizens was expected, and declaring also that while working hand in hand with the clergy, the league would be a lay movement, as much of its work was of a nature better suited to laymen's activity.

The evening's proceedings closed with the rendering of a striking temperance drama by the pupils of Professor Lasalle.

ROCHETTE'S ARREST.

Alleged Wife Poisoner From Quebec Caught by Chicago Police.

CHIEF McCASKILL HAS GONE TO CHICAGO TO BRING BACK THE FUGITIVE.

Omer Rochette, the Quebec hotelkeeper, accused of the murder of his wife, by administering poison, has been arrested in Chicago along with Filon Marceau, the woman he married a few days after his first wife's funeral.

Chief McCaskill, of the Provincial Police, left Montreal on Saturday night for Chicago, in order to bring back the pair.

Search has been made for Rochette for some weeks, though it was only last week that a coroner's jury sitting on the exhumed body of his wife, returned a verdict of 'died from poison, administered by her husband.'

Suspicion was first aroused against Rochette by his hasty marriage and subsequent flight. Mrs. Rochette's relatives had the body exhumed, and when the stomach was analyzed traces of poison were seen. Medical men believe that the poison was administered in small doses, so as to make death a slow but gradual process, and render its cause undistinguishable from gastritis, the disease diagnosed at the time.

The couple had been married twelve years, and had four children, on whose evidence the Crown rely to prove that the poison was given amongst some beans in the woman's food. A woman who was in the house at the time of the illness states that the deceased exclaimed: 'I do not know what is the matter with me. It is a strange weakness I have. I should not be ill like this. Send for a priest, for I think I am going to die.'

A priest was sent for, and the woman died a few hours later, death being attributed to gastritis, though the recent autopsy showed arsenic poison.

Rochette, who is about thirty-eight years of age, left Quebec suddenly for Montreal, saying business was bad. Fifteen years ago he inherited $100,000 from his father, but is said to have spent most of it in gambling and low living.

A few days ago Chief McCaskill discovered a clue. A letter from a friend of Rtchette's was received in Quebec, saying the couple had arrived in Chicago, and giving an address. This fell into the hands of Chief McCarthy, of the Quebec police, who communicated with the Chicago authorities, with the result that the pair have been arrested. A sensational trial is expected.

CANADIAN PACIFIC STOCK TO BE INCREASED.

Sir Thomas Shaughnessy Says There Will be no Trade Setback in Canada.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Canadian Pacific Railway at noon yesterday, it was unanimously resolved to authorize the directors to issue an additional 283,200 shares, of the par value of $28,320,000, so as to bring the capital stock of the company up to the authorized amount of $150,000,000. The stock is to be issued from time to time according to requirements, and is to be disposed of by the directors in such a manner, at such a price (not less than par), and on such terms of payment as they may determine. The money is to be used 'for the purchase of such additional rolling stock and the construction of such additional permanent routes, etc., as may be required for the more convenient and economical handling of the company's traffic.'

Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, in submitting the resolution, said it was unnecessary for him to enlarge on what was said at the annual meeting of the shareholders when the issue was foreshadowed and its purposes explained.

'Your directors are convinced,' he continued, 'that Canada will continue to progress, and that if there be any temporary setback resulting from financial conditions in other parts of the world, it will prove comparatively unimportant. It is very important—indeed, vitally important—that your company should proceed without cessation in the course adopted some years ago of adding to your facilities in every direction, so that you may be prepared to cope with the very largely increased traffic sure to be thrown on your lines. It may not be out of place to say at this meeting of shareholders that newspaper rumors with reference to negotiations by the C. P. R. for the purchase of railway lines in the United States are absolutely without foundation. There have been no such negotiations at any time.'

At a subsequent meeting of the board the directors decided to issue twenty-four million three hundred and thirty-six thousand dollars of said stock forthwith, and to offer the same at par to the shareholders of the ordinary capital stock of record Jan. 13 next, when the transfer books will close for the purpose, in the proportion of twenty per cent of their respective holdings, as shown by the company's stock registers on that date.

GRAVE OF THOMAS CHARLES DRUCE OPENED.

Coffin Found to Contain Human Bones and Not a Roll of Lead as Sworn to by Caldwell and Others — Perjury Charge Against Herbert Druce Effectually Disposed of.

London, Dec. 30.—The body of Thomas Charles Druce, in Highgate Cemetery, was exhumed this morning, just forty-three years to a day after its burial. The coffin was found to contain the remains of a human body, thus exploding the romantic tales told by Robert C. Caldwell, and others, who swore that, during the recent hearing of the Druce perjury case, it contained a roll of lead.

The official statement given out by representatives of the Home Office and others who were officially present at the exhumation, not only definitely disposes of the lead myth, but seems effectively to confirm that the body buried in 1864 was actually that of T. C. Druce.

The authorized statement follows:—'The coffin was opened and found to contain the body of an aged, bearded man; the plate on the coffin bore the name Thomas Charles Druce.'

The scene at Highgate Cemetery this morning when the vault was opened was remarkable. Constables seemed to spring from everywhere; every bush and every tree apparently hid an officer of the law. All the entrances to the cemetery were surrounded by the cordons of police. Only those persons who had passes from the Home Office were admitted to the grounds. George Hollamby Druce, who claims he is the rightful heir to the Portland Dukedom and to its vast estate, tried twice to get into the cemetery, but was met with a stern refusal.

The operations began at daybreak with the removal of the topmost coffins in the vault, containing the bodies of the wife and a son of T. C. Druce. It was nearly half-past eleven before the coffin, the contents of which have aroused the curiosity of the whole world, was brought up ready for opening and inspection.

The top was quickly unscrewed and the fastening of lead cut, and there was no need for the dictum of the eminent surgeon, Augustus J. Pepper, who was appointed by the Home Office to carry out the exhumation, to assure all present that human remains lay in the coffin. The Druce vault has thus given up its secret after ten years of legal proceedings which have cost, all told, a considerable fortune. A large part of this money was obtained from servant girls and other workers who were induced to buy shares in a company formed to prosecute the claims of George Hollamby Druce against the estate of the Duke of Portland.

The charge of perjury against Herbert Druce is effectively disposed of.

Those persons who have sworn to having placed a piece of lead in the coffin instead of a human body, have deposed to facts which now have been disproved, and they probably will have to take the consequences of their acts. So far as the general public is concerned, the entire long drawn out Druce-Duke of Portland controversy is at an end, and the case of the claimant, George Hollamby Druce, has fallen to the ground.

CALDWELL VERY ILL.

New York, Dec. 30.—Robert C. Caldwell, whose remarkable testimony as a witness in the Druce case led to the opening of the grave of T. C. Druce today, is now at the home of his daughter at New Brighton, Staten Island. He is under $5,000 bonds to return to face a charge of perjury preferred by the British authorities in connection with the story he told in the London court. Mr. Caldwell was arrested upon the request of the British authorities when he arrived here from Europe on Dec. 21, and announcement was made at the time that determined efforts would be made to have him taken back to London. Only the fact that he apparently was desperately ill when he was arraigned here was responsible for his release on comparatively light bail.

Efforts to reach Caldwell at his home to-day were unavailing. His daughter declared that he was so ill that his physician would permit no one to see him, and his daughter was informed that the grave of T. C. Druce was found to contain the bones of a human being, but she declined to ask her father anything about the case.

A WORD FROM AFAR

A Hint to Others

CHINESE Y.M.C.A.

Shanghai, China.

Dear Sirs,

Please extend my subscription to 'Weekly Witness,' 'World Wide' and 'Canadian Pictorial'.... My father, Rev. W. J. Taylor, of St. Mary's, Ont., has taken the 'Daily' for years. I have been a subscriber for 'World Wide' since coming to China two years ago. Have also been in receipt of the 'Canadian Pictorial' from the first. Next to home letters, there is nothing more welcome in the home mails than your excellent publications.

Wishing you continued success,

Yours most sincerely,

(Rev. Dr.) W. E. TAYLOR, M.A.

Those who have friends abroad would find that they would also appreciate the publications named in the above letter. Our publications find their way to almost every country, but there are many who have gone to far-off lands who have not seen it for years and would be glad to get it.

Such letters as the above are coming in the same mail with similar letters from all over Canada; as, for instance, the renewal subscription of our good old friend, Mr. G. I. Morgan, of Osnabruck Centre, who renews his subscription to the 'Daily Witness'—having taken the 'Witness' for fifty-six years.

THE BRAMPTON MURDER

MR. A. R. HAZZARD, OF TORONTO, TO DEFEND TERRACE.

(See also Page 2.)

Toronto, Dec. 28.—Mr. A. R. Hassard, the Toronto barrister, has been retained as counsel for Terrace, the young Englishman accused of slaying William Curry in Peel county on Christmas day. Mr. Hassard visited Terrace at Brampton jail yesterday, and had a conference with him regarding the defence. The prisoner sticks to his first story, to the effect that the shooting was purely accidental.

QUEBEC AND SAGUENAY LINE

SYNDICATE TO BUILD IMMEDIATELY.

Quebec, Dec. 27.—A prominent local financier of Quebec interviewed to-day on the correctness of a story published in certain newspapers of Montreal respecting the consolidation or amalgamation of six electric companies of the district of Quebec, said that a syndicate composed of English and French capitalists would immediately build the Quebec and Saguenay Railway, and possibly another track of their own, into the city of Quebec, running nearer the residential district along the river front. 'I do not think, however,' said he, 'that the question of amalgamation of all the Quebec electrical and railway companies will enter into their present project, as this is only a second consideration. If the other companies desire to join in the project they will be most welcome, but all arrangements have been towards securing electrical power for their line to Murray Bay, and other large works which are to be established, one of which is a large car building industry, the capital of which is all subscribed.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

The French Budget, amounting to $700,000,000, was passed by the Senate yesterday.

Mr. Redmond was on Sunday counselled by the Pope to follow Daniel O'Connell in everything.

Lord Curzon is to enter the House of Lords as an Irish representative peer.

The 'Frankfurter Zeitung' bitterly attacks what it calls the criminal carelessness of the moneyed interests of the United States in regard to human life. 'We do not know,' it says, 'who is to blame for the recent mining disasters. That is really not important. What is important is that the state does not do its duty—indeed, does not even know what its duty is. Criminal negligence leads often enough to terrible catastrophes in Europe, but the difference is that with us the State recognizes the protection of workmen, as well as all the economically weaker elements, as one of its most important duties, and is supported therein by public opinion, while in America much worse things must happen before the government or the ruling classes will become so far advanced. America cannot continue indefinitely as she has done. This sort of technical progress over corpses must develop enormously the anarchistic instincts of the public.'

Lady Warwick, the new apostle of socialism, is soon to publish a book about society, from the sale of which she hopes to raise money to start a newspaper. She intends also to start on a lecture tour in America with the same end in view.

The death rate of London since the passage of the new health laws in 1901 is said to have decreased 30 percent.

Two college professors in Chicago on Sunday told their audiences gravely that the Sunday saloon was 'an ethical necessity.' Did not Tennyson say, 'Knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers?'

In the Kingston Penitentiary on Saturday afternoon there was a fight between two murderers, John Troy and Valentine Shortis, in which the latter got several cuts with a sharp wire before the guards could interfere.

Three hundred reindeer are on their way from Norway for Dr. Grenfell's mission in Labrador.

Madame Paul Bruchesi, mother of Archbishop Bruchesi, passed away Sunday at the Convent of the Mercy, in this city, ... ed by her ... and ret...

PANTHER ENTERS HOUSE

COMMOTION IN HOME OF C. P. R. TICKET AGENT AT MACADAM, N.B.

Macadam, N.B., Dec. 30.—On Saturday evening quite a little commotion was caused by a panther entering the nome of Mr. Ed. Irvine, C.P.R. ticket agent. From Mr. Irvine's statement it appears that shortly after reaching his home, which is situated quite close to the woods, the house being uncomfortably hot on account of the soft weather, he opened the door for the purpose of cooling off the room, when there sprang in a large panther, which struck at the baby.

Mrs. Irvine upon entering the room swooned away, and Mr. Irvine, picking up a stove shaker, threw it at the animal, striking it on the head, which enraged the beast. He followed up the attack with a chair, and the snarling animal beat a retreat through the open door. After attending to his wife, Mr. Irvine got together a few friends and scoured the woods for a distance, but was not successful in finding the cause of the disturbance. The excitement is still great, and it is intended to organize a posse at once with a view to ridding the vicinity of such a ferocious beast.

BOYD MUST DIE

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—At Saturday afternoon's meeting of the cabinet council an order passed directing that the law shall take its course in the case of the negro Boyd, who has been sentenced to execution in Toronto, on Jan. 8, for the murder of one Wandle, a restaurant keeper of that city. An application was made to the Minister of Justice for the commutation of this sentence to one of imprisonment, but the Minister of Justice was unable to find any sufficient ground for the recommendation to His Excellency of the exercise of executive clemency.

OTTAWA ELECTIONS

MR. D'ARCY SCOTT ELECTED MAYOR BY ACCLAMATION.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—Mr. D'Arcy Scott, son of the Hon. R. Scott, Secretary of State, was to-day elected by acclamation as mayor of Ottawa for a second term. The first board of control of Ottawa will be chosen on Monday next from among the following candidates: Ald. James Davidson, ex-Ald. Charles Hopewell, Ald. Robert Hastey, Ald. Charles G. Pepper, Ald. Napoleon Champagne, Donald Hector Maclean, and ex-Ald. W. R. Stroud, and P. N. Draper, secretary of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress.

ExMayor Cook was also placed in nomination for the office of controller, but retired. The board of control of Ottawa will be composed of four members.

NICOLET ELECTION

A MAJORITY OF 450 FOR THE LIBERAL CANDIDATE.

Nicolet, Dec. 30.—Dr. Turcotte, the Liberal candidate, was to-day returned by a majority of about 450 over Mr. Heon, the Conservative. The by-election was caused by the resignation of the Hon. Charles Devlin.

Toronto, Dec. 30.—Mr. J. Carstairs, Conservative organizer, informed the press representatives this morning that it is the intention of Captain Tom Wallace, the defeated Conservative candidate in Centre York, to apply for a recount. The returning officer has not made his official declaration, but after the poll Dr. P. D. McLean was announced as having been elected by a majority of 23.

ENDED HIS LIFE.

Buffalo, Dec. 30.—George Werner, aged 67 years, of the George Werner & Sons Carriage Depository, 1133 Main street, was found dead in his office early to-day, having committed suicide by inhaling illuminating gas.

THE FRANCO-CANADIAN TREATY.

London, Dec. 29.—The 'Neueste Nachrichten' of Berlin points out that Canada is concluding with France a tariff which accords to a foreign country special rights not possessed by England. Canada renounces the principle of commercial policy which she has hitherto held and proclaims that the theory of Greater Britain is no longer the sole determining factor in her commercial relations.

DR. NESBITT SUES THE 'GLOBE.'

Toronto, Dec. 29.—Dr. Beattie Nesbitt, ex-registrar for West Toronto, and one of the candidates for next year's mayoralty, this morning, issuing a writ against the Globe Printing Company for unstated damages. The claim is that an article in this morning's paper entitled 'The real Nesbitt,' is libelous, and so also is the editorial 'A question for decent citizens.'

SHOT BY HIRED MAN.

James Curry, an Aged Farmer, Murdered Near Brampton, Ont.

Brampton, Ont., Dec. 26.—James Curry, a farmer, 80 years of age, was shot and instantly killed by his hired man who was known as 'Jack' about ten o'clock last night. Mr. Curry's son was alone with the hired man when he was threatened by the latter. The old man hearing the row came into the room in his night gown when the hired man turned the gun on to him and shot and killed him. He then threatened the son who grappled with him when the second barrel was discharged into the ceiling. The murderer was finally overpowered and the neighbors were notified. The accused is an Englishman about 27 years old and has been at the Curry's a month. His name is unknown.

Brampton, Ont., Dec. 27.—Information of the murder of William Curry, an aged farmer, of Toronto Township, was brought to Brampton at daylight this morning by John Black, a son-in-law and neighbor of the murdered man. Black's story of the crime is as follows:

William Curry, the dead man, James Curry, his son, and the hired man, a recent arrival from Newcastle, England, named John Davis Terrace, were sitting together in the dining-room in the evening. Shortly after 9 o'clock the senior Curry retired to his bedroom, which opens off the dining-room. A few minutes later the hired man got up and said, 'Well, I think I'll go to bed, too.' He then walked over to the corner of the room, and, picking up a double-barrelled shotgun standing there, turned suddenly and aimed the gun at James Curry, exclaiming as he did so: 'You ——, you laughed at me when we were fixing the pump the other day, it's my turn to laugh now.'

Curry thought the gun was empty and felt no fear, but just then the bedroom door opened and Curry senior appeared, clad only in his night clothes.

'Put down that gun, and don't make a fool of yourself,' he cried to the hired man.

Instantly the latter turned the gun on him and fired, the charge striking him in the breast and killing him almost instantly. He then aimed at the son, who jumped on him and knocked up the barrel, the charge going into the ceiling. A hand-to-hand fight ensued. James Curry eventually beating the man into submission and tieing him up with twine.

Terrace was taken out of the Curry home this afternoon in charge of constables, in a partially conscious condition. The reason for the shooting is as yet a mystery.

Brampton, Ont., Dec. 27.—'Poor old man, I did not intend to shoot him, and if Jim had not knocked the gun he would not have been shot.'

Crying like a baby, John David Terrace made this statement in his cell in the jail here to-day in explaining his side of the shooting of William Curry on Christmas night. The prisoner recovered consciousness last night, and his injuries, which consist of bruises on the head, are not serious. According to his story, he was left alone in the house all afternoon on Christmas day, and loaded the gun and went shooting. In the evening he stood the gun in the corner of the room. On account of the Curry's laughing about the way he had done the work around the farm he decided to leave, and asked for his month's pay. He played checkers during the evening, and, on rising to go to bed, went to the corner, took up the gun and pointed it at James Curry in a playful way, saying: 'It's my turn to laugh now.' He claims he didn't know the gun was loaded. 'James Curry,' said Terrace, 'spoke sharply to me, and just then the old man came out of the door and wanted to know what the quarrel was about. I said there was no quarrel, and told him to go back. He came forward, and James Curry, grabbing at me, accidentally caused the gun to go off. Poor old man, he never did any one any harm,' and here the prisoner again burst into tears.

Terrace denies having had the stove shaker in his pocket, and claims that James Curry clutched it from the stove to defend himself with. He also declares that it was he who shouted to the boy to go for help.

This story is received with considerable credence by a number of local men, but there is little doubt that he will be arraigned on a charge of murder as soon as the coroner's jury arrives at a verdict. He is only twenty years old, and weighs 122 pounds. He sailed from Newcastle on Nov. 20, where he leaves a young wife and two children.

CHARGE WITHDRAWN.

Toronto, Dec. 27.—The charge against Dr. Thomas Woodhouse, of criminal negligence in connection with the death of the baby of Mary Greig, was withdrawn yesterday, as the chief witness, the woman, has gone to the United States, and cannot be found. Dr. Woodhouse conducted an establishment for electrical treatment, and treated Mary Greig, with the result that a baby was born prematurely and died.

A Bad Stomach

Lessens the usefulness and mars the happiness of life.

It's a weak stomach, a stomach that can not properly perform its functions.

Among its symptoms are distress after eating, nausea between meals, heartburn, belching, vomiting, flatulence and nervous headache.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

...estion and dys-

DR. PUGSLEY SPEAKS.

Says It Would Have Been Out of Place for Him to Have Answered Mr. Kemp's Charges in the House.

IS READY TO MEET MR. BORDEN IN DEBATE AT ANY TIME.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 24.—The Hon. William Pugsley, discussing the attacks made upon him by Mr. A. E. Kemp, said

THE HON. WILLIAM PUGSLEY.

it would have been out of place for him to refer to these matters in the debate in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Mr. Kemp's remarks were not such as were calculated to raise that member in the esteem of the House, and he (Mr. Pugsley) did not feel called upon to reply. Other members of the government had agreed with him that he had adopted the proper course. Dr. Pugsley said: 'I made my charges very publicly and with such minute detail that they could not be mistaken. My statements have not been denied either by the leader of the Opposition or by gentlemen in this province or Montreal who are cognizant of the facts. Whenever Mr. Borden is ready to discuss the matter with me, either in parliament or elsewhere, I am ready to meet him in debate.'

A. E. Kemp, M.P.

CANADIAN FISHERIES

LAST YEAR NEARLY CAME UP TO RECORD CATCH OF 1905.

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—The annual report of the Department of Fisheries published for presentation to Parliament contains statistics of the fisheries for the season of 1906, and preliminary reports on the returns of the fishing industry of Canada in the year just drawing to a close. The fisheries of Canada are the most extensive of the world, extending over an immense sea coast—line besides innumerable lakes and streams. The eastern sea coast of the Maritime Provinces from the Bay of Fundy to the Straits of Belle Isle covers a distance of 5,600, miles which is more than double that of Great Britain and Ireland, while the salt water inshore area, not comprising minor indentations, covers more than fifteen hundred square miles, not including the numerous lakes in Manitoba and their western districts all stocked with excellent species of food fish. The whole catch of fish in Canadian waters by Canadians, including fish products, seals, etc., during the season of 1906 is valued at over $26,250,000 which, with the exception of 1905, was the largest year on record. Nova Scotia shows the largest catch of the provinces, with British Columbia a very close second. The principal branches of the Canadian fisheries in their order of production is as follows:

Salmon, cod, lobsters, herring, mackerel, white fish, trout, haddock, pickerel, halibut, sardines, pollock, smelts, dains, etc., pike, oysters, sturgeon, alewives, and eels.

The late spring and stormy weather seriously interfered with fishing operations on the Atlantic Coast this season. In the Bay of Fundy, however, the yield was still above the average excepting in the case of smoked herring.

ROBBED TOWN TREASURER.

Caron, Sask., Dec. 26.—Two clever rogues robbed Mr. Robert Long, the town treasurer, of about $550 yesterday evening. One asked Mr. Long to step out of his office to the street to speak about private business, and the other stepped through the back door and robbed the cash drawer of the safe, which was open. The money was composed of town and private funds. There is no trace of the guilty ones.

WOMAN TERRIBLY BURNED.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 28.—Mrs. Seymour Monck, of Picton, lies in a critical condition from frightful burns sustained while cleaning a stove with polish. The polish ignited and the flames caught on to the woman's clothes. In agony, Mrs. Monck managed to crawl to the back door and call for help, which soon arrived. Her body was fearfully burned and she may die.

COLLISION ON THE G.T.R.

Five Passengers and Both Firemen Injured and Engines Damaged in Wreck at Niagara Falls, Ont.

Niagara Falls, Ont., Dec. 24.—Chicago express No. 7, leaving here at one o'clock this morning, collided with a yard engine at the west end of the yard, the collision damaging both engines, slightly injuring McLellan, fireman, of Sarnia, of the express, and more seriously injuring Liddle, fireman, of this city, on the yard engine. Liddle was taken to the General Hospital. Both engineers escaped injury. Five of the passengers received slight injuries, as follows:

W. T. Church, St. John's, Mich., arm injured.

P. D. Belcher, 925 Wood street, Chicago, hand injured.

Mrs. M. A. Campbell, 7143 Princeton avenue, Chicago, head slightly hurt.

Theodore Ernest, Applegate, Mich., head and hips injured, not serious.

Mrs. James R. Laite, 201 West 117th street, New York, slightly injured about the head.

All of these were able to continue on their journey by the time the track was clear, two hours later. The cause of the accident is said to be misunderstanding of signals.

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

ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

RESULTS OF 1907 COMPETITION.

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—The results of the competition of the Canada Artillery Association for 1907, are announced. The winners in the more important contests are as follows:—

Field Artillery:—

Competition for general efficiency—1st—3rd Field Battery, Montreal, $50 and Governor-General's Cup.

2nd.—6th Field Battery, London, $40 and Lansdowne Challenge Cup.

3rd.—9th Field Battery, Toronto, $25.

4th.—17th Field Battery, Sydney, N.S., $20.

5th.—15th Field Battery, Granby, Que., and 16th Howitzer Battery, Guelph, equal, each $7.50.

Competition practice, special prizes:

For 12 pound batteries, 6th Field Battery, London, association challenge cup.

For Howitzer Batteries, 16th Howitzer Battery, Guelph, Ont., association challenge cup.

For Ontario Batteries, 6th Field Battery, London, Montizambert challenge cup.

Battery Manoeuvres:—

1st.—6th Field Battery, London, Grant challenge cup.

2nd.—22nd Field Battery, Sherbrooke, Quebec, Gzowski challenge cup.

Petawawa Batteries:—

The results of the Petawawa competition, in which the 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 14th, 23rd, and 24th batteries were engaged, are appended. The prize money amounted to $500, divided on a percentage basis according to position of 30, 25, 20, 15, and 10 percent.

1st.—6th Field Battery, London, $150.

2nd.—7th Field Battery, St. Catharines, $125.

3rd.—9th Field Battery, Toronto, $100.

4th.—2nd Field Battery, Ottawa, $75.

5th.—24th Field Battery, Peterboro, $50.

$20 to be divided among the Nos. 1 of the 6th Battery, $10 to be divided among the Nos. 1 of the 7th Battery.

Personnel and equipment:—

The competitions regarding efficiency of personnel and equipment resulted as follows:—

1st.—12th Field Battery, Winnipeg, $50.

2nd.—9th Field Battery, Toronto, $40.

3rd.—3rd Field Battery, Montreal, $25.

4th.—23rd Field Battery, Ottawa, $20.

5th.—17th Field Battery, Granby, Que., $15.

6th.—6th Field Battery, London, $10.

None we can so confidently recommend as the Montreal 'Witness.'—'Register,' Norwood, Ont.

A TRYING WALK

EIGHTY ENGLISHMEN TRAMP 480 MILES TO TORONTO.

New Liskeard, Ont., Dec. 27.—About eighty English immigrants out of employment and with no money, started to walk from McDougall's Chutes, 100 miles north of here, to Toronto. The distance is about four hundred and eighty miles. Three of them had their feet so badly frozen that they had to be carried as far as Englehart, and then brought to the hospital here. They are lying here now in a pitiful condition. They all tell of hard usage they say they received at the hands of some of the contractors of the railway line north of here.

SANDBAGGED AND ROBBED

YOUNG MAN LOSES NEARLY THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS GIVEN HIM TO PAY ACCOUNTS WITH.

A young man residing in Montreal, who had been spending the Christmas holidays at his father's home at Apple Hill, returned to this city about 1.30 o'clock Friday morning. Upon reaching the corner of Windsor and St. Antoine streets he was brutally assaulted by one or more assailants, who struck him on the nose with what is believed to have been a sandbag. He was rendered unconscious and the ruffians soon rifled him of $295, being the amount the victim's father had given him with which to pay some accounts which were due to Montreal firms. Chief Carpenter has the matter in hand.

A CANADIAN HONORED.

Captain Sturdee Appointed a Naval A.D.C. to the King.

Ottawa, Dec. 28.—Not many months ago Captain (now Admiral) John Denison, of the Royal Navy, a brother of Colonel G. T. Denison, of Toronto, was appointed a naval A.D.C. to the King. The intelligence is now received of the appointment of another Canadian, Capt. Sturdee, of the same service, to a similar dignity.

Captain Frederick Charles Doverton Sturdee is a native of St. John, N.B., and bears a most distinguished record as a naval officer. Entering the service as a naval cadet, on the recommendation of the Governor-General of Canada, on July 15, 1871, he has on all occasions done honor both to his patron and to his country. Attaining captain's rank in June, 1899, after acquitting himself with signal distinction during the Egyptian War, and later in Samoa, where he was in command of the British force, he became chief of staff to Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, and, on two occasions, received the gold medal of the Royal United Service Institution. In January, 1908, he will assume command of H.M.S. 'New Zealand,' of the Channel fleet, a vessel of more than 16,000 tons, and a sister ship to the 'King Edward VII.' Captain Sturdee has been decorated with a Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, and of the Royal Victorian Order.

TO MEMORY OF A CANADIAN SAILOR.

Ottawa Dec. 28.—A brass tablet will be unveiled in All Saints Church on Sunday next to the memory of Capt. William T. Bate, R.N., who was killed in the storming of Canton, China, Dec. 28, 1857. Capt. Bate, who was a cousin of Mr. H. N. Bate, was in charge of H.M.S. 'Actaeon.' A monument stands to his memory at Hongkong. The tablet to be unveiled is being erected by order of Mr. H. G. Bate.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

RETURNS SHOW 372 DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—Industrial accidents occurring to 372 individual work people in Canada during the month of November, 1907, were reported to the Dejartment of Labor. Of these, 142 were fatal, and 230 resulted in serious injuries. The number of fatal accidents reported in November, 1907, was two more than the previous month, and 25 more than in November, 1906.

Fifty-one of the fatalities occurred in the railway service, 23 in agriculture, 13 in navigation, 13 in mining and 10 in lumbering.

There were very few trade disputes in Canada during November, and the losses through this cause were comparatively slight. The only locality where a large body of employees was affected was at St. John, N.B., where transportation was hampered through a strike of longshoremen during the latter part of the month. The total number of trade disputes reported to have been in existence in Canada during November was eight, a decrease of fourteen compared with the previous month and a decrease of eleven compared with November, 1906. About thirty-four firms and 1,626 employees were affected by these disputes, fifteen firms and about 1,107 employees being involved in the disputes which began in November.

ROW AMONG CONVICTS

THOSE AT KINGSTON GAVE THE GUARDS SOME TROUBLE ON CHRISTMAS NIGHT.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 27.—All Christmas night there was a hot time in the penitentiary. The prisoners kept up a pounding in their cells and sang, 'We'll hang O'Leary on a sour apple tree.' The guards were powerless to silence them and they contented themselves with marking 27 for the dungeon, but as there are only eleven cells in the dark place the prison of isolation, closed for some time, had to be opened for the surplus offenders.

THE 'KENSINGTON' GETS $10,000.

The following judgment was rendered by Judge McDonald, of Halifax, in the 'Briardene' towage case:—

The 'Kensington' was on a voyage from Quebec to Liverpool at the end of November of last year, and the 'Briardene' was en route from Bordeaux to Nova Scotia in ballast. When some sixty miles south of St. Pierre, on Dec. 3, the 'Briardene' lost her propeller blades. Signals of distress were immediately shown, and the vessel drifted helplessly about in a heavy sea until the afternoon of Dec. 5, when the 'Kensington' was sighted. There was a heavy gale blowing at the time and the 'Kensington,' under the command of Captain Morle, lay by during the night. On the afternoon of Dec. 6 the crew of the 'Kensington' managed to get a line aboard the helpless vessel and the long tow to Halifax began. The duration of the towage was three days, and during that time 380 miles were covered, the work being rendered all the more arduous by reason of the bad weather. While the line was being passed from the 'Kensington' to the 'Briardene' the two vessels came into contact and they were both somewhat damaged. The 'Kensington' lost a week and the award rendered by Judge McDonald gives the owners of the vessel $10,000 for the service, of which $8,000 is for the steamer, and $2,000 for the crew.

STEAMSHIP FIREMAN KILLED.

Victoria, B.C., Dec. 27.—This morning David Don, a fireman on the C. P. R. steamship 'Charmer,' fell from the cradle at the marine ways, Esquimalt, and, striking on his head, was instantly killed. The unfortunate man was leaving the vessel, which is being repaired on the ways. He missed his footing while walking in the planks of the cradle, and fell to his death.

YUKON MORALS.

Action Taken Against Rev. Joh Pringle by Officials.

Dawson City, Dec. 27.—A writ has been filed in the Territorial Court in which Joseph Ena Girouard, registrar of the Yukon Territory, as plaintiff, sets out a statement of claim for $5,000 damages from the Rev. John Pringle, of Dawson, because of a letter alleged to have been written by defendant about plaintiff. A copy of the writ was served on Messrs. Black & Black, solicitors for the Rev. Mr. Pringle.

The letter in question, it is set out in the writ, was written by Mr. Pringle to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Hon. Frank Oliver, under date of July 31, 1907, and made very serious charges against that official's private life.

It was largely as a result of Mr. Pringle's charges that a deputation from the Moral Reform Council of Canada recently waited upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Hon. Frank Oliver, at Ottawa.

The reply of the Premier to that deputation must be already known to the people of Eastern Canada. Here it is known that when the charges of Mr. Pringle were brought to the notice of the Minister of the Interior he notified Mr. Girouard, and another official, against whom similar charges were laid, that they must take action and secure justification or that their positions would be re-filled.

Mr. Girouard's action is the answer to this ultimatum of the minister.

It is hoped there that the other official will take a similar action, for unless he is able to prove the falsity of the charges he will have to find another occupation.

All right-thinking people here realize that, if there have been, or if there are, moral abuses in the Yukon, the Hon. Frank Oliver is determined that they shall cease, even if he has to make a complete clearance of the present staff.

BEEF COMMISSION

REPORT MADE TO LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF ALBERTA.

Edmonton, Alta., Dec. 26.—The report of Messrs. Middleton and Campbell, who made an investigation of the meat industry for Alberta and Manitoba respectively, has been made to Lieutenant-Governor Bulyea. The taking of evidence at the various towns is gone into in detail, and the commissioners, in conclusion, submit a number of recommendations dealing with the pork, sheep and beef industries. The commissioners announce regret at being obliged to terminate the investigation at a time when it was really becoming a benefit, and intimate that a trip to England would have been advantageous. The report finds that there is no combine in restraint of trade in the sheep, cattle or pork industries, or anything in violation of the criminal code. The stockyards were found to be improperly conducted, and the commissioners recommend that they be run and controlled by the railways.

Winnipeg, Dec. 26.—Premier Roblin was asked if the report of the beef commission handed out at Edmonton yesterday was similar to the one presented to the Manitoba Government by the commissioners delegated to take evidence and make a report by the Manitoba government.

In reply he said that the report presented at Edmonton was not the report to be presented by the Manitoba government. 'You know,' added the Premier, 'that the evidence submitted in Manitoba was altogether different to what was submitted West, and the commissioners have presented their report to the government. We received it on Saturday.'

Mr. Roblin was asked by the reporter if the report was available for publication, and in reply said that he thought that courtesy required that the report should first be presented to the House, in the ordinary course by the Minister of Agriculture, after which in due course it would be made public.

The Premier expressed surprise that the Alberta government has seen fit to make public the report before submitting it to the House, out expressed the opinion that this was probably due to the fact that there was practically no opposition in the Alberta House. Premier Roblin stated that if he gave out the report of the commission prior to it being laid on the table in the House he would expect a vote of censure, as this course in his opinion would be irregular.

Premier Roblin emphatically stated that the report handed out in Edmonton was not the report of the commissioners that would be presented to the Manitoba government.

It was learned unofficially to-day that the beef commission report handed to the Manitoba government is a lengthy document, being composed of over sixty typewritten pages. The contents of the report are kept a secret until the House meets, but it is understood that the commissioners have found that there is no illegal combine in Manitoba.

THREE CHILDREN DROWNED

WENT SKATING WHILE PARENTS WERE AT CHURCH.

St. John, N.B., December 26.—Three children of Enos Veniot, of Lower Northfield, N.S., were drowned in a pond near their parents' house yesterday. The father and mother had gone to church, but had warned the young folks not to skate. This they disobeyed. When the parents returned the children were missing. Search was made and all three were found in the same hole in the ice.

STILL AFTER MR. TROTTER

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 23.—The 'Pall Mall Gazette' says that the two things to bear in mind are that Mr. Trotter is sent over to protect the interests of what is practically the labor trust in Western Canada, and that every hint of hard times in the Dominion is seized on by English radicals who are very badly off for free trade ammunition.

WRECKED A TRAIN.

Man Who Got Drunk and Drov... Horse on Railway Bridge Sent to Penitentary for Three Years.

St. Hyacinthe, Que., Dec. 27.—On the night of Nov. 23 last, the Central Vermont passenger train was wrecked near St. Cesaire, by a horse which was caught in the ties of the trestle. The C. V. R. Company placed the matter in the hands of High Constable Boisvert, of Sweetsburg, and on investigating the matter, found that the owner of the horse was Joseph Guedesse, of St. Cesaire, and on further evidence being secured, proceeded to arrest a man by the name of Marcoux, of Marieville.

The accused, it seems, had bought a loaf of bread from a baker of St. Cesaire, and a piece of this had been found near the stable door, and another piece near the trestle where the horse had been killed.

This led the high constable to believe that the horse had been stolen, and when trying to cross the trestle got caught in the ties, and was then abandoned, and caused the derailment of the engine and passenger coach later on.

The suspected man was brought before Justice Chicoyne, of Marieville, for hearing, and was committed to stand his trial at the next term of the King's Bench.

He was taken to the jail at St. Hyacinthe, and on his arrival there, Marcoux pleaded guilty and was then sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

SAVED FROM SUICIDE

MAN CUT DOWN IN CELL BY THE CHIEF TURNKEY.

Suicide in a cell at No. 16 Police Station, St. Henri, was averted by the presence of mind of the Chief Turnkey, Constable Jobin, of the Court House, who was visiting the station, along with Lieut. Henrichon on Thursday afternoon.

Looking into the second cell they saw a man hanging from the rafters by his braces, and Mr. Jobin immediately pulled out his knife and cut him down. The man, though gasping, was alive but by no means grateful for his release.

His name is Joseph Bedard, and he was in the cell on a charge of being drunk in church, and demanding money from a priest. He is a carpenter, 55 years of age.

When cut down he said he was sorry he had not succeeded, in hanging himself, but he would have better luck next time.

Though he should have been brought before the Recorder yesterday, Bedard for some reason which is not apparent has been released, and setn back to Pointe Claire, where he comes from, the police stating that they only held him in the cells to sober him.

The Montreal 'Witness' is no doubt the best newspaper in Canada.—'Northern Advance.'

THE 'BRUCE' DELAYED

ACCIDENT ON REID-NEWFOUNDLAND RAILWAY—REMAINS OF A QUEBECKER ON BOARD.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 26.—The steamer 'Bruce' was delayed last night by an accident on the Reid-Newfoundland Railway. When between Bay of Islands and Port aux Basques, the locomotive broke down and the passengers were compelled to await for several hours the arrival of a substitute engine from Port aux Basques. This resulted in the arrival at North Sydney of the steamer at four o'clock this afternoon, instead of at 7 in the morning. On board were the remains of Mr. Lachance, who died suddenly at Cape Angeville, Nfld., where he was engaged as engineer at the life-saving and lighthouse stations. Deceased was a brother to M.r Arthur Lachance, M. P. for Quebec Centre. The latter met the remains, and will accompany them home to-morrow morning.

WEALTHY WIDOW A PETTY THIEF.

Toronto, Dec. 23.—Lottie Scott, a widow, 65 years of age, of Prince Edward county, and worth $20,000, was convicted before Judge Winchester this morning of stealing a dollar's worth of small articles from the store of the T. Eaton Co. On account of her previous good character and the state of her health, she was allowed to go on suspended sentence and $500 surety for future good behavior.

LOST RELATIVE INQUIRIES

The following inquiries are made for relatives or friends who were last heard of in Canada. Any reader who possesses information is desired to communicate with the Editor, 'Weekly Witness':—

Hacon (Charles), last heard of in Canada nine years ago. Sister Mary asks.

Mitchell (Alfred George), of Westminster, London, about sixteen years ago sent to Toronto, Canada, by Mr. Fegan; last heard of six years ago, then on the Canadian Pacific Railway. Mother asks.

Wain (Arthur), last seen in Toronto, Canada, in May, 1907. Sister asks.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

Rest and Recuperation.—To provide a restful environment without sanatorium restrictions, to enable tired humanity to recuperate naturally, to secure to the average man or woman the needed change from worry and care, and to do these at a moderate cost, is the mission of the 'The Welland,' the home of 'The St. Catharines Well.' Apply the manager St. Catharines, or any agent of the Grand Trunk Railway system.

FIVE PERSONS PERISH.

Serious Fire at Watertown, a Suburb of Boston—Whole Family of John Clark Victims.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 27.—Five persons were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the house of John Clark at Watertown, a suburb, early to-day. Every member of the Clark family met death in the flames.

The dead are: John Clark, his wife, and three children—John, aged 11; Philip, aged 9, and Doris, aged 2. The cause of the fire will never be known, as the flames had made great headway when first discovered by a neighbor, shortly after one o'clock. The house was about two miles from the centre of the town, and by the time the firemen had reached the scene, the house had been burned almost to the ground. The firemen were able to find the bodies of the father and two boys, but the mother and little girl were not found until the ruins had cooled sufficiently to permit a more thorough search.

Mr. Clark was a salesman in a seed store on Faneuil square, Boston. The house was valued at about $5,000.

COLCHESTER ELECTION

PETITION AGAINST THE RETURN OF MR. STANFIELD FILED.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 27.—The methods by which the Conservatives won the recent by-election in Colchester will be ventilated in the election courts. A petition against the return of Mr. John Stanfield was filed at the prothonotary's office, Halifax, yesterday, and will be served on Mr. Stanfield at Truro at once.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 27.—Papers were served on Mr. John Stanfield in his home in Truro yesterday afternoon, giving notice of protest against his election. It had been rumored that the petition would be entered. Mr. Stanfield notified the Liberals that he would be in Truro and accept service. He made no effort to avoid service.

TORONTO NOMINATIONS

SEVEN CANDIDATES FOR MAYORALTY AND MANY NAMED FOR BOARD OF CONTROL.

Toronto, Dec. 23.—Seven men were nominated for mayor of Toronto today, and there are fifteen candidates for controller, four to be elected. Of the mayoralty candidates the present mayor, Mr. Emmerson Coatsworth, and Dr. William A. Douglass, will not run, so that the field is reduced to five. The nominations were as follows:—

For Mayor — Emmerson Coatsworth, barrister-at-law; George Reginald Geary, solicitor; Wm. Alexander Douglas, auditor; Joseph Oliver, lumber merchant; William Beattie Nesbitt, physician; James Simpson, reporter; Miles Vokes, merchant.

Controllers—Oliver B. Sheppard., theatrical manager; John Dunn, live stock exporter; Horatio Clarence Hocken, journalist; Frank S. Spence, journalist; Jas. O'Hara, gentleman; Hugh McWatt, real estate broker; John Enoch Thompson, real estate broker; Robert Fleming, secretary; Robert Brust Noble, gentleman; William Spence, physician; Joel Clariun Briggs, broker; James Lindale, tailor; John Shaw, solicitor; William Peyton Hubbard, gentleman; John Joseph Ward, merchant.

The nominations for members of the board of education, six to be elected, were as follows:—Henry E. Smallpiece, proprietor advertising agency; Dr. William Fraser Bryans; F. J. Sabine, sr. gentleman; Miss Clara Brett Martin, barrister; Chas. A. B. Brown, manager; Ernest A. Drury, electric wire man; William Houston, journalist; Herbert A. Kent, barrister; A. Rird Sundstein, tailor; R. R. Davis, agent; Wilfrid G. Gribble, carpenter; William Henry Smith, merchant tailor; Fred. A. Frost, pattern maker; Luigi Del Uegro, bricklayer; Umberto Corsi, bricklayer.

TRAIN CREW ACQUITTED

VERDICT OF CORONER'S JURY IN WRECK IN WHICH 43 PERSONS PERISHED.

Washington, Dec. 23.—A verdict of not guilty was returned by the jury tonight in the case of Engineer Hilderbrand, Conductor Hofmeyer, Fireman McClellan and Brakeman Rudder, the train crew who were indicted for manslaughter following the train wreck at Terracotta, D.C., on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, December 30, 1906, in which 43 persons were killed and upward of three score injured. The trial had been in progress three weeks, and the verdict was reached after four hours' deliberation.

DARR MINE DISASTER

THIRTY-NINE BODIES TAKEN OUT—MANY OF VICTIMS WERE PRAYING WHEN DEATH OVERTOOK THEM.

Jacob's Creek, Pa., Dec. 23.—Six more bodies were taken from the Darr mine to-day, making a total to date of 39.

Many others have been located. The condition of the six bodies brought to the surface to-day was good. With the exception of a picture of agony on their faces, no mutilation was evident. Rescuers state that a number of the men were found on their knees, showing that they were praying when the black damp caused death.

THE 'LONSDALE' AT SALINA CRUZ.

Crew of Canadian-Mexican Liner in Irons.

Victoria, B.C., Dec. 27.—News was received here to-day of the arrival of the Canadian-Mexican liner 'Lonsdale' at Salina Cruz, Mexico, with her Chinese crew in irons. During the voyage from this port the Chinese mutinied, and after an exciting time were quelled by Capt. Shadford and his officers, assisted by Mr. A. Donley, the trade commissioner to Mexico, who was a passenger.

WON RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

MISS GARDNER, OF MONTREAL, DISTINGUISHES HERSELF AT OXFORD.

The friends of Miss H. L. Ivy Gardner, of this city, will be gratified to learn that she has won high honors at Oxford, she having been awarded the Rhodes scholar-

MISS IVY GARDNER.

ship for practical teaching. Miss Gardner is a first term graduate at Cherwell Hall, Oxford, and it is believed that this is the first occasion on which a first term candidate has passed 'with Distinction.' She was examined by a professor from Cambridge University, and felt confident of success immediately upon hearing what subject had been selected for the test. Since her success Miss Gardner has been enrolled a member of the Twentieth Century Club in London.

Miss Gardner is a daughter of Mr. W. T. Gardner, and niece of Lieut.-Colonel Robert Gardner. She took the degree of Bachelor or Arts at McGill in 1904 with honors in English.

FREIGHT WRECK

ONE MAN KILLED AND TWO FATALLY INJURED NEAR MACLEOD, ALBERTA.

Fernie, B.C., Dec. 23.—In a head-on collision at six o'clock this morning between two freight trains near Brocket, 20 miles west of Macleod, Alta., on the Crow's Nest Pass branch of the C. P. R., brakeman F. Ormsby was killed and fireman C. Von Wald and engineer G. McKinnon were fatally injured, and conductor C. Choquette was badly bruised.

The cause of the wreck is said to be the failure of the operator to deliver orders to the eastbound train. It is stated that the operator found his mistake immediately after the train left Brocket, and fled.

ABBITIBBI MATTER

MR. DEJARDIN CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR. LAFLAMME.

Quebec, Dec. 24.—The Royal Commission in the Abbitibbi matter resumed its session after lunch yesterday afternoon and sat until eight o'clock in the evening, in order that Mr. Dejardin might conclude his evidence, as he was desirous of leaving town for Winnipeg. The resumed sitting was occupied chiefly with the production of correspondence and cross-examination of Mr. Dejardin by Mr. Laflamme, but this developed nothing new. Witness stated Baron De L'Epine was the only person who spoke to him of the electoral fund, and the Baron was very desirous that the money should pass through his hands. On the conclusion of his evidence the Hon. Mr. Gouin asked him a few questions which were answered.

The Commission adjourned until Dec. 31, and it is expected that when they meet again they will complete the inquiry in about four days.

A BANK PRESIDENT ARRESTED.

Durango, Colo., Dec. 25.—Chas. E. McConnell, president of the Smelter City Bank, which closed its doors on Dec. 17, was to-night placed under arrest on a charge sworn to by a depositor who had had $3,400 on deposit when the institution closed its doors.

The committee having charge of examining the affairs of the bank to-day found that on Dec. 12 Mr. McConnell had borrowed $10,000 from the First National Bank of Durango, and had given securities from his bank for the money, but the books of the Smelter City Bank did not show that $10,000 had been placed on deposit there.

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'We are very much in love with the 'Pictorial,' and do not wish to lose any numbers. My sister is a school teacher; she is always praising it to every one she meets, and comparing it with other illustrated magazines, and the 'Pictorial' comes out ahead every time.' —Arnold Smith, East Mines, N.S.

Publishers' Appreciations

'The 'Pictorial' is only $1.00 per year, but is worth twice that amount.' — 'Reporter,' Kingsville, Ont.

'A delight to all picture lovers, and a great credit to Canadian workmanship.'—'Daily News,' Truro, N. S.

'Beautifully printed. A most creditable production.'—'Herald,' Yarmouth, N.S.

'We consider the 'Pictorial,' a splendid addition to the literature of Canada.'—'Tribune,' Windsor, N.S.

I enclose renewal of my subscription for the 'Canadian Pictorial,' with which I am very much pleased, and which I think reflects great credit on the publishers. R. Wallace, Westwood, Mass.

You have struck the right note for a Canadian pictorial publication, in tone, sentiment and make-up. Success to you. G. H. Burnett, St. John, N.B.

'The 'Canadian Pictorial' is a marvel for cheapness and excellence. I wish you great success with it.'—Rev. T. B. Darby, Carbonear, Nfld.

'The 'Pictorial' is the best yet.'—Claude A. Standing, Belmont, Man.

'I herewith enclose P. O. order to renew my subscription to the 'Canadian Pictorial' for 1908. I like the publication very much. It is always welcome to my table.—A. T. Colter, Oakville, Ont.

'Kindly renew my subscription to the 'Canadian Pictorial'; also please renew Mrs. ——'s subscription, for which I enclose postal note. The magazine is invaluable.'—Mrs. John Ellis, Chatham, N.B.

'Your 'Pictorial' is worthy of national patronage and encouragement.'—Rev. W. Bowman Tucker, M.A., Ph.D., St. Johns, Que.

'Please find enclosed renewal for 'Canadian Pictorial.' I am greatly pleased with this publication. No true Canadian should be without it.'—Geo. Martin, Penhold, Alta.

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EXCHEQUER COURT

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—In the case of the Minister of Railways and Canals vs. the Quebec Southern Railway et al, Mr. Beique, K.C., for the East Richelieu Valley Company, and for the Bank of St. Hyacinthe, moved for judgment confirming the report of Mr. Audette, the referee, recommending the payment to the East Richelieu Valley Company of the amount for which it was collocated, after deducting the amount of the several collocations en sous ordre, namely, the net sum of $124,394.44.

In the matter of the payment of remuneration to the receiver of the Quebec Southern Railway Company, Mr. Beique, K.C., representing the above parties, moved for an order confirming the report of the referee recommending the payment to the receiver of a sum of $5,000, in full of all claims for salary or remuneration for services past and future as receiver. Both motions granted, and judgment accordingly.

PORTUGUESE HOUSE OF PEERS

PREMIER FRANCO TO ISSUE A DECREE REORGANIZING IT.

Lisbon, Dec. 23.—Premier Franco purposes, before Jan. 1, to issue a decree organizing the Portuguese House of Peers. The Premier believes that as the House is at present constituted, it is a stumbling block to the political regeneration of the country.

WATCHING THE MILK SUPPLY

CITY HEALTH AUTHORITIES WILL TEST THE STANDARD OF ALL SAMPLES TAKEN.

The civic Health Department intend to keep a closer watch on milk sellers in the coming year than has hitherto been the practice; and in order to have more of the samples of milk submitted to bacteriological examination Dr. St. George has been appointed assistant to Dr. J. E. Laberge.

The Health Committee has also appointed Mr. N. Boileau as sanitary inspector, and E. Robinson as plumbing inspector. These new inspectors, together with J. Galipot, who has been promoted to the position of plumbing inspector, will be engaged specially in the examination of new house property. This work has so outgrown the possibilities of the department during past seasons that in some instances new houses have not been inspected until twelve months after they have been occupied.

In the December number of the Montreal 'Medical Journal' some criticism was made in regard to what was submitted as the negligence of the City Health Department in regard to a case of scarlet fever that was sent to the Royal Victoria Hospital from Barrée, Vermont. It was alleged that when the authorities telephoned to the City Hall to ask that the case might be isolated at the contagious diseases hospital, someone in Dr. Laberge's office replied, 'Oh, let it go.'

Dr. Laberge has written to the Health Committee repudiating the allegations, and expressing regret that medical men in charge of the journal had shown so little courtesy to another medical man as not to inquire first from him whether such information as had been supplied to them had any foundation in fact before publishing the article. As head of the department, he considered he had been treated unfairly by the criticism. He had made careful inquiries and had failed to trace any telephone message having been received by the department in the sense alleged.

The Health Committee have passed a resolution expressing confidence in its employees and regretting that the article in question had been published, as it had unnecessarily cast discredit on the department.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LANDS

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT MOVES TO STOP THE SPECULATION.

Victoria, B.C., Dec. 24.—An order-in-council was passed by the provincial executive reserving all unstaked lands for the Government. Hereafter a title will be granted to timber seekers. It is estimated that 600,000 acres have been staked, and the order of the Government will prevent any further traffic in timber limits. In reserving the lands the Government feels the time is ripe to stop the speculating that has been going on during the last few years.

HUSBAND RESPONSIBLE

SUCH IS VERDICT OF CORONER'S JURY ON DEATH OF MRS. OMER ROCHETTE.

Quebec, Dec. 26.—'That deceased died from the effects of an arsenical substance criminally administered by Omer Rochette, her husband, and that the said Omer Rochette should be held responsible for the death of deceased.'

This is the verdict rendered this afternoon by the coroner's jury over the remains of the late Mrs. Omer Rochette, who died here on Nov. 17 last, and who was buried on the 19th of that month.

Ten days after his wife's death Rochette married a young girl named Marceau. The newly-married couple left immediately on a honeymoon trip to Montreal. Many rumors then commenced to circulate regarding Mrs. Rochette's death so Coroner Jolicoeur had the body exhumed and the stomach analysed by the Rev. Mr. Filton, professor of Laval University, and Dr. Marois, who both testified to the fact that arsenic was found in considerable quantities in the stomach and intestines.

A nephew of the husband stated that he was present during the two last days preceding his aunt's death at Rochette's house, and that any medicine given to the deceased was almost always given to her by the husband.

When last heard of Rochette and his second wife were in Montreal, but he is supposed to have left that city on Dec. 9. Chief McCaskill has the matter in hand, as it is expected that Omer Rochette will soon be captured.

Rochette was formerly [illegible] the Merchants'

FIVE MEN KILLED.

G.T.R. Passenger Train Collides With Freight Near Lenox, Mich.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 27.—Speeding through a dense fog at 40 miles an hour, Grand Trunk passenger train No. 5, which left Port Huron shortly before 7 o'clock to-night for this city, collided head-on with a double-header freight train, one mile north of Lenox, Mich. Five trainmen met death, four being killed instantly, the fifth dying three hours later. All of the passengers escaped injury, except a baby, who was only slightly hurt by being thrown out of its mother's arms and over a seat when the trains crashed.

The dead are: Engineer Bennett, of the passenger train: Engineer Bohowski, of the first freight engine; Fireman Boughner; Fireman Albert McCall, Switchman Wm. Taylor.

The passenger locomotive ploughed under the engines of the double-header and the trainmen were buried in the wreckage. Their bodies were terribly mangled and scalded by the escaping steam.

Engineer Fred Haugh and Fireman Washburn, of the second freight engine, escaped death. Haugh was caught in his cab but was taken out unhurt. Washburn jumped and was only slightly injured.

All the dead trainmen lived in Detroit.

ATTACK ON CHINESE

DETAILS OF TROUBLE AT LETHBRIDGE.

Lethbridge, Alta., Dec. 26.—Details of an attack on Chinese restaurants here last night are to the effect that when the trouble began Constable Rose telephoned for the mounted police, a number of whom promptly arrived, and cleared the premises and arrested several of the mob, but not until a Chinaman or two had been roughly handled. A police patrol cleared the street and went down to protect Quong Wong's place, near the post-office. Meanwhile, a portion of the mob slipped around to Baroness Road and smashed the front of Chinese restaurants near the Arlington. The mounted police came over in a few minutes, but nothing was to be seen of any mob.

Shortly after seven o'clock last night tht rumor spread that Harry Smith, a well-known and popular rancher from Little Bow, ... died at the hospital from the effects of a blow with a hammer struck by a Chinaman at the Columbia Restaurant. As a matter of fact, Harry Smith was quite well and enjoying a social evening with a Christmas party. This fact was not known, however, and the rumor was believed. The Chinaman who had struck him was arrested and put in jail, but this fact also was unknown. An indignant and angry mob gathered in front of the restaurant, and there was talk of lynching. Presently it seemed to run over and doors were burst open, counters and tables overturned, and any Chinaman who could be caught was treated roughly. Simultaneously, a portion of the crowd smashed the windows of neighboring Chinese restaurants. No goods were taken, and the shelves were undisturbed. Beyond breaking windows but little actual damage was done, though there were a lot of badly scared Chinamen fleeing wildly to cover. Mayor Galbraith was on the scene, and called on good citizens to disperse and go to their homes. Magistrate Humphreys, when a portion of the crowd visited the Quong Sang restaurant on Ford street, persuaded those on evil bent that Quong Sang rad been a good citizen for several years, and that he had never given any trouble, and the mob, acting on his advice, dispersed.

ROGUES AT WORK

THEY PASS CONFEDERATE BILLS.

Quebec, Dec. 26.—Detective Tom Walsh on Tuesday evening last effected the arrest of three Swedes, who gave their names as Mat. Hill, Hack Kullis and Ed. Hill, on the charge of passing Confederate $10 bills. The men were taken in charge in a house on St. Cecile street, which they had entered on Saturday night, and in payment for refreshments one of the trio tendered what purported to be a $10 bill, but turned out to be Confederate currency. On being searched each of the men were found to be possessed of bills of this description. Detective Walsh had been looking for these fellows, as he had been notified that they had already succeeded in passing two of the spurious bills. The men have been remanded until Monday.

A THIRD VICTIM

SAMUEL McDONALD SUCCUMBS TO INJURIES FROM EXPLOSION AT GLACE BAY.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 26.—The third victim of the explosion of the boiler at Glace Bay died this morning. The young man's name is Samuel McDonald, and he belonged to Prince Edward Island.

MUST SEARCH UNGAVA

ANNEXATION OF NEW TERRITORY HAS INCREASED THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PROVINCIAL DETECTIVES.

One of the effects of the recent annexation of the Ungava territory to Quebec ... is that the provincial detectives ... much larger area to cover ... Caskill and his ... vestigation of all serious crime, right to the farthest confines of the territory.

Quite recently a case was reported from Lake Malokonia, in Abbitibbi, and a detective was sent all the way there to investigate a case of suspected murder. When he reached his destination and unravelled the mystery of the tragedy, he found death was due to natural causes.

Detective Lapointe had a similar experience last fall when he made a trip from Montreal to St. Michel, All Saints, and thence by canoe to Lake Manovan.

An Indian had been found dead after a quarrel, and there were suspicions of foul play. Detective Lapointe's inquiries showed that after a drinking bout, the Indian, who was a notorious drunkard, had fallen when attempting to unmoor his canoe. He fell with his face in the mud, and being too drunk to rise, was suffocated.

Detective Lapointe was thus disappointed with his man hunt, but enjoyed an invigorating three weeks' holiday.

Chief McCaskill and his staff have a reputation in man-hunting considered only second to that of the North-West Mounted Police.

REV. DR. CAMPBELL DEAD.

WELL-KNOWN PRESBYTERIAN CLERGYMAN PASSES AWAY.

Perth, Ont., Dec. 25.—The Rev. Robert Campbell, D.D., of Perth, clerk of the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew, and

THE REV. ROBERT CAMPBELL, D.D.

ex-modeartor of the Presbyterian General Assembly, died at his home here on Christmas morning. Interment will take place at Renfrew on Friday, Dec. 27, at 1.30 p.m.

Dr. Campbell, of Renfrew, as he was generally called, was well-known and beloved throughout the whole country. He was elected to the highest office in the gift of the Presbyterian Church, on June 14, 1899, at Hamilton, succeeding the Rev. Dr. Torrance as moderator. After his term of office expired he was appointed by the assembly to take charge of the arrangements for the raising of the million dollar fund with which the Church commemorated the dawn of a new century. That the fund was so successful was largely due to his untiring labors. He travelled all over Canada, explaining the idea with contagious enthusiasm. Dr. Campbell was a whole-souled hearty friend, a ripe scholar and a convincing preacher.

ENDED HER LIFE

BECAUSE HER LOVER HAD BEEN DRINKING.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 25.—Lizzie Anderson, aged about 22, drank carbolic acid to-night in a house here where she was a servant. The young man with whom she kept company called on her. She charged him with having been drinking, said she could do so, too, and then swallowed poison. She died less than an hour afterwards in the hospital.

JUDGES THREE TO THREE

OPINIONS DIFFER IN IMPORTANT DAMAGE SUIT.

The Court of Appeal rendered judgment Tuesday in the case of the Eastern Townships Bank and Mrs. Collette.

This was an appeal from the verdict of the jury and the judgment of the Superior Court in the case of the fatal accident, when Francois Collette was killed, in May, 1906, by a stone which fell from the cornice of the Eastern Townships Bank building, corner of St. James and McGill streets, which was then being demolished. The widow of the victim claimed $15,000 damages from the Eastern Townships Bank, from Dagenais, the contractor for the demolition, and from the Ware Co., which had a privilege for advertising on the fence.

The jury and the Court held both the bank and Dagenais responsible, and condemned them to pay $5,000. Dagenais accepted the judgment, but the Eastern Townships Bank appealed, and its appeal was maintained yesterday, the majority of the court holding that it could not be held responsible. Justices Blanchet and Lavergne dissented, with the result that the case now stands with three judges having pronounced the bank responsible, and three with a contrary view.

BOY ENDS HIS LIFE

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—Edward Smith, a fourteen-year-old boy, has been missing since Saturday and his parents believe he has committed suicide, as he had frequently threatened. Sensational literature of the dime novel class is held responsible.

THE GRAND TRUNK PENSION FUND.

How Will it Affect the Higher Officials?

WAIT AND SEE HOW CAT JUMPS IS VIRTUAL REPLY TO INQUIRIES.

There has been considerable speculation in railway circles as to how the new pension fund is going to affect the higher officials of the company when it comes into operation on Jan. 1 next.

The fund provides for the compulsory retirement of all officers and employees of the company on reaching the age of 65 years. If this rule were made absolute the company would next month lose the services of some of its most valuable officers—as, for instance, Mr. William Wainwright, the fourth vice-president; Mr. W. H. Rosevear, the general car accountant; Mr. H. W. Walker, the general auditor, and Mr. William McWood, the superintendent of the car department—all of whom have passed the 65 mark.

There is a clause, however, in the pension rules which provides that the pension committee may retain any officer or employee, with his consent, in the service of the company, for a further period not exceeding in any case five years. The question now is, are any or all of the above named gentlemen to be asked to stay with the company, and if asked will they consent? Inquiries made from those at the Grand Trunk who should know fail to elicit any information. The reporter is referred to the rules of the pension fund and told they are absolute. Inquiries as to specific cases like those mentioned above are answered to the effect that the best thing to do is to wait till the rules come into operation, and then watch which way the cat jumps.

It may be taken for granted, however, that Mr. William Wainwright will be in his accustomed place at the opening of the New Year, for at this critical juncture, with so much work demanding high executive and organizing skill in connection with the Grand Trunk Pacific, he cannot be spared.

It is learned on pretty good authority, however, that both Mr. H. W. Walker and Mr. W. H. Rosevear intend to retire on Jan. 1. If they do so, it will cause very general regret among their confreres.

Apart from the higher officials, however, many familiar faces will be missed from various departments of the Grand Trunk after Jan. 1 next. As a general rule, the employees will be very glad to be able to take advantage of the generous pension allowance made by the company. Some old men, however, who have failed to make provision for themselves, and who are only entitled to the minimum allowance of $200 per annum, are wondering how they are going to supplement that allowance to make it meet their expenses.

They are not debarred, of course, from engaging in other business, but they can only do so with the consent of the Pension Committee.

These cases, however, are exception, but they are inevitable. On the other hand a considerable portion of those who will retire have managed to save enough out of their earnings to become property holders, and they will now be in affluent circumstances.

On the retirement of the higher officials of the company in the past, it has been the custom for the directors to make generous provision for them, and whether in view of this pension scheme this provision will be continued in the case of those who must inevitably retire within the next few years is a matter which, it is understood, is now under consideration.

The pension committee is composed of Messrs. C. M. Hays (chairman), William Wainwright (vice-chairman), E. H. Fitzhugh, W. H. Biggar and W. G. Brownlee. This committee will meet on the first Tuesday in every month.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE

TORONTO CITY COUNCIL WANTS MARRIED WOMEN OWNING PROPERTY TO HAVE VOTES.

Toronto, Dec. 27.—The Toronto City Council met to-day at its final meeting for the year, at the demand of the suffragettes, put a vote catcher through, when it decided to ask the Legislature to enact that married women owning property in their own right should have the municipal franchise, as is the case with widows and spinsters. This was decided on, with a proviso that men shall not be allowed to qualify on their wives' property.

Ald. Bengough's motion to apply for power to submit local option by-laws in wards or electoral divisions in cities of 50,000 population or over was left over to be dealt with by the incoming council. The motion was aimed at Toronto, so that local option might be carried by wards.

BURGLARS CAPTURED

TWO DESPERATE CHARACTERS IN CUSTODY AT NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.

Niagara Falls, Ont., Dec. 28.—The mystery of the finding of silver plate in a ravine near here on Christmas day has been cleared up. It proves to have been stolen from Clifton Place, the summer home of Mr. A. J. Wright, broker, of Buffalo, and from the Langmuir residence here, which were ransacked on Christmas eve.

A few days ago a blacksmith of Niagara Falls, N.Y., reported that a number of small pieces of steel had been stolen from his place, and when the police were investigating the robbery at the houses of Messrs. Wright and Langmuir, they found several of these pieces, which had been used to force open the windows. Following this clue to Niagara Falls, N.Y., they also found where a gold watch, stolen from Mr. Wright's residence, had been pawned. They followed a number of clues, and finally the proprietor of the Niagara House stated that three men, carrying suspicious bundles, had engaged rooms at his hotel. Several detectives were set to watch the room from one on the opposite side of the hall, and to wait for the return of the men, who, it was said, had been in Buffalo.

About nine o'clock last night the three men returned, and, after a desperate fight, in which the officers were severely handled and bitten, two of the men were finally clubbed into submission. They proved to be two desperate character named Jerry Callahan and David Thomas, the latter a discharged United States soldier, who had quite a police record. The third man, named Sam Woods, managed to escape.

DEATH OF MR. A. R. TRUSSELL

PASSED AWAY ON WEDNESDAY MORNING, AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS.

On Christmas morning, about four o'clock, Mr. Alexander R. Trussell passed away at the family residence, 491 St. Urbain street, at the age of thirty-eight years. He leaves a widow and two young children.

Mr. Trussell was widely known to Montreal citizens through having been employed for many years in the jewellery business during the last fifteen years with Mr. D. Beatty, at 137 St. Peter street, and for ten years previously with his predecessor in the same store. He was also well known among

THE LATE MR. A. R. TRUSSELL.

local temperance workers, being a prominent member of the Dominion executive of the Royal Templars of Temperance and of Metropolis Council, in this city. He had held all the offices in Metropolis Council, and has been for years on the District and Grand Council boards. It is said he knew the constitution and ritual of the Order better than any other man in Quebec province. The District Council has ordered a wreath, and members of the Order will attend the funeral, and probably take part in the service according to the ritual of the Order.

Mr. Trussell was for several years connected with the St. James Methodist Church, but for the past two years has attended Sherbrooke Street Church, which was nearer. He lived an exemplary life and enjoyed the esteem of a large circle of acquaintances, who admired his amiable disposition and manly, Christian bearing under all circumstances.

Mr. Trussell was ill during most of October and November, but was at business, though quite unwell, from Dec. 9 to Dec. 15. On the latter date he went home quite ill and developed typhoid fever, of which he died.

A HERMIT'S DEATH

WAS FORMERLY A NEWSPAPER MAN IN MONTREAL.

Melrose, Mass., Dec. 27.—An investigation by the officials of the Poor Department and the police to-day partially unravelled the mystery of the identity and life story of a man who died unknown in the Melrose Hospital yesterday. The man was known on account of his habits of life, as 'The Hermit of the Middlesex Fells,' but, except to one or two close friends, his name was not known until after his death. According to Mr. and Mrs. George Bradford, who were his most intimate acquaintances, the hermit's name was Charles Frederick Powell, a native of Plymouth, England, and he had a romantic career. Powell possessed an exceptionally good education, and was familiar with art and literature, although his mode of life was that of a tramp. He told the Bradfords that at one time he was a student at Trinity College, Oxford, and was a member of the college choir. King Edward of England was a student there at the same time, Powell said, and was frequently in the audience which listened to the choral music.

Powell did not finish his course at Trinity, having had some trouble in the institution. Later his father sent him to a university in Germany, but he remained there only a short time. After going back to his home he interfered in a quarrel between his father and mother, and, taking his mother's part, struck his father, who thereupon ordered him out of the house. Powell then came to this country twenty-six years ago, and never afterwards returned to his home. He was at one time connected with the Montreal 'Gazette,' and at another time with the Toronto 'Mail.'

For the last three or four years he had made his home in the vicinity of Melrose, living much of the time in a cave in the Middlesex Fells. In the cave he had only a blanket for a covering, and an oil stove, on which he cooked such food as he could obtain.

According to Mr. and Mrs. Bradford, Powell was something of a poet, and he told them that he had a small trunk filled with poems. This trunk, he said, he had buried in the ground. Search for it will be made to-morrow.

In the clothing of the dead man two old photos of Powell's mother and sister were found. They were taken in Liverpool, England.

Powell's death wa due to pneumonia, resulting from exposure. He was 57 years old.

ROBERT SYNDICATE WINS

JUDGE BRUNEAU DECIDES WHO CONTROLS MONTREAL ELECTRIC LIGHT INTERESTS.

Judge Bruneau rendered judgment on Tuesday in the Superior Court in the litigation which has been pending for some time between E. A. Robert and his associates, against what is known as the Vipond syndicate. The difficulty arose as to who owned the majority control of the Montreal Electric Light Company. Robert's contention was that he had bought the interests owned by the Hon. Thomas Ryan, the Hon. John Hamilton and the Hon. J. J. C. Abbott. Vipond and his associates claimed that they had bought the Abbott estate interest, which, with their other holdings, gave them control.

In rendering judgment, Judge Bruneau maintained Robert's contention, declared the meeting held by him to be perfectly legal, and that he owned the controlling interest in the company by virtue of the purchase alleged by him to have been made, and gave judgment in his favor.

This means that the Robert syndicate is declared to own the control.

The case, it is said, will at once be taken to the Court of Appeal.

Messrs. C. S. Campbell, K.C., and Eugene Lafleur, K.C., were attorneys for Mr. Robert, and Messrs. Atwater, K.C., McGowan, K.C., Chauvin & Baker, Vipond & Vipond represented the Vipond syndicate.

THE PREMIER'S HOLIDAY

LEGISLATURE WILL NOT MEET TILL FEBRUARY TO GIVE HON. MR. GOUIN TIME TO REST.

The announcement is made that Premier Gouin will probably leave at an early date for a few weeks' vacation, his arduous work during the past summer and autumn having rendered a short rest necessary. Mr. Gouin has not yet decided where he will go, but his absence will cause the opening of the session of the legislature to be delayed until the month of February.

ANTITOXIN FOLLOWED BY DEATH.

THE SPECIFIC FOR DIPHTHERIA IS GIVEN IN A CASE OF SPASMODIC ASTHMA.

Albany, Dec. 23.—A case of death from the use of antitoxin for diphtheria has been investigated by Dr. E. H. Porter, State Commissioner of Health. A month ago Emory J. Benjamin, 52 years old, died at Cuba, Alleghany county, of shock from 2,000 units of antitoxin. He had been a sufferer from spasmodic asthma and his physician, who had himself secured relief from the same disease by the use of diphtheria antitoxin, recommended that treatment. Two doses of 1,000 units each were given in a space of five minutes. The patient's breathing was affected and he died in a convulsive spasm.

At the autopsy nothing was revealed that would show the pathological cause of death and the doctors cannot account for the fatal termination of the case. The report has raised the question of whether or not the antitoxin, like chloroform, causes death without any apparent reason.

The case is of interest to the State Health Department for the reason that antitoxin is manufactured at its laboratory in this city for the use of the poor throughout the State. The antitoxin in the Cuba case was not furnished by the State.

DEATH RESULTED FROM BRUISE.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 26.—A peculiar case, which has just ended fatally, was that of Mr. John O'Brien, a farmer, of Wolfe Island, whose death occurred as the direct result of blood-poisoning. About nine days ago Mr. O'Brien, while working with a hammer, struck the back of his hand accidentally with considerable force. At the time the bruise—for the skin was not broken—was very painful, but the next day it was apparently better. During the week following Mr. O'Brien felt it painful, but no cause for alarm was felt, until he became suddenly worse. Then a consultation was called, but too late to save his life. Slowly but surely the bruised part had become poisoned, and it was all through his system before medical aid was summoned.

The Conservatives of King's County, P. E. I., named Mr. A. L. Fraser, of Souris, at present a member of the Legislature, for the House of Commons. No other candidate went to the ballot.

JAPANESE DIET.

Party Leaders Practically Agreed on Question of Restriction of Emigration.

Tokio, Dec. 28.—The Twenty-fourth Diet was formally opened at 10 a.m. today by the Emperor, who delivered the speech from the throne in the House of Peers.

The Emperor laid stress on the increasingly cordial relations with foreign powers and the important bearing on peace in the Far East of the entente cordiale concluded with Russia and France by Japan.

He dwelt on the importance of the more careful deliberation of fiscal measures and said he expected the concurrence of the Diet in the budget, which would be presented by the government.

The opening scene in the Upper House was a brilliant one. The 377 members composing the House were clothed in full evening dress, while the members of the diplomatic corps were dressed in full uniforms.

The Emperor was driven to and from the Diet in a closed carriage under the escort of a company of Lancers. The replies of the two houses to the speech from the throne will be short, and formal replies will be presented to His Majesty at the palace later in the day, after which the presidents of both houses will report back to their respective houses the Emperor's appreciation, and both houses will adjourn for three weeks, at which time the business of the session will commence. The overwhelming majority of the government in the Diet makes it improbable that there will be any extended debate, although there may be some on the financial and immigration questions. It is generally understood, however, that all the leaders are practically agreed on the government's policy looking toward the restriction of emigration.

It is probable that a motion of lack of confidence in the cabinet will be introduced, because of the proposed increase in taxation, which is unpopular with the masses.

The motion may possibly pass in view of the fact that this is the last session of the Diet. The general election will occur in the spring, at which time a new Diet will be chosen.

DOMINION COAL MINRES

BOARD OF CONCILIATION TO BE ASKED FOR BY THE P. W. A.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 27.—At a meeting of the Grand Council, P. W. A., held in New Glasgow to-day, it was decided to submit the matter of wages of the miners employed in the Dominion Coal Company's collieries to a board of conciliation, to be appointed under the Lemieux Conciliation Act. The grand council meeting, at which there was a large gathering of delegates, nearly all of the lodges being represented, was harmonious. The question before the meeting was in connection with the wage schedule in the Cape Breton collieries. The pros and cons of the question were fully discussed, and it was decided to make application for a board of conciliation under the Lemieux Act. Dr. Kendall, M.P.P., was nominated to represent the P. W. A. on the board.

MANY WRECKS

GALE ON BRITISH COAST—TERRIBLE SEAS RUNNING.

London, Dec. 27.—An easterly gale has been blowing for the past eighty hours, and still shows no signs of abatement. Terrible seas are running along the British and Irish coasts. Many wrecks have been reported. The Cunarder 'Lucania' was not able to enter Queenstown.

None of the incoming steamers sighted the Leyland line steamer 'Cambrian,' before reported with her shaft broken in tow of the steamer 'William Cliff,' and it is the opinion among seafaring men that the 'Cliff' had to cast the 'Cambrian' adrift. If this is the case the 'Cliff' will stand by the disabled vessel and take her in tow again when the weather moderates.

ENGINEER LIBERATED.

Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 26.—The family of Mark B. Reid, the G. T. R. engineer who, three months ago, was sent to jail for nine months for being responsible for a railway accident near Guelph last summer, spent an unexpectedly merry Christmas. Ever since Reid was sentenced, his friends had been hard at work trying to secure his release in time for him to spend Christmas with his family, but on Tuesday they gave up all hopes of getting him out of the Guelph jail before the first of the New Year. Consequently, they were much surprised when Reid arrived home about nine o'clock on Tuesday night. The official order for Reid's release reached the Guelph jail authorities early on Tuesday, and Reid was liberated to catch the evening train for Hamilton.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—A despatch to the 'Tageblatt' from St. Petersburg says the Czarina's illness is causing anxiety at the court, where all functions have been cancelled. The Czar is greatly alarmed by his wife's depression and her general bad health. He has repeatedly urged her to go abroad, but she refuses to leave him and their children.

BOYS WANTED ALL OVER CANADA to sell the 'Canadian Pictorial'—Splendid premiums, watches, cameras, knives, etc., etc., etc. Send a postcard to-day for a package to start on, and full list of premiums, etc. We trust you. You pay when sold, and get your premium.

Address John Dougall & Son, Agents for the 'Canadian Pictorial,' 'Witness' Block, Montreal.

P. S.—Read larger advertisement of 'Pictorial' on another page, also contents of the splendid New Year's number, and then send your order at once.

LONDON LETTER

(Special Correspondence of 'Witness.')

London, Dec. 20, 1907.

The fate of Crosby Hall is still in the balance, where it has been now for some weeks, and the protracted discussion of the matter has gradually, if tardily, roused public interest, always strangely difficult to rouse when it is a question of preserving our ancient monuments. Crosby Hall is said to be the best remaining example of a London merchant's house of the fifteenth century, and quite unique. Situated in the heart of the city, it was some months ago bought for the value of the site by a bank company, who proposed to pull down the picturesque old house and build banking premises for themselves. The Society for Preserving Ancient Monuments has been trying, but in vain, to collect money to buy back the property. Then the London County Council was appealed to to exercise the powers granted to them by recent legislation to employ public funds for such purposes. But the Moderates, who are in the majority on the new London County Council, and have been put in power expressly to check the increase in the rates, only last week decided not to interfere, and with that decision the prospect of saving Crosby Hall seemed indeed very small. Now, however, the government has stepped in, anxious to co-operate in the movement to save the old place, and the Board of Trade has written a letter saying that the government would be prepared to rent the hall from the County Council once it was acquired for the public, the intention being to lodge there the commercial library of the Board of Trade, a more convenient place for city men to consult it than the Department of Foreign Affairs, where it is now housed. The Board of Trade is also prepared to acquire offices adjoining Crosby Hall, so as to attach to the library the sample rooms now elsewhere. Thus the commercial intelligence of the Board of Trade would be brought together at one central place. This induced the London County Council to rescind their former resolution, and to enter into negotiations with the City Corporation as to finding the necessary money, and with every prospect of the end being gained, though only at the eleventh hour. Representatives of the London County Council, the Corporation of the City, the Preservation Committee and other authorities are now conferring as to the details of a scheme. Enthusiastic admirers of Mr. Lloyd George see in the timely intervention of the Board of Trade fresh evidence of the activity and resource of the parliamentary head of the department, who from the settlement of our big industrial disputes can turn to consider the claims of the past on the reverent care of a commercially-minded and sometimes heedless present.

The German Emperor's holiday at Highcliffe Castle, after his official visit at Windsor was over, has certainly contributed to increase a friendly feeling between him and the English people. The gossiping kind of newspapers have had amazing accounts of the industry of the Emperor during his so-called holiday, and now it is said, on some good authority, that His Majesty, during his stay with us, made the closest inquiries into the working of our government offices at Whitehall, evinced the greatest admiration for their efficiency, and with his personal advisers has prepared a number of schemes for the reform of government departments in Germany, based for the greater part on the English practice. His endeavor is the simplification of official procedure generally, which is well known in Germany to be exceedingly cumbrous and elaborate.

The growth and volume of the movement for giving the parliamentary franchise to women had one proof more this week when the first demonstration on a scale was made by the Men's League, this year formed to promote it. All sorts of men and all shades of politics are combined in the league. Lord Russell spoke as a recent convert to women's suffrage, and he was followed by that coiner of epigrams, Mr. Zangwill, and he by the minister of the City Temple, R. J. Campbell, whose recent conversion to socialism appears to have included the ardent desire to make women the comrades of men in politics and elsewhere, and no 'onger 'hangers-on' of men.

The hush of Christmas has come over the political world and Mr. Balfour's Devonport speech of a fortnight ago may be regarded as a conundrum to be considered at leisure. 'The Spectator' confesses itself puzzled and hints that in emphasizing the 'complete unity' of the Conservative party their leader must have been speaking in a 'metaphysical sense,' in which plain men cannot follow him. The Premier at Biarritz is taking a long holiday and his supporters are beginning with some anxiety to ask whether when parliament reassembles at the beginning of February he will be equal to the heavy strain of the duties of Prime Minister.

A SUDDEN DEATH.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 27.—Mrs. Edward Chisholm, formerly Laura Ward, a woman well known here, met death under peculiar circumstances this morning. Yesterday evening, accompanied by her three-year-old child, she went to Mrs. Henry McCann's house, Milford. She had been drinking. Mrs. McCann allowed her to stay all night. This morning she was found dead in bed.

NEW BRUNSWICK'S FINANCES.

Fredericton, N.B., Dec. 27.—This week's 'Royal Gazette' contains the annual statement of the receipts and expenditures of the province up to Oct. 31. The total revenue was $969,939.23, and expenditure $960,093.12, leaving a surplus of $9,846.11.

The principal items of receipts were: Dominion subsidy, $556,360; territorial revenue, $321,550, and succession duties, $14,803. The first half-yearly payment of the increased subsidy of $130,000 is included in the receipts.

The territorial revenue is the largest in the history of the province. The largest items of expenditure were: Public works, $230,421; education, $220,750; interest, $178,569; agriculture, $36,534, and game protection, $21,677.

CONDENSED DESPATCHES

NEW YORK TUNNEL TRIED.

New York, Dec. 29.—Another of the series of tunnels that are destined eventually to solve the traffic problem of Manhattan Island, was given its try-out yesterday, when the first car was sent over the route of the Hudson tunnel from Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue beneath the Hudson river to Hoboken, N.J. The journey was made without a single mishap, and demonstrated that every part of the structure under the Hudson river and the apparatus installed there is in perfect working condition.

CHINESE TELEPHONE LINES.

Amoy, China, Dec. 28.—Active construction work has begun on the telephone lines which are to connect Amoy with the two other cities of this prefecture, Tssun-Chou-Fu. Fifty miles to the north, and Chang-Chou-Fu, thirty miles to the west. The construction and operation of these lines is entirely under the control of the Chinese Government.

UNITED STATES FLEET SAILS FOR BRAZIL.

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec. 29.—The United States fleet sailed at four p.m. today for Rio Janeiro.

PANAMA CANAL LOCKS.

Washington, Dec. 28.—For strategic reasons and to prevent their bombardment and destruction by a hostile fleet, the Isthmian (Panama) Canal Commission has determined to change the location of the dams and locks, which it was originally intended to construct at Laboca, and, instead, they will be built at Miraflores, four miles inland, and within the zone of safety. President Roosevelt has approved the change of plans. It is said that aside from strategic reasons advanced for the change, the plans are also that of the cost and saving of time in the completion of the canal, and that a more satisfactory foundation can be secured at Miraflores. The estimated saving in cost will be considerable.

INJUNCTION ON MRS. EDDY'S GIFT.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 29.—Formal notice has been served upon Messrs. McLellan, Fernald and Baker, trustees, having in charge Mrs. Mary Baker G. Eddy's estate, ordering them not to make the $1,000,000 gift to found a charitable institution, recently announced, or any other appropriation from Mrs. Eddy's estate, pending the outcome of litigation.

LOST HER WAY AND PERISHED.

Michigan City, Ind., Dec. 29.—The body of Imogene Kinner, of Penn Yann, N.Y., who disappeared from Michigan City on Dec. 11, was found to-day on the bank of a creek in a wild and unfrequented place. She taught school at Yonkers and at Nyack, N.Y. Overstudy brought on nervous prostration, and she came here a month ago to recuperate. It is supposed she lost her way in the country and perished of cold.

CHILD WIFE ENDS HER LIFE.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 29.—Estella Hartzell, child wife of George B. Hartzell, killed herself because she could no longer endure being left alone at night. The couple were married last August, and have been living at Wilderming. The husband is employed as a night brakeman in the Pennsylvania Railroad yards, and failed to heed the pleas of his wife, who was only sixteen years old, that he quit and seek day employment. As a result, she shot herself to-night.

FIRE AT TORONTO

LOSS IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF $150,000—THREE FIREMEN INJURED.

Toronto, Dec. 28.—A most destructive fire occurred late this afternoon, when the upper floor of the fine five-story building occupied by Messrs. George Hees, Son & Co., and other firms at 52 Bay street, was gutted. The flood of water that was of necessity used caused damage throughout the building. The loss will likely be about $150,000, with insurance of about $50,000. The whole top story of the building, which was occupied by Wrinch, McLaren & Co., dealers in smallwares, was completely destroyed. The burned flat contained a large quantity of inflammable goods, and at the rear end a large amount of celluloid was stored. When the fire worked its way to the back of the flat the celluloid went up in a tremendous burst of flame like a huge explosion. While working with the water tower, the handle which is used to raise the pipe got away from the men working it, and, swiftly revolving, knocked down Lieut. Davidson and Lieut. Gordon. Davidson's leg was fractured and Gordon had both wrists sprained. Guinane, another fireman, had his face painfully bruised.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 28.—Fire destroyed the big cooper shop of the Standard Oil Company, at East 34th street, and for a time threatened the great field of oil tanks in the valley adjacent. The firemen confined their efforts to preventing the flames from spreading to the tanks, and succeeded by hard work. The loss on the cooperage plant is estimated at $75,000.

A KNIGHT OF ST. GREGORY.

The Hon. John Sharples, M.L.C., of Quebec, was on Christmas Day presented with the order and decoration of a Knight of St. Gregory the Great, conferred upon him by Pope Pius X. for his works of charity and mercy, more particularly for the founding of a ward for children in the Hotel Dieu of Quebec. The presentation took place in the latter institution.

INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

A Split on Home Rule Question —Meeting Ends in Free Fight.

Surat, Bombay, Dec. 27.—After two days of futile efforts to elect a president, the Indian National Congress broke up this afternoon in a free fight, during which the police had to be called in.

The Congress, which meets annually, was of special interest this year, owing to the agitation for home rule in India. When the delegates assembled yesterday, the Moderates and Extremists at once locked arms on this issue, and the meeting was adjourned amid much disorder. When the delegates reassembled to-day their over-heated passions broke loose a second time, and the platform from which moderation and constitutional action have been advised was rushed by the Extremists in a body, who loudly demanded the speedy establishment of complete home rule. Chairs and tables were broken in the scrimmage, and table legs and other pieces of shattered furniture were used by the delegates as bludgeons upon each other.

The fighting became fierce and many delegates sustained serious injuries before the police finally came in and cleared the hall.

The Moderates have issued an announcement that the Congress is adjourned sine die. They will meet alone to-morrow and sign a covenant to carry on the movement for colonial self-government on constitutional lines.

NEW ELECTION ACT

PROPOSED MEASURE CONSIDERED AT CABINET COUNCIL.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—The cabinet council devoted several hours' time on Saturday to the consideration of the proposed new election act, which it is intended to present to parliament early in the new year. The changes will be all in the direction of more severe penalties for the punishment of those who are adjudged guilty of bribery and corruption. There is already a bill before the House embodying the principle of compulsory voting at parliamentary elections, on the penalty of disfranchisement, but it has not been absolutely determined as yet whether the government bill will contain this same provision. Many of the suggested improvements in the election law are drawn from the proceedings of the special committee of the House of Commons, which made a study of this whole question two years ago.

MINE WAGE SCALE

REPORT OF BOARD OF INVESTIGATION REGARDING METAL CAMPS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—The board of investigation and conciliation of the dispute which arose in the St. Eugene mines in British Columbia, has resulted in a unanimous report concerning the wage scale that should be paid in the metal camps of British Columbia. One scale is suggested for normal conditions in these mines; that is to say, when silver, lead and copper is bringing a good average price. Another scale is provided for abnormally favorable periods when the prices of these metals is exceptionally high, and a third scale for times when the market is abnormally low. It does not appear from the report whether its terms have been accepted by those concerned, but it is expected by the Department of Labor that the efforts of the board in this matter will prove of great value to the mining camps of British Columbia. An agreement has been reached between the coal mines and their employers at Strathcona, Alberta, for the recognition of the union and of the eight-hour day, pending until March 31, 1909.

W. C. T. U. DAY OF PRAYER.

The W. C. T. U. throughout the Dominion have for many years observed January third as a day of prayer for our work and our workers. The call to prayer and a programme is sent out each year by Mrs. Asa Gordon, of Ottawa, Dominion W. C. T. U. Evangelistic Superintendent.

The programme for the approaching prayer-day appeared in the December number of 'Canada's White Ribbon Bulletin,' and 'The White Ribbon Leaflet,'—the Dominion and Quebec Provincial official organs of our organization.

It is hoped that the Unions in this Province have arranged to properly observe the day.

The Unions of Hochelaga County, according to the usual custom are heartily invited to assemble at the Young Woman's Christian Association Building on Dorchester street, corner of Stanley, on Friday afternoon of this week from three to five o'clock.

The two hours of service will be conducted by Mrs. R. W. McLachlan, County President, and Mrs. John Currie, Provincial and County Evangelistic Superintendent. Mrs. Walter Paul, Vice-President of the County Union, will deliver an address upon 'the life and work of Miss Frances E. Willard,' and Mrs. Radford's theme will be,—'Motherhood, the highest and holiest of all Missions.'

Miss Dawson, County Treasury-Secretary, with the six 'Y' Presidents, will act as a reception committee.

The meeting will be helpful and inspiring to all who attend. All friends of temperance who are praying and working for the overthrow of the liquor traffic are cordially invited to attend. The collection will be given to W. C. T. U. work in the needy and hopeful field of the North-west.

Bennetterre, Mo., Dec. 26.—It was announced last night that the St. Joseph lead camp and the Doe Run Lead Company, which have been working on half-time during the past thirty days, will resume work at full time on Jan. 1. Ten thousand men are affected.

'NORTHERN MESSENGER.'

Over Forty Years Old.

An Illustrated Story-paper, of from 12 to 16 pages, published weekly, providing

Sunday Reading for Young and Old.

By far the largest circulation of any religious publication in Canada, averaging for the past year: considerably over

60,000 copies each issue.

The 'Northern Messenger' is undenominational but warmly evangelical.

Its selection of stories, short and long, is greatly appreciated by its readers.

For Sunday Reading it will be found both interesting and helpful. It has a large-type department for the little children learning to read. For this particular reason many parents though interested in it themselves, subscribe to it IN THE NAME of their child.

Besides stories, poems, anecdotes, and such features of general interest, the Sunday-school lesson is ably discussed. Temperance and good moral teaching has its place in every issue.

The influence of the 'Messenger' upon the last two generations has been very great, and to-day it is greater than ever.

The 'Northern Messenger' contains nearly three times as much reading as any other paper of the same price.

40 cents a year.

Three copies, separately addressed, $1.00. Four copies or more, separately addressed, at 30c a copy. **Sample Copies Free on application.**

As a Sunday-school Paper

There is no paper published so well fitted for the general needs of the Canadian Sunday-school as the 'Messenger,' and its growing popularity in this connection is clear evidence of this fact. It is distributed in the large schools of the big cities, and received and read with as much pleasure as in the small school at the country cross-roads. Superintendents and teachers gladly recommend its use. They know its power, for many of them have felt its influence in their own lives, from the time they too received it as children in the Sunday-school.

If YOUR SUNDAY-SCHOOL does not take it, you could not do better than to get them to order it for a

THREE WEEKS FREE TRIAL.

We will send, free of charge, for three consecutive weeks, enough to supply any school on trial—and take our risk of a permanent order following. A postcard from the secretary or superintendent, telling us how many copies you want, will be all that is needed.

SPECIAL PRICE TO SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.—Twenty cents per copy per year in clubs of ten and over to one address.

Tribute to the 'Northern Messenger':

FROM S. S. OFFICERS.

I desire to express to you the great satisfaction we have in using the 'Northern Messenger' for our Sunday School. There is no other paper that I can so heartily commend for Sunday School use as the 'Northern Messenger.' Yours sincerely, (REV.) D. W. MORISON, D.D., Ormstown, Que. (Lately Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.)

The 'Northern Messenger' is a splendid paper, in its truly Canadian spirit, and is esteemed very highly in our congregation. It is also a marvel in the price at which it is offered to Sunday Schools.—ARCHIBALD LEE, Grenville, Que.

Your paper is giving every satisfaction, and is eagerly looked for. I know it well, for as far back as 1877 I was instrumental in introducing it into the school in Brooklyn, N.Y. Now that I am living in one of the suburbs of New York city, I am giving the paper to a class of young women there, and I know that it is read and appreciated by them and their families at home. The tone of the paper is high, and the articles are well selected and interesting. — JOSEPH A. DAVIDSON, Essex Fells, N.J.

(This letter is of especial interest in view of the high rate of postage on papers going to the United States from Canada.)

We have for quite a number of years taken the Messenger in our school, and are well pleased with it.—P. H. HUDSON, Plympton, Man.

We have given the 'Messenger a trial in our recently organized Sunday School, and young and old are delighted with it.—J. D. BANNANTYNE, Supt., 499 King street, London, Ont.

We think the 'Messenger' a very suitable Sunday School paper for both old and young.—MISS EMMA GREEN, Moosejaw, Sask.

We regard the 'Northern Messenger' as a first-class publication in all respects, and the price brings it within the reach of all schools. We have used it for a number of years, and have never had any reason to complain. The best proof of our sincerity is that fact that we have sent for fifty copies for another year, and recommend it to all Sunday Schools.—E. DAWSON, Bailliboro, Ont.

We have taken the 'Messenger' in our Sunday School for a number of years, and would not be without it for twice the money. — CHARLES S. DICKSON, Sect., Winthrop, Ont.

I have much pleasure in renewing our class order from year to year, and wish your valuable little paper success.—MRS. WM. MUNDLE, Mundleville, N.B.

I think the 'Northern Messenger' is A1, and it suits the needs of the Sabbath Schools.—C. W. DEMPSTER, Secretary-Treasurer, Humboldt S.S., Humboldt, Sask.

We find the 'Messenger' first class, and all the scholars, old and young, look eagerly for it.—DANIEL M. YULE, Treasurer, St. Giles Presbyterian S.S., Toronto, Ont.

(From a school that had taken up our free trial offer—with the result we always expect.)

I enclose a post-office order to pay for one hundred copies of the 'Northern Messenger' for one year. We thank you very kindly for the free copies received. Our Sunday School is very much pleased with the papers.—MRS. GEORGE PHILLIPS, Clark's Harbor, N.S.

FROM INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIBERS

I have taken the 'Northern Messenger' for many years, and should miss it very much. When I am through with it I pass it on to many others, and in this way it does a great deal of good.—(MISS) C. A. BEACH, Syracuse, N.Y.

We are a family of ten, father, mother, and eight children, and we all enjoy the 'Messenger' very much.—MRS. K. BONSKILL, Stonewall, Man.

The 'Messenger' is a welcome friend here and much appreciated.—W. MARTIN, Orangeville, C.B.

For a bit of Sunday reading, commend me to the 'Northern Messenger.'—W. S. JAMIESON, Dalton, Ont.

I value all your publications very much, especially the 'Weekly Witness' and the 'Northern Messenger.' The 'Witness' has been our companion for nearly 60 years, and the 'Messenger' for 40 years.—MRS. A. FINCH, Sudbury, Ont.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, 'Witness' Building, Montreal, Canada.

DEAD WOMAN IDENTIFIED

ANNIE O'KEEFE, VICTIM OF NEW JERSEY MURDER.

New York, Dec. 28.—The veil of mystery enveloping the tragic death of the young woman whose nude body was found half-submerged in the water and mud of a lonely pond near Harrison, N.J., on Thursday, is being rapidly lifted, and detectives working on the case believe that the slayer of the woman, who was identified to-day as 'Annie O'Keefe,' or Annie Nevins, will soon be run down and taken into custody.

The identification was first made to-day by Mrs. Margaret Wright, who conducts an employment bureau in Montclair, N.J. She said that the woman called on her earlier in the month, and asked for employment. She gave the name of Annie Nevins, but did not state where she lived. Late this afternoon her identity was partly corroborated by Sergeant Draybell, of Orange, N.J., who said the woman's name was Annie O'Keefe, and that he knew her well two years ago, when she was employed in the home of Thomas Nevins, a contractor, in Orange. Since that time Sergt. Draybell states the woman was employed in the capacity of a maid in several places in and about Orange. Recently, he said, he had lost trace of her. Draybell informed the police that the closest friend that Miss O'Keefe had was Miss Nevins, a niece of Thomas Nevins, and that Miss O'Keefe had taken the name of Nevins at the time of seeking employment. The hat worn by the murdered woman was found this afternoon in the Passaic River, and turned over to the police. It is a sealskin turban, and matched the collarette and muff which was found near the body. Mrs. Wright's description of the clothing worn by Miss O'Keefe when she applied to her for work corresponds in every detail with the clothing found near the dead woman's body.

While Mrs. Wright could give little further information concerning the woman, she recalled that Miss O'Keefe had told her that she had been acting as a housekeeper for two young men in Brooklyn. The Harrison police have learned much of Miss O'Keefe's movements just before the murder from Thomas Flanagan, an elevator man in a Newark department store, who, after a visit to the morgue to-day, declared with positiveness that Miss O'Keefe had been in the store on Christmas Eve, and had asked him if a man had inquired for a woman in a red dress. He said that Miss O'Keefe appeared very nervous, and after stating that she had an appointment with the man, remained at the store for an hour. Later, Flanagan says, he saw and spoke to her in a Chinese restaurant and that she told him that she had been unable to find the man. The police say there is no doubt that she finally met this man, and, after spending Christmas Day with him, was lured into the Hackensack Meadows and murdered. Detectives are trying to locate the two young men who employed Miss O'Keefe in Brooklyn.

WANT SEED GRAIN.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—The grain associations of Saskatchewan and Alberta applied to the Dominion Government for a supply of seed grain for portions of those provinces in which the crop was such a failure last season as not to have yielded enough grain of good quality even for seeding in 1909. The grain associations ask the government to supply seed for a million and a half acres. The Department of Trade and Commerce, to which the request came, will refer the matter to the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

DISTRESS CASES

SENT OUT BY ENGLISH AGENCIES, WHO LEAVE THEM TO THEIR FATE.

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 28.—The authorities of the Salvation Army at headquarters state that the present emigration situation in Canada has been gravely accentuated by thousands of 'distress cases' sent out by agencies in this country who have no organization in Canada to cope with them.

MANY FIREMEN INJURED

FIRE IN ARSENAL AT TOULON.

Toulon, Dec. 23.—For the fifth time in two years fire broke out to-night in the southern section of the arsenal, completely destroying the naval spirit stores, despite the efforts of the firemen and troops, many of whom were injured. A number of vats exploded, and flames from the spirits shot up to a height of eighty to a hundred feet.

The portrait of Sir George E. Cartier, presented to the Chateau de Ramezay by his daughter, was unveiled on Saturday evening by Mr. Justice Sicotte. The Hon. W. A. Weir, who also addressed the meeting, paid warm tribute to the Canadian patriot for his indomitable courage, and for his strong belief in the possibility of men of different religious working for the upbuilding of Can-

NEWS OF THE PROVINCES.

ONTARIO.

Hamilton fruit growers expressed the opinion at their last meeting that unless there was a better price for tomatoes next season many growers would go out of the business.

Owing to a cold snap, certain employees of the Toronto Railway Company refused to take out open cars. The men were discharged, and a decision on this subject has been given by the board of arbitrators. The arbitrators find that the company was fully justified, but no employee can be compelled, under any penalty, except loss of wages for atime, to take out a car, if by so doing he is thereby endangering his own life or the safety of the public.

David J. Hamilton, a diver employed at West Fort, has been drowned owing to a break in his diving suit.

Miss Fetter, of Milton, has committed suicide by drinking carbolic acid. She was employed as waitress at a Toronto Junction hotel, where she had been for two years. The wife of the proprietor went upstairs and found the girl's bedroom door locked. There was no response to her call, so she summoned help and the door was broken open. Miss Fetter was discovered lying unconscious on the bed, and, although medical aid was called, she died within a few minutes.

During 1907 the Ontario Government distributed $358,175 among the rural schools of the older counties. In Northern Ontario the grants totalled $81,580.

Wreck Commissioner Spain's inquiry into the wreck of the 'Lurline,' the Ontario Government cruiser, off Goderich port, has resulted in the suspension of Capt. J. B. Forrest's certificate for six months. The captain, the court held, was under the impression that the aids to navigation at the Goderich entrance were exactly the same as when he had been there last, fifteen or twenty years before. The casualty to the 'Lurline' was caused by the master's indifference and negligence in not supplying himself with the necessary information regarding navigation aids established in recent years, and easily obtainable.

Dominic Taberinto, sent to the penitentiary from Toronto in January, 1906, to serve five years for manslaughter, has died from heart disease.

West Lorne and Rodney will be incorporated as villages, and thus escape the operation of the local option law, which will be voted upon by Aldborough Township next month.

It is stated that the sergeants of the two Toronto companies of the Canadian Army Corps are about to establish a military mess without a canteen. There are about twenty sergeants and staff sergeants in the local companies of the C.A.S.C., and Lieut.-Col. Langton, the permanent A.S.C. officer of the Western Ontario Command, thinks there will be no difficulty in securing rooms for the non-liquor mess in the new extension to the Armories.

A final settlement of the affairs of the Atlas Loan Co., of St. Thomas, which went into liquidation in June, 1903, has been made. The assets amounted to $48,000, while the original claims to filed $100,000, and the final distribution brought the dividend up to 46⅝ cents on the dollar. According to the statement presented to Mr. Hodgins, the master-in-ordinary, the legal expenses totalled $32,000, and the liquidators' fees $16,000.

An English artist, Leano Stephenson by name, has committed suicide in Toronto by taking tincture of aconite. It appears that Stephenson, who had been for some time in straightened circumstances, took the poison in the presence of his wife and then went to bed. Later the wife discovered what had happened, but medical aid was summoned too late to save his life.

Prof. Shuttleworth, analyst for Toronto for 14 years, no longer acts in that capacity. The reason for this break in relations is that the professor is a director of a Mineral Springs Company, which advertises the fact that the city water is bad in order to procure customers. As the professor reports on the water, the city regards this dual position as inconsistent.

The immigration returns for the month of November showed an increase of about 18 percent over November, 1906. The total arrivals for the month were 13,598, an increase of 2,074. There were 9,068 immigrants by ocean ports, compared with 7,225 in November last year, an increase of 2,383.

The explosion of a boiler of a threshing machine engine on the farm of Mr. H. Woods, Delaware Township, near Lambeth, caused injury to six men, two of them very seriously; the others suffer from painful wounds and scalds. Their names are William Schram, William Nixon, Joseph Poole, George Poole, Henry Woods and Arthur Porte. The boiler was torn into a hundred pieces, and the fragments were scattered over the orchard. One portion was hurled clear over the orchard. The front wheels alone remain intact. The cause of the explosion is unknown. Schram's face is terribly scalded. One eye is completely closed, and his shoulders are also scalded fearfully. The skull is slightly fractured. Wm. Nixon has a very badly burned body. He is scalded fearfully from his head to his hips, in many places the skin peeling from his body. He has also a very badly fractured leg.

A Kingston despatch says that on Tuesday at County Court, Dr. McConville was sentenced to fourteen months in the Central Prison for assault and attempt to rob Mrs. Donovan. The prisoner made an eloquent plea for liberty, and his lawyer compared him to Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. McConville is well educated and well connected, but when drunk loses complete control of himself.

Mrs. Orford, an immigrant, living at Kingston, on Wednesday attempted to commit suicide by taking morphine. Medical aid was summoned, and she will recover. Some time ago she was deserted by her husband.

...STERN CANADA.

...have had quite ...urs sent ...tion.

When the news of the arrival of the cars was known there was a big rush of farmers gathered in the town; each farmer had a small stack of wheat which he threw into a car as a sign of possession. A general stampede followed the stopping of the train, in which there were many disputes over the possession of the cars, and mounted police were called in to control the angry settlers when the cars were handed over to the elevators.

At a meeting of the Brandon branch of the Grain Growers' Association a resolution was passed asking that bona fide farmers be allowed to go into the spruce bush now held as a forest reserve to remove small spruce to plant on their farms.

Norman Swartz has been instantly killed in a runaway accident by being thrown from a load of hay at Osage, Sask. He became entangled in the lines and was dragged under the wheels. He leaves a wife and two children.

George Salmon, aged 14, has been killed at Raymond, Alta., the horse which he was driving becoming entangled in the harness and falling on the driver.

By a casting vote, the Calgary City Council on Tuesday decided in favor of the government of the city by a commission.

It is proposed to establish in Winnipeg a central organization for all benevolent institutions, the object being to prevent overlapping and to give a system to the various societies.

Winnipeg will probably next session seek power to sell electricity for commercial lighting purposes without restriction.

Four local and two long-distance systems of telephone service will probably be controlled by the Saskatchewan Government within the next year. One of the long-distance lines will traverse most of the important stations on the Dominion telegraph route between Qu'Appelle and Lloydminster, and with the permission of the Hon. Mr. Pugsley, Minister of Public Works, use its poles; the other will link Regina with several important centres on the Soo and Arcola lines.

At Morrissey, B.C., D. McDermott, a passenger from Fernie, has been killed by getting off a train while it was in motion.

Advices from Nelson, B.C., state that the freight rates committee of the board of trade has decided that the C. P. R. reduction on the freight rates from the east made recently are totally inadequate. The Nelson wholesalers declare this is no concession, inasmuch as the Vancouver rates eastward have been further dropped and it is now more than possible for Vancouver merchants to undersell Nelson merchants in their own markets, although the latter are four hundred miles nearer to the point of supply.

George Aldridge, rivetter, of Vancouver, has been drowned in Seymour creek. The riveters were working overtime to finish the job before laying off for the holidays. Aldridge overbalanced, and fell into the rushing stream.

Nanaimo hotels have been warned that their licenses are in danger, as they cannot supply sleeping accommodation to applicants.

Large emigration from Ireland to Canada next year is predicted by the Hon. W. T. Finley, Minister of Agriculture in Alberta.

Vancouver will not increase the number of liquor shop licenses until the population passes the hundred thousand mark.

A fourteen-year-old Winnipeg boy has been missing since Saturday. His parents fear he has committed suicide, and say dime novels are the cause.

QUEBEC.

It is stated that an illicit whiskey still has been confiscated in St. Roch's. The find was made by two revenue officers, who for some time had been suspicious of illicit distilling.

Encouraged by the very great success of their last show, the members of the Quebec Poultry Association expect to make this year's exhibition even a greater success, and no efforts will be spared to surpass all the previous records. It has been decided to hold the annual show during the week following that of the Montreal Association, which will take place toward the end of January or beginning of February. The election of officers resulted as follows: Patron, the Hon. Premier Gouin; vice-patrons, the Hon. J. Allard, Minister of Agriculture; the Hon. R. Turner; hon. president, Mr. A. Rhodes; hon. vice-presidents, Messrs. A. E. Pfeiffer, and P. C. Lacasse; president, Mr. A. P. Doddridge; vice-presidents, Major A. de L. Panet and Mr. Raymond; secretary-treasurer, Mr. T. M. Houghton.

A correspondent at St. Gabriel, County of Rimouski, reports the disappearance of a six-year-old boy named Levesque. The little fellow set out with two of his younger sisters to join their father, who was at work in the bush a considerable distance from the house. The two girls returned, but the boy decided to go on. Since that time no trace or tidings has been found of the boy, notwithstanding a general hunt by seventy men. The only thing discovered was the boy's pocket handkerchief, which was picked up in the bush.

The Hon. A. L. Taschereau, K.C., Minister of Public Works and Labor, has been entertained at dinner at the Chateau Frontenac. There was a very large gathering, including many members of the Federal Parliament and Provincial Legislature. The guest of the evening spoke of his recent trip to England, of the social problems which face the Old Country, and of the question of education.

The main building of the Standard Drain Pipe Company, St. Johns, has been totally destroyed by fire, the loss being estimated at about $125,000.

At a meeting of the members of the Bar of the District, held at Sherbrooke, for the purpose of forming a local Bar Association, committees were appointed to consider the matter and report.

According to a Quebec correspondent, the government has initiated litigation in order to contest the right of Newfoundland to exercise sovereignty on portions of the east coast of Labrador. It is said that Newfoundland has given licenses for the cutting of timber on land within the jurisdiction of the Province of Quebec.

The funeral of Mr. Felix Carbray, ex-M.P.P., at Quebec, was very largely attended, many judges, Cabinet ministers, ex-ministers and others taking positions in the cortege. At St. Patrick's Church, Monseigneur Marois represented the Archbishop of Quebec, who is in Europe.

Some time ago the Premier, the Hon. Mr. Gouin, urged that Ungava should be annexed to Quebec, and a document in favor of this extension has now been sent to Ottawa. It is claimed that Quebec is equally justified with Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan in urging an extension of its boundaries in the direction of Hudson's Bay. The addition of Ungava to the province of Quebec would double the size of the latter, and the argument is that its affairs can better be conducted from Quebec than from Ottawa, and that the annexation would better enable the province to protect its timber lands and fish and game near the present frontiers from destruction at the hands of operators in the district of Ungava.

On Thursday at a meeting in Quebec of the executive committee appointed in connection with the third centenary of the Foundation of Quebec, the chairman stated that His Excellency had requested Lieutenant-Governor Jetté to appoint a committee of ten Quebeckers, who would specially attend to this National Park scheme. Nine members had already been selected, and a central committee will also be appointed by the Governor-General. Subscriptions will be asked for throughout the British Empire and in France towards the project, and Earl Grey will be the patron of the association, while the Lieutenant-Governors of each province will be requested to become vice-patrons. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Hon. Mr. Gouin have already accepted this position.

MARITIME PROVINCES.

At St. John, N.B., two deaf mutes have been married. The ceremony was interpreted to the bride and bridegroom by the bridesmaid and best man.

Alexander Jamieson, a farmer, while driving to his home at Clover Hill, fourteen miles from Sussex, N.B., lost a team of horses and sleigh through the ice on what is known as Cassidy's Lake, and had a close call from being drowned himself.

Mr. T. M. Burns, appointed by the New Brunswick Government to inquire into the possibilities of the local lines, has presented his report. He is agreeably surprised by the condition in which he and Mr. G. Brown found the branch railway lines, which were much better indeed than they had expected. Business on all lines has increased in the last five years, probably thirty percent, and operating expenses have correspondingly increased. A good deal of money has been expended by the branch lines on maintenance of track development and keeping the railways in good running order. They found that all branch lines were well sleepered, bridges in fine condition and rails well laid.

Maritime.... ....

Mrs. Mary Connell, of St. John, on Wednesday had a close call. While lighting a stove her clothing caught on fire; when she noticed it she rushed downstairs into the streets. By this time practically all her clothes were on fire. She ran into a restaurant, where a man threw his coat round her and put out the flames. She is very seriously injured.

The death of Mr. R. L. Black, ex-M.P.P., is announced at Weymouth, Digby County, N.S. He was seventy years of age, and was elected for Cumberland in 1886. Mr. Black was a prominent figure in temperance work, holding high office in the Sons of Temperance.

MONTREAL NEWS.

Miss Huling, of Cambridge, Mass., on Thursday, at the Westmount Baptist Church, related her experiences of Dr. Grenfell's mission in Labrador. The men of Labrador are, she said, very brave and extremely hospitable, but very ignorant. Dr. Grenfell was doing a splendid work. Miss Huling concluded by giving a graphic description of the lives of the Moravian missionaries and the hardships they have to endure. So far they had been living a communal life, but they were about to try family life. On their small stipend—$55 a year for a single man and $90 for a married man—she doubted whether they would succeed.

Montreal's longshoremen have lost their test action against the Shipping Federation. Some 200 men who did not sign the contract claimed the bonus of two and a half cents per hour, but the Shipping Federation denied liability on the ground that the men refused to sign until the close of navigation. Mr. Recorder Weir held that he had, under the Lemieux Act, no jurisdiction to enforce any decision of a board of conciliation; possibly, however, he said, the plaintiff had rights which he might have retained under the original contract and which could be determined by competent courts of law,

The plans of Messrs. E. & W. Maxwell, of Montreal, have been accepted by the assessors in the matter of the design for Saskatchewan's new provincial legislative buildings at Regina. The building will cost a million and a quarter dollars, exclusive of furnishings. There were seven competing designs.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association have protested against the council's action in raising the wages of the corporation laborers to $1.80 per day of nine hours, or $2 a day of ten hours. The protest is based on the ground that the increase is uncalled for, and is a discouragement to those workmen seeking to better their positions by the acquirement of special technical training. The action of the City Council is also one calculated to deter new industries from locating in Montreal, for if the labor on the street is paid higher wages here than elsewhere, Montreal will come to be looked upon with disfavor as a business or manufacturing centre on account of the higher wage scale, established by the City Council. Further, the action of the City Council at this juncture is in direct opposition to the general trend of business conditions, which are requiring a reduction of wages or the laying off of both skilled and unskilled labor.

Auguste Sacholofsky, a Pole, met with his death in the C. P. R. yards near Parthenais street. The body was found lying on the track, and it was clear from the injuries that more than one engine had run over the body. No one saw how the accident occurred.

The question as to whether newspapers are justified in using the documents of the court in reporting judicial cases has been decided by the Court of Appeal. Did the privilege for reports apply only to such reports when they referred to cases publicly heard in open court? Mr. Justice Taschereau held that the written documents of a court house record are not public property, that the privilege of reporting cases extends only to what takes place in open court, and even then any libellous statements made by counsel cannot be printed in the papers with impunity. The plaintiff was allowed $250 damages against the 'Gazette' Printing Company. Mr. Justice Bossé dissented.

Nine days after he and his wife had been found unconscious from coal gas from a stove in their bedroom, John William Littlewood, who lived at Lachine, has died in the Royal Victoria Hospital. The wife died two days after the accident, and Littlewood was taken to the hspital unconscious.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

Seven hundred veterans gathered in London Tuesday to commemorate the golden jubilee of the Indian Mutiny.

Because of the recent drought in the Punjab the area usually planted in wheat has been reduced from nine million to five million acres.

Five men met their death in Paris yesterday in an inrush of water into a caisson of the Metropolitan Railway under the Seine.

Five persons have been killed by an explosion of compressed air in the uncompleted subway tunnel under the river Seine, near Notre Dame, Paris.

While the jewellery store of David Holtze, Chicago, was crowded with customers on Tuesday, two robbers smashed a show window and escaped with two trays of diamonds and jewellery valued at $50,000. The thieves escaped.

Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy's latest project is the founding of a $1,000,000 Christian Science institute, 'for the special benefit of the poor and the general good of all mankind.' She is now in consultation with Archibald McLellan, one of the three trustees of her estate, in regard to the details.

Testimony that there has been no mistreatment of patients at the Manhattan State Hospital for the Insane was offered yesterday before the State Board of Lunacy, now investigating conditions at the Ward's Island institution. Dr. Floyd Haviland, a staff physician, said there were many epileptics at the hospital, and that it was necessary to throw them to the floor and to loosen their clothing when seized with fits. Often it required several attendants to subdue a patient so attacked. A stranger, he said, might mistake this for abuse. A number of attendants testified that the patients were always properly cared for and never ill used. At previous hearings several witnesses had testified regarding alleged brutal treatment of patients in the institution.

The New York Republicans Tuesday endorsed the nomination of Mr. Hughes for President.

The town of Hudson, Ohio, has voted all the saloons out, and as a result is to receive a gift of $200,000.

The Field Museum of Chicago is sending out an expedition to visit Thibet and several other practically unknown quarters of the globe. Harvard is preparing an expedition to Central Africa and excavations are shortly to begin on the site of Herculaneum.

The Governor of Alaska estimates the population of that country at 31,000, exclusive of 6,000 people of mixed nationalities employed in mines, canneries and railroad construction during the summer. He reports extensive prospecting in the various mining districts, and says that loose methods followed in staking claims and maintaining titles to placer grounds have caused much litigation. The whiskey peddler is, he says, the worst enemy of the native, but the earning capacity and desire of the coast Indians to live as the whites do are increasing.

The Paris assize court on Tuesday sentenced Gustave Herve, the anti-military leader, to one year's imprisonment and to pay a fine of $750 for defaming the army and navy and inciting the troops to mutiny by his writings in the 'Guerre Sociale.' His assistants on the paper, M. Almereyda and Merle, who did not appear before the court, were sentenced to five years' imprisonment and to pay a fine of $750 by default.

Sister Theresa, a nurse at St. Mary's Hospital, Milwaukee, Wis., was on Tuesday, shot and killed by Gustav Wirth, aged 32, who is supposed to be insane. The assassin fled, after firing four shots into the nurse's body, but was captured after being chased several blocks, and lodged in the police station. Wirth was operated upon at the hospital about a year ago, and it is said showed signs of insanity at that time.

French forces in Morocco are said to be bringing the obstreperous tribesmen to terms. Recent fighting has resulted in two victories for partisans of Abd-El-Aziz, the Sultan of Morocco. The Rehamnas, followers of Mulai Hafig, the 'Southern Sultan,' attacked the Shragna tribesmen, partisans of Abd-El-Aziz, but were repulsed with the loss of 200 men. After receiving 800 reinforcements from Mulai Hafig, the Rehamnas attacked a second time, but again suffered defeat.

The Dutch Cabinet has resigned owing to the defeat of the army estimates in the second chamber.

A plot to blow up the Council of the Empire is reported from St. Petersburg. Among the papers seized is an application in the name of the 'Journal Govremennoe Slovo' for a ticket of admission to the meetings of the council. This led to the arrest of the entire editorial staff, but as the editor proved that a similar application had been handed in long ago, all were again released. Men and women implicated in the conspiracy are being arrested daily, mostly in Finnish territory. A large store of bombs and a tremendous force of explosives and detonators has been discovered hidden under ice blocks inside the Finland frontier.

The French convict Gallay, who, it may be recalled, was sent to the French penal settlement at Guiana a couple of years ago for robbing the Comptoir d'Escompte, recently died on his return to France. He declared that the penal settlement was Hades for the convicts who have not acquired notoriety, for those whose crime had failed to interest the public, and whose condemnation has passed unnoticed, and that while in August last the penal settlement counted 37,000 convicts, to-day there are only five or six thousand, the others having succumbed to the climate or the rigors of the terrible life they are obliged to lead.

Father John of Cronstadt is seriously ill. Father John is considered personally one of the strongest supporters of Russian orthodoxy and the autocracy, but his followers are under the charge of drunkenness and immorality.

The Portuguese federal election has been fixed for April 5.

The Goldfield mine owners are asking for an injunction against the members of the Miners' Union for picketing, and accuse them of 'wanton destruction of property, murder of innocent citizens, lawlessness and anarchy to such an extent that it has instituted a reign of terror in the Goldfield district.'

The 'Atlas,' arrived at San Francisco from Baltimore, reports sinking the Norwegian barque 'Viking' off Cape Horn, and having several deaths and a mutiny among her own crew.

According to a statement issued officially at Valparaiso, the recent encounters at Iquique, between nitrate strikers and the police, resulted in the killing of 210 men, and the wounding of about fifty. During one of the engagements the troops fired particularly at the leaders of the strikers, but their aim was poor and the men were not hurt. The president and the vice-president of the local strike organizations, who are Spanish Anarchists, have disappeared. Iquique is now calm, but there is no work going on in the greater portion of the nitrate plant because the laborers have emigrated in large numbers.

A Buffalo despatch stated that Charles Schroff, aged 44 years, proprietor of International Hall, 253 East Genessee street, a saloon and bowling alley, was shot and instantly killed on Wednesday by his son, Charles, aged 20 years. Schroff, senior, had been drinking heavily of late and quarrelled with his wife, and, it is said, struck her to-day when she called upon her son to protect her. He came into the room and shot at his father, the first shot taking effect, killing him almost instantly. The son was arrested.

A Denver correspondent says that promoters, mining engineers, and other persons convicted of using the mails with intent to defraud in connection with the sale of stock in the Lost Spanish Bullion Mines Company, were sentenced Thursday in the United States District Court here as follows: George S. Dubers, Lee Dubers, and C. L. Blackwell, 30 days in jail, and $1,000 fine each; William H. Wilson, W. B. Cameron, A. E. Kebler and Arthur Lawrence, 15 days' imprisonment, and $500 fine each; Arthur Levan and E. W. Sebben, $100 fine and costs, amounting to $200; R. C. Hunt and Danton Pinkus, $50 fine and $150 costs.

Khurd raiders are sacking the city of Urumiah, North-West Persia, and anarchy prevails.

Cholera is raging at Mecca, and the pilgrims are reported dying at the rate of one hundred a day.

The hearing of the Harden von Moltke libel suit was resumed at Berlin Friday with open doors. The greater part of the morning session was taken up with the testimony of Dr. Frey, of Vienna, who at one time treated Frau von Elbe, the divorced wife of Gen. Count Kuno von Moltke. The witness declared that the former Countess was most hysterical, and that her charges against von Moltke were based upon fantasy. Dr. Liman, editor of the Leipsig 'Neuste Nachrichten,' when called upon to testify regarding a remark he had heard Bismarck make concerning Prince Philip Zu Eulenburg, swore to-day that he understood Bismarck's words to mean simply that Zu Eulenburg was responsible for certain political occurrences, and that they conveyed no covert innuendo about vile practices.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions reports unusually severe famine conditions in Asia Minor. Bread is double its price, wheat and other cereals are considerably higher than last year, and prices for other necessaries are four or five times higher than fifteen years ago. Teachers in the villages near Erzeroum, whose salaries average $79.20 in American money, are obliged to pay $52.80 for a year's supply of wheat. Mr. Herd, the British consul at Bitlis, reports that several hundred persons in the Moush Plain and Bularik will probably starve to death before the winter closes unless relief reaches them soon.

The United States minister at Quito reports that the recent revolution in Ecuador has been quelled by the arrest of General Toral, formerly Ecuadorean minister to Great Britain, and twenty of his adherents. They were charged with attempting the overthrow of the government, and the initial step was to be the seizure of the barracks, at the capital, through the conversion to the revolutionary movement of the soldiers of the garrison.

In a rear-end collision on the Pennsylvania Elevated Railway at Camden, N.J., Friday, three persons were killed and over a dozen injured.

The New England cotton mills have decided to curtail production for the next two months twenty-five percent.

A San José, Cal., man early Thursday morning shot and killed his five-year-old son, mistaking him for a burglar.

TOOK CARBOLIC ACID

BREAD DRIVER LOST EMPLOYMENT AND BECAME DESPONDENT.

Wm. Macdonald, 23 years of age, and married, committed suicide in his boarding-house at 248 Counsol street, Friday afternoon.

Macdonald had been employed as a bread waggon driver for four years by Mr. R. S. Auld, of St. Antoine street. Three weeks ago he was dismissed, and it is stated that his inability to obtain new employment led him to end his life by taking poison.

Macdonald and his wife lived in a room at 248 Counsol street, a boarding-house kept by Mrs. Lamontagne. On Friday afternoon Macdonald accompanied his wife to her mother's home on Dominion street, but left shortly after 4 o'clock, saying that he would call for her in the evening. He returned to his room and closed the door. Presently occupants of the house heard a groan, and when they went into the room to investigate Macdonald was stretched on the bed writhing with pain. On a table was a small bottle of carbolic acid, and a glass in which the poison had been poured. The bottle was half empty, and it is thought the man must have swallowed at least two ounces.

Medical assistance was summoned, but efforts to save him were unsuccessful.

Macdonald was married two years ago in Montreal. His wife says that her husband was easily discouraged.

THE LATE J. G. HERALD

YOUNG STUDENT BROODED OVER HIS FATHER'S DEATH.

Winnipeg, Dec. 23.—After brooding for two years over the death of his father, Mr. John Grafton Herald, a young medical student of Queen's University, Kingston, Ont., shot himself through the head in a room in the Strathcona Hotel on Saturday night, and died a few hours later in the General Hospital. The deceased came to Winnipeg from Morris on Dec. 9, and registered at the Strathcona Hotel. Together with his chum, Loomis D. Lawson, they were assigned to room No. 52, on the second floor of the hotel, and have occupied the same room since Dec. 9.

The deceased was the only son of the late Dr. John Herald, of Queen's University, and was a student at the same institution. He had only one more year to study until he secured his degree of M.D., but, broken hearted with the loss of his father, he gave up his studies and came to the West in the endeavor to forget his trouble. He came to Winnipeg and obtained a clerkship in the city, but did not keep the position long, and left for Grand View, where he took a situation on a ranch. From there he left for Morris, Manitoba, where he went in for farming, and until December stayed on the farm. A fire broke out in Morris, in which he lost all his belongings, and he came to Winnipeg with the intention of again taking a position in the city. His mother and sister, in the meantime had been on a trip to Europe, and on their arrival home at Dundas, Ont., sent for him to come home for Christmas, which he intended to do. He had made up his mind to return to the university and finish his studies, and was to leave for the East last Monday. He had all arrangements made, and had his bill at the hotel paid up to date.

A STUPID MISTAKE

MAN EVIDENTLY STRUCK BY CAR, TAKEN TO POLICE STATION.

Toronto, Dec. 25.—The death of J. A. Napp, at St. Michael's Hospital, at 7 o'clock this morning, will be the subject of an inquest. Knapp was found on the corner of Church and Shuter streets last night, apparently struck by a street car. He was taken to St. Michael's Hospital, where it was reported merely as a case of drunk, so he was discharged from the hospital and taken to No. 2 police station. Early this morning the sergeant on duty went to Knapp's cell and found him bleeding at the ears and mouth. He was immediately hurried to the hospital again, where he died at 7 o'clock this morning.

SMALLPOX

INCREASING IN ONTARIO AND DECREASING IN QUEBEC.

Toronto, Dec. 25.—Statistics compiled by the Public Works Department of Ontario and Quebec show that while smallpox is decreasing in the latter, it has increased generally and to a serious extent in this province. In 1906 there were 482 cases in Ontario, with two deaths, as compared with 234, slightly over half of Ontario's total, in Quebec, from which not a single death followed. Since the commencement of the year there have been 711 cases in Ontario, with two deaths, while in Quebec there have been only 167. In other words, smallpox has increased in this province on almost the same ratio as it has decreased in the adjoining one. The secretary of the Ontario Board of Health, Dr. Hodgetts, in unmistakable terms blames the municipal authorities for failing to set in motion the machinery which the public health board provides at singling out of smallpox cases.

WELL DONE, VETERANS!

Toronto, Dec. 24.—K. C. Marshall, president of the Veterans' Association, headed a deputation which waited upon Mrs. Muir, widow of Alexander Muir, and presented her with papers which raised a mortgage on her home, which amounted to between $700 and $800. There was a balance of $200, which was also presented to her. Then, after extending to the widow of the man who wrote 'The Maple Leaf Forever' a Merry Christmas, the deputation withdrew.

REFORM IN VATICAN.

Cardinal Sala's Proposals to Pius VII., Once Suppressed, Now Made Public.

Rome, Dec. 23.—A most interesting book has just been given to the public after its suffocation by the Vatican as pernicious and dangerous nearly a century back, and goes to prove that the present struggle of the papacy against modernism is only a repetition of what has taken place on many other occasions against anyone who attempted to bring about changes in the organization and workings of the Catholic Church.

One of these episodes, perhaps the most interesting, has just come to light in the above-mentioned book in a most curious and romantic way. The person who proposed the reforms was no less than a prince of the church, Cardinal Giuseppe Antonio Sala, who drew a vast plan of changes to be introduced into the church, and presented it to Pius VII., who had just been freed from captivity. The cardinal, speaking of his scheme of reform, said that they were designed to bring about such a happy change as to renew the face of the Christian world, and 'make the Pontifical States the model of religion and good order.'

That courageous member of the Sacred College summarized as follows the defects of the papacy of his time:

'First—The confusion of sacred and profane.

'Second—The objection to correct mistakes with the excuse that it has always been done.

'Third—The adoption of the system to be careful not to do worse.

'Fourth—The lack of knowledge of men.'

The cardinal proposed the following remedies:

'First—Separate the spiritual from the temporal.

'Second—Correct all that is abusive.

'Third—Suppress, especially in ecclesiastical affairs, any excessive complacency.

'Fourth—Choose men to fit the office, not the office for the men.'

All this was carefully worked out in a large MS. volume, of which several copies were taken, and which contained affirmations now more than then a cause of scandal, such as, for instance, the statement coming from such a high church personage that 'The temporal power is in no way essential, indeed, is distinct from the spiritual.'

The famous Cardinal Consalvi, one of the greatest Secretaries of State that the papacy has ever had, received a copy of the MS. in Vienna, where he was negotiating with the representatives of the European powers, and he ordered immediately that every copy should be strictly suppressed. In a few days all the copies disappeared, while the original was kept at the Vatican in the secret archives. There was, however, one copy which escaped, made by a young student of the Ecclesiastical Academy, who frequented the house of Cardinal Sala, by whom he was especially loved. This young man studied the MS., which no one knew he possessed, rose rapidly in his career, and in his turn one day became a cardinal, and later Pope, under the name of Leo XIII., and to the influence of that MS. are now attributed several of the important reforms carried out by the great pontiff.

Cardinal Sala's nephew, after years of effort not to allow so interesting and instructive a work to disappear, has succeeded in his turn in making a copy of the Leo XIII. copy, and has now published it in book form, under the name of 'Piano di Riforma' (Plan of Reform), with some observations such as that his uncle had foreseen the future proposing and favoring, thirty-three years before, the reforms which were imposed upon Pius IX. in 1847 and in 1849.

GIFT TO CAMBRIDGE

LADY PEARCE LEAVES TWO MILLIONS TO TRINITY COLLEGE.

London, Dec. 25.—Trinity College, Cambridge, benefits to the extent of $2,000,000 by the death of Lady Pearce yesterday. Her husband, Sir William George Pearce, chairman of the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, died on Nov. 20 last. By his will, his fortune was bequeathed to Trinity College on the death of Lady Pearce.

MR. BARNES TO RETIRE.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 23.—Confirming reports which have been in circulation, Premier Robinson announced to-night that the Hon. James Barnes, member of the New Brunswick Government, is to retire soon. He will engage in immigration work for the local Government.

SHOW THIS TO YOUR PASTOR.

By far the most popular Sunday-school paper in Canada is the 'Northern Messenger.' It contains from twelve to sixteen pages a week of the most interesting matter. It is so interesting that scholars who are not too eager to come to school will come so as to get their 'Messenger.' It has by far the largest circulation throughout the Dominion of any Sunday-school paper, which should be an indication at least of its popularity.

Please show your pastor also the larger announcement elsewhere in this paper.

The reliability of its news is not excelled—'Standard,' Hawkesbury, Ont.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

Rest and Recuperation,—o provide a restful environment without sanatorium restrictions, to enable tired humanity to recuperate naturally, to secure to the average man or woman the needed change from worry and care, and to do these at moderate cost, is the mission of 'The Welland,' the home of 'The St. Catharines Well.' Apply the manager, St. Catharines, or any Agent of Grand Trunk Railway System.

MADAME GOOLD.

Demands Public Execution in the Plaza of Monte Carlo.

Monte Carlo, Dec. 25. — Mme. Vere Goold has produced consternation in the principality of Monaco by exercising an ancient right of a condemned person and demanding that she be executed in the Plaza, which is the flower and tree decorated space in front of the Casino at Monte Carlo.

Ever since the trial of the Goolds for the murder of Emma Levin the Prince of Monaco has dreaded some such possibility as this. The persistent policy of the ruler has been to keep away, to cover up anything that might frighten the nervous sensibilities of the patrons of the gambling establishments. If it had been possible, the trial would have been quashed and the prisoners secretly put away.

The idea of an execution in Monte Carlo was horrifying enough—even if it could be conducted in private—and now this woman demands to be killed in public, and that the guillotine be set up in front of the Palace of Chance.

Both she and her husband have appealed against their sentences—his that of hard labor for life and hers that of the headsman—and in view of the woman's plea for a final public appearance it is quite possible the appeal will be granted.

Meanwhile the Goolds are locked up in the Monaco prison. Goold has sent a farewell message to his friends in Ireland and England, and will be shipped to Cayenne, French Guiana, if the sentence be carried out. He has also sent loving messages to the cell of his wife, but she refuses to read them, and declares that she wants nothing more to do with 'that lazy drunkard.'

Mme. Goold is defiant in everything. 'I will go to the executioner,' she has said, 'with my head high. All the women want to see me on my knees, but they won't.'

GERMANY AND CANADA

ARTICLE ON TRADE QUESTION IN BERLIN PAPER.

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 25.—The 'Borsen Courier,' of Berlin, publishes a leading article on trade with Canada, urging a change in tactics on the part of the German Government. It regrets that not the slightest reference is made to Canada in the bill prolonging the provisional commercial arrangement with England until the end of 1909, which has just become law. 'If we continue our present policy in respect of our commercial relations with Canada,' it remarks, 'we run the risk of being left very far behind in the race for trade with this thriving country, which contains almost inconceivable possibilities of development. The interest of German trade and industry demand most urgently that the German Government shall now do something towards renewing German-Canadian commercial relations.'

ALBERTA COAL FOR SPOKANE

C. P. R. TO ALLOW ITS CARS TO RUN INTO WASHINGTON STATE.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 26.—Advantageous to the mines in the Alberta coal belt, tributary to the northwest provinces and the Spokane country, is the decision of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to permit its cars to run south of the international boundary when loaded with coal. It means that during the next five months the Lundbreck collieries will be occupied in supplying fuel to the district and that the output will be largely increased. Heretofore the markets south of the border have been compelled to depend upon foreign cars in transit westward to be loaded with lumber and other products for eastern shipment. The new policy will enable the Alberta mines to fill orders for coal that have been piling up for two months.

Mr. Andrew Laidlaw, of the Galbraith Coal Company, operating in the Alberta district, says that his concern was the first to take advantage of the new order, the company loading four cars for Spokane the first day. The company's new plant has enabled the colliery to fill many orders for the Canadian market, and the pressure from that quarter is materially relaxed, although orders for more than 100 cars are unfilled. It is expected that by the end of December the bulk of the orders in hand will be filled.

On the Alberta Coal and Coke Company's property, south of the Galbraith areas, another of the parallel seams extensively developed on Galbraith ground has been opened. The Alberta company now has seams 14 and 15 feet in thickness, respectively, and at an interval of 180 feet. The coal is identical with that in the Galbraith seams, hard, clean and bright. The present openings are only 3,000 feet from the main line of the Crow's Nest Railway, and it is planned to establish permanent workings at or near this point, which can be reached with a spur track having a slight gradient.

The work of reopening the Breckenridge & Lund colliery, under lease to the Alberta Fuel Company, is making progress, and the daily tonnage is about 100, and this is to be increased steadily. The colliery is equipped with a plant costing $70,000 and the product is turned out in excellent shape.

DOCTOR MURDERS HIS WIFE.

Hyde Park, Mass., Dec. 25.—Dr. Walter R. Amesbury, of Milford, shot and instantly killed his wife, Anna, a teacher of music, in Roanoke College, Danielsville, Virginia, as the family were about to sit down to their Christmas dinner at the home of Mrs. Jennie Reeve, Mrs. Amesbury's mother, at 2120 Metropolitan avenue, here to-day.

A PROHIBITION TOWN.

Hudson, Ohio, Votes Out Saloon —Will Now Receive Gift of $200,000.

CONDITIONS MADE BY MILLIONNAIRE NEW YORK COAL MAN.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—A despatch to the 'Record-Herald' from Hudson, Ohio, says: 'Because of a gift of $200,000, supposedly made by Mr. J. W. Ellsworth, a millionnaire New York coal man, which promises to make this town a model village provided that the sale of liquor ceases before the money is paid over, Hudson voted out saloons yesterday by a vote of 266 to 188. The town's sentiment is overwhelmingly 'wet,' but the chance to get municipal light and gas plants and the remodelling of the old western reservoir college at a cost of $100,000, overcame the saloon sentiment. The 'drys' give all the credit to Mr. Ellsworth, who offered to permit the sale of beer. No law being found to exempt beer-selling from the operation of an ouster vote, the amber beverage was sacrificed as well.

THE CRUSADE IN CHICAGO.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—A thousand saloons will have locked their doors and gone out of business in this city by May 1,' said Adam Ortseifen, president of the McAvery Brewing Company, during a talk last night on the scarcity of barley, which is seriously crippling the large breweries and the malt houses, and may mean a probably raise in the price per barrel of beer within a few weeks.

The 'Witness' is one of the purest papers on the American continent.—'Chronicle,' Durham, Ont.

AN INHUMAN GOVERNOR

BOUND NATIVE OF TOGOLAND TO FLAGSTAFF AND LEFT HIM THERE TO STARVE.

Berlin, Dec. 23.—Ex-Governor Horn, of Togoland, was to-day sentenced to a fine of $75 and costs, and to be transferred to another post, for the ill-treatment of a native in Togoland in 1903. The charge against Horn was that he caused the death of a native, named Zeue, by having been bound to a flagstaff and left there without food or drink for twenty-four hours. He was first tried for this offence several months ago by the Superior Colonial Court at Dualla, and fined $225. There has been much criticism in Germany, especially on the part of Socialist speakers in the Reichstag, of this sentence, which was regarded as far too light.

PETTIBONE TRIAL

MOTION FOR ACQUITTAL DENIED BY JUDGE WOOD.

Boise, Idaho, Dec. 26.—Too ill to stand while speaking to the jury, Clarence Darrow, chief counsel for the defence in the Pettibone trial, sat in his chair this afternoon as he outlined his case. He spoke with effort at times, and never raised his voice above a conversational tone. The members of the jury and an audience that crowded the court room listened to every word from the Chicago attorney's lips as he explained the theory of the defence. Darrow's statement made it evident to a great degree the same line of defence would be followed as in the Haywood trial.

Judge Wood denied the motions filed by the defence that a verdict of acquittal be advised by the court.

THE C.P.R. AND SEATTLE

AMERICANS ATTRIBUTE ANOTHER BIG ENTERPRISE TO THE CANADIAN COMPANY.

A Seattle, Washington, despatch states that Robert Strahorn's transcontinental railway the North Coast, is branded as a Canadian Pacific enterprise, pure and simple, by St. Paul engineers who have followed the trail of mysterious bands of surveyors for the Strahorn line in the Cascade mountain passes. It is predicted that C.P.R. trains will be running into Seattle by June 1, 1909. It is said by railroad engineers and surveyors that his men have mapped every unoccupied mountain pass in the Cascades.

St. Paul engineers have been watching the progress of the Strahorn activities and enough has been learned by them to make it certain, at least in their minds, that the C.P.R. is behind the project. The Spokane end of the story is well known all over the state. Strahorn lives in Spokane, where is also the magnificent residence of D. C. Corbin, the man who built the Spokane and International, a Canadian Pacific property, after selling the Spokane Falls and Northern, reaching into Canadian Pacific territory to James J. Hill.

Putting two and two together and following every step of the work of the Strahorn engineers, the secret agents of other lines, including those owned by Harriman as well as the Northern Pacific and the St. Paul, have definitely reported that the Strahorn North Coast road could hereafter be classed only as a Canadian Pacific enterprise.

TEACHERS AT KINGSTON.

Kingston, Dec. 26. — The following teachers have been selected to fill vacancies on the Kingston Collegiate Institute staff, and teachers of methods in Queen's School of Pedagogy: Messrs. Robert Hoddard, Port Hope, assistant in history and Latin; W. P. Hedley, St. Thomas, general assistant, and John Saunders, Brantford, assistant in science.

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P.S.

Please see clubbing offers on page 20. Subscribers remitting their subscriptions a little ahead of time lose nothing, as renewal subscriptions date from expiry of the previous subscriptions. On the other hand, they do greatly lessen the labors of the subscription staff, which at the busy season must work early and late to take care of the great tide of subscriptions that sets in towards the end of the year.

HIGH-HANDED ACTION.

Two Men Kidnapped at Emerson, Man. by United States Officials.

ACTION TAKEN AGAINST TREASURY DEPARTMENT FOR FALSE ARREST.

Winnipeg, Dec. 23.—There was information laid this afternoon in the Attorney-General's Department against George Foulke, an officer of the Secret Service Department of the United States Treasury, on the charge of kidnapping Isaac Casson and Albert Tolton, two citizens of Emerson. The alleged crime was committed on Dec. 3, at 9 p.m.

It appears that the two men who were kidnapped were driving east along International avenue, Emerson, which is very close to the boundary line between the United States and Canada. When just across the railway track a stranger rushed out of the watch-house and seized their horse by the bridle. In reply to the stranger's question they told him their names. The stranger was Foulke, and he at once informed them that he was an officer of the Secret Service Department at Washington, and that he wanted them to get out of the rig and go with him across the line at Noyes. Both refused, saying they were British subjects, and refused to consider themselves under arrest. They wanted to drive their horse ahead, but Foulke threatened to shoot the animal if they did so. He then appointed Robert Rossal, signal man on the railway, special constable, and ordered him to assist in the arrest.

In rather strong language Rossal refused, on the ground that he was a British subject, and that the officer had no power on this side of the line. Foulke declared that he was on neutral ground, and a struggle ensued between the two men, but neither of them could be induced to leave the rig. The stranger then backed the horse, and by a quick move secured the reins, and, striking the horse a smart blow, he had the rig across the international boundary in an instant. There the two men were placed under arrest and taken to Noyes station.

On arriving at the station Casson and Tolton were compelled to sign a paper in order to be released and allowed to return to Canada.

The reason given for their arrest was a desire to implicate them with others on a charge of smuggling grain into the United States. The papers they signed, they claim, were untrue, and they signed them under protest in order to be allowed to return home.

D. Forrester, lawyer, of Emerson, has the case in hand, and a claim is being made on the Treasury Department of the United States for the sum of $5,000 for the arrest of each of the two men kidnapped. Already a prominent official of the department has been to see Mr. Forrester, to have the matter kept quiet, but he has placed it in the hands of the Secretary of State at Ottawa and the British ambassador at Washington. To-day he laid the charge before the department of the Attorney-General, to have extradition proceedings instituted against Foulke, to have him brought back to this side of the line for trial on a charge of kidnapping.

A SEEDLESS AND CORELESS PEAR.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 27.—Pomological experts and nurserymen in various parts of the United States and Canada will be invited to trace the variety and history of a seedless and coreless pear recently discovered by Albert I. Mason, an orchardist, operating southwest of Spokane, among his trees. The tree yielded 300 pounds of fruit, and is looked upon as a horticultural wonder in this part of the Northwest. The pears are of the size of the Bartlett, of deep yellow and delicate flavor. The flesh is finely grained and is solid. The tree is in its sixth year, its yield until this year being so small that Mr. Mason intended to destroy it. The tree was labelled as Clapp's Favorite, but experts who have examined it, declare the variety so far is not known. It bears later than the earlier trees and earlier than the late varieties. They say also that the discovery is of value to horticulture if the tree continues to bear seedless and coreless pears. Samples have been sent to Luther Burbank, the fruit wizard.

LIMERICK COMPETITIONS.

National Anti-Gambling Leegue to Prosecute Newspaper Under Lottery and Betting Case.

London, Dec. 26.—The National Anti-Gambling League intends to prosecute one of the organs of the Press which carry on Limericks or similar competitions. They will be challenged both under the Lottery and Betting Acts.

In view of this fact it is interesting to know that Mr. Sydney Buxton, the Postmaster-General, declares that the increased revenue of the Post Office was due to the latest craze represented by limerick competitions, in which the sale of six-penny postal orders figured to a remarkable degree.

'In the three months of August, September and October of last year,' said Mr. Buxton, 'the total number of six-penny postal orders sold was 311,000. In the corresponding three months of the present year the number was no fewer than 5,772,000, or eighteen times as many.

INFERNAL MACHINE

FOUND IN THE MAILS OF SOUTH ERIE, PA., POST-OFFICE.

Erie, Pa., Dec. 24.—While distributing Christmas bundles in the South Erie subpost-office this afternoon an employee became suspicious of a package, the end of which had become broken, and, upon making an investigation, the package was found to contain an infernal machine, so constructed that the opening of the box would cause an explosion that would have undoubtedly killed all persons near it and set fire to everything in the vicinity.

The package was addressed to Archie Carr, 2208 Cherry street, and had been mailed in this city. The box was turned over to Postmaster Sobel, who called in Chief of Police Wagner and Detective Pinney. The chief cut out the side of the box and exposed a bottle and contrivances so arranged that the opening of the lid would have pulled the cork and ignited several matches. The following inscription was on the side wrapper:

'You may, perhaps, find the cover will catch a little when you open the box, but pay no attention to it. Merry Xmas.'

Dr. J. W. Wright, health officer and chemist, after an examination of the bottle, said it contained a high explosive, but would give no other details until after a further examination. A post-office inspector is expected here shortly.

CONTEST BROWN'S WILL

SUIT BROUGHT BY MRS. BRADLEY'S CHILDREN THROUGH THEIR GUARDIAN.

Salt Lake City, Utah, Dec. 24.—Through their guardian, Mrs. Magdison, mother of Mrs. Anna Bradley, Arthur Brown Bradley and Martin Montgomery Bradley, yesterday filed suit to break the will of former Senator Brown, whom their mother shot to death in Washington. It is contended that Brown had so frequently acknowledged the children that the disavowal in the will proves an abnormal state of mind, and this abnormality is attributed by the complainant to habitual intoxication. The Brown estate is valued at $50,000.

AUSTRALIA—CANADA

NEW LINE OF STEAMERS ESTABLISHED.

Ottawa, December 26.—A report from Mr. J. S. Larke, Canadian Trade Commissioner in Sydney, N.S.W., brings word of the establishment of another line of steamships between that port and British Columbia. The service will evidently be monthly and will confine its attention to freights. The first boat, the 'Den of Ruthven' was to have sailed last month, but was disappointed in the cargo of coal she had expected to carry to Honolulu. Owing to a strike in the Newcastle collieries she was unable to obtain the coal and the sailing was cancelled.

GREATER EXCOMMUNICATION.

Pronounced by the Pope Against All Those Concerned in Scientific Review of Rome.

Milan, Dec. 26.—The Pope, on Christmas Eve, launched the severest blow he has yet dealt modernism, it being nothing less than the pronouncement of the greater excommunication against all concerned in the production of the monthly review, the 'Rinnovamento,' which is published here.

The greater excommunication is a penalty that has been rarely imposed in modern times. Even Victor Emmanuel, when he despoiled the Papal states, was saved its severities. Among other things, it deprives its victims of Christian burial and relieves the faithful of all duties respecting the bodies and souls of those denounced, whether they are alive or dead.

The 'Rinnovamento' is a high-class scientific periodical. It is not antagonistic to religion, but it opposes the policy of the Vatican to the same extent as to inquiring modernists here and elsewhere. It is read and approved by many educated, sincere Catholics, and is sympathetically regarded by some of the cardinals and by numerous prelates and clergy. The doom of its conductors is proportioned to its influence.

Christmas Eve the sentence was communicated to the three chief directors by Cardinal Ferrari, Archbishop of Milan, who was also ordered to publish the edict from the pulpit of the historic cathedral of Milan, whence, it is stated, no similar manifesto has ever before resounded.

The decree explicitly strikes, not only at the proprietors and editors, but at the whole staff, printers and others, employed in the production of the review, as well as at every contributor and subscriber. Several aristocratic families in Milan, who are pronounced in their devotion to the Catholic faith, are affected, as well as innumerable humble readers and supporters.

The directors have replied to the papal fulmination by an announcement of their intention to continue a firm but respectful resistance to the Vatican's policy, which, they declare, is crushing liberty of research, which their review embodies.

DR. McLEAN'S MAJORITY 23.

Toronto, Dec. 24.—H. A. Mason, the returning officer, in Centre York, officially announced this morning that Dr. McLean, the Liberal candidate, was elected by a majority of 23 over Captain Tom Wallace. It is said there may be a re-count.

FOR THE COMING YEAR.

What does it mean to a Sunday School and church to have a paper that can be trusted to put only what is wholesome and good into the hearts of the children, that can be looked to for helpful ideas by the Sunday School teacher and temperance worker, that gives jolly, bright entertainment for the wee ones and encouragement and help in life's struggle to the older brothers and sisters; that is watched for by the dear old folks for its comforting words and lessons; that gives to the mothers stories for the hour when the children beg for them, and new ideas for housekeeping; that upholds for the father a manly standard of life, and in every department strives to meet the wants of the whole family If you would realize just what all this means, then make a test of the 'Northern Messenger' in your school. For over forty years it has been filling just this place in the religious life of Canada, and is more alert than ever to fill its mission.

Price per year, only 20 cents a copy in clubs of ten or over to one address.

Make a FREE TRIAL OF IT in your school for three consecutive Sundays. Send us name and address of your secretary and the number you require. We gladly do the rest and take the risk of your order following.

John Dougall & Son, publishers 'Northern Messenger,' Witness Block, Montreal.

The 'Witness' is always dealing with public... Advocate, W...

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U.S. Postage 50c extra for Weekly Witness to United States, Alaska, Hawaiian Islands and Philippine Islands, Daily Witness $3.00 extra. Northern Messenger 50 cts. extra except in clubs to one address when every four copies will be fifty cents extra postage per annum.

Foreign postage extra to all countries not named in the above list, as follows: Daily Witness, $3.50 extra; Weekly Witness, $1 extra; Northern Messenger, 50 cents extra; World Wide subscription price, including postage to foreign countries only $1.50.

Samples and subscription blanks freely and promptly sent on request.

ADVERTISING RATES.

WEEKLY WITNESS.—Casual advertisements, 20c per line per insertion. 'Farms to Rent, Farms for Sale,' can be inserted for 1c a word per insertion from subscribers. The lowest rate for non-subscribers is two cents per word. When replies are to be addressed in care of the 'Witness' Office, an additional charge of twenty-five cents is made. In all cases the full price must accompany each order.

DAILY WITNESS.—10c per line per insertion. Contracts on favorable terms. 'Employment Wanted, Situations Vacant,' etc., 10c per insertion, up to 20 words. Money must accompany order, as this quotation is reckoned on a cash basis.

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

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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REMIT—By Express or Post-Office Order, or register your letter for your own protection.

Post-Office Order can be obtained at the following rates: $2.50 or under, 3c; $2.50 to $5.00, 4c; $5.00 to $10.00, 6c.

Express money orders are issued up to $3.00 for 5c; $3 to $5, 4c; $5 to $10, 6c.

U. S. Subscribers should remit by Post-Office Order, or by American Express Co., payable at Montreal.

Stamps are accepted in payment of subscriptions provided they are in perfect condition.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS—When wishing to have your address changed from one post-office to another, it is necessary to give the old address as well as the new. If this is not done such change cannot be made.

Address all business communications,
JOHN DOUGALL & SON,
Publishers,
'Witness' Building, Montreal.

SAMPLE COPIES.

Any subscriber who would like to have Specimen Copies sent to friends, need only send upon a post card the name and addresses to which he would like papers sent.

PREMIUMS AND CLUBS.

New High Arm Drop-Head, Ball Bearing Sewing Machine, given to 'Witness' subscribers for $40 worth of new subscriptions to the 'Witness' at full rates.

For Sale, including the 'Daily Witness,' one year, $29.00, or including 'Weekly Witness,' one year, $27.00.

The People's Horse, Cattle, Sheep and Swine Doctor, for one new subscription to the 'Weekly Witness' at $1.00. For sale post-paid, to 'Witness' subscribers, 75c.

A Fountain Pen given for two new subscriptions to 'Weekly Witness,' at $1.00 each, or three renewals at $1.00 each, or ten renewals at 80c each. The pen for sale post-paid to subscribers, $1.50.

'Weekly Witness' Club rates are: Three copies, separately addressed, $2.40; four, $3.00; ten, $7.00.

Bagster's Long Primer Bible for three subscriptions to 'Weekly Witness,' two of which must be new, or a list of six renewal subscriptions at $1.00 each, or ten subscriptions at 80 cents each. For sale to 'Witness' subscribers, $1.75.

None of the above premiums can be claimed solely on one's own subscription, new or renewal.

EXPIRING SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

DECEMBER, 1907

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

London, Dec. 24.—The provincial Scotch and Irish newspapers give prominence to the warning issued by the Canadian Emigration Office regarding emigration to Canada. Many booking agents are complaining that the enforcement of the new [illegible] seriously affecting their

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

The Witness.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1907.

Wishing the readers of the 'Witness' a happy New Year, we ask for their co-operation and for that support which, if real, is worth most, their prayers. People pray for the King and for parliament, for their relatives, and for the communities in which they live, but how many of them count it a primary duty to pray for the press and, specifically, for their own newspaper. Yet there is no power to-day that means more for good or ill than the press, and there is no agency that seems to need praying for more.

A correspondent recoils from some of the letters that have appeared on questions of religion, as though in admitting them to his family he had taken a viper to his bosom. He thus raises very serious questions, namely, whether we are ourselves bound to shut our eyes to all views that we believe to be false, and whether it is possible to keep current opinion from our children. We know that the blessed truths of our own religion could never have made any progress under such conditions, and when missionaries are sent to those of other faiths, we count those noblest who have open minds towards the, to them, new doctrine that we preach, and we pity the blindness of those who are so certain of the truth of their own view, or else so afraid of losing their belief in it, that they will not listen. It surely manifests the greater faith to believe that the truth will stand all storms. One thing is certain, that no matter how protected a flock may be, the young people will have to face the problems which fill the religious world, and that many a one passing from the convinced atmosphere of the home into a world that thinks differently makes total shipwreck of faith, simply because some item in his traditional creed has given way. We well remember how many threw all religion overboard when convinced by geology that the world did not come into being in six literal days. And yet the Church as a whole has accepted that change of view and is nothing the worse. Whatever is true will stand the shock of discussion, and come out the stronger as a thing which cannot be shaken. It is far better that these things should be faced in the open day and on friendly ground than that they should rise against young people in the night and in the enemy's country. That the Church is full of such views as our correspondent abhors there seems to be little doubt, and they have to be dealt with.

The whites of Lethbridge have been manifesting their superiority to the Chinese by mobbing them. Even in this they may fail, however, as in the province of Kwang tung, from which most of those Chinamen come, there are a good many hoodlums who hold foreigners in contempt, call names at them and occasionally mob them for being of a different color and having ugly bristles on their faces. It would be interesting to learn what country gave birth to the hoodlums of Lethbridge. It would seem that the white restaurant keepers do not think a Chinaman ought to be in the business, especially if he seems to serve some of the public better than they do.

The brutal display at a hockey match in Winnipeg recently has again brought into prominence the necessity of preventing such unseemly exhibitions. The entire blame, when rough play occasions an outcry, is usually laid at the door of professionalism, and there are many who declare that by banishing all professionals from the game the objectionable incidents which so often mar Canadian sport would disappear. But it should be considered that if the professional plays a rough game, it is because his supporters want him to. It is a mere business transaction with him, as he knows that the more he pleases his employer the better will be his chance of an augmented sallary. Let it be understood that rough play means loss of income, and rough play will vanish from the professional ranks. Perhaps, after all, the chief blame lies with the spectators, who enjoy the excitement of brutal encounters, or who, from excessive zeal, or being financially interested, incite their representatives to deeds of violence. It is they who supply the thews and sinews of war, and if they refuse to watch a game unless it is a clean game, brutality will very soon vanish.

A remarkable fact, which bodes well for the future of the Philippine Islands, is that the first act passed by the new assembly was to provide an appropriation of a million dollars for the establishment of a system of public schools. The Filipinos may not know much about constitutional forms of representative government, but they know how to make a beginning in fitting themselves for exercising the duties of citizenship. It is not their own fault that the Filipinos are ignorant and backward. Popular education was never a part of the Spanish system of government, or an ambition of the friars, who had practical control of all such matters. The Spanish Government held, as all governments framed on, or in connection with, the theocratic principle hold, that the less educated the common people are the better it is for them. They are more docile and contented with their lot. Consequently the throne is more secure and the Church untroubled by questionings. The friars, who controlled what there was of education among the islanders, taught mostly by rote in the form of religious catechism and legends of the saints. The three R's were subordinate branches to be carefully guarded, so as not to let the pupils stray into the pathless fields of learning. The United States Government started on a directly contrary principle with the natives who had come under its tutelage. Its first efforts were directed to teaching them the practical wisdom and necessity of sanitation. It then set up in the towns, villages and wherever possible the grand symbol of democratic institutions and of civilization, the school house. Now the Filipinos have proved themselves apt pupils. They have grasped the idea that their future as a race depends on their making themselves capable through education of rising to the full dignity of freemen in the enjoyment of popular institutions. Whether they shall or shall not, within measurable time, prove more fit for self-government than other Spanish peoples is a question which time only can answer.

By establishing a system of pensions for employees who reach the age of sixty-five, after serving a stipulated term of years, the Grand Trunk Railway has adopted a scheme long recognized in the service of all governments and which is founded on the soundest business, economical and social principles. A railway is essentially a public service. It is intimately associated with the business necessities and personal well-being of everybody. But where, as in this country, the railway companies are engaged in many lines of business activity, in addition to that of transportation, their association with all other forms of business is so close that the necessity appears for the organization of the armies of men they employ in a way that will assure the highest efficiency. Statesmanship as well as business financial capacity of no mean order are required for carrying out such an organization. The first thing is to secure the best available men for servants. From the highest to the lowest, each must be possessed of the qualities required for the efficient discharge of the duties of his post. The railway is a system demanding perfection in all its parts. But in order to secure the right men, it is absolutely necessary that they should be fairly paid, have a reasonable certainty of permanent employment and the prospect of security from want in old age. As the experience of all concerns which employ large numbers of men has proved, when these conditions are absent there is no security against strikes, labor disputes and dislocations, which neither employers nor workers can foresee or prevent. But where there is contentment, founded on a permanent system which it is the interest of all to preserve, difficulties are easily overcome at their initial stages and harmony becomes automatic in all branches of the service. Small firms which have in their very nature not the same permanency as large corporations, are unable to institute a pension system of themselves, but here would seem to be a field for insurance companies. Some system can surely be evolved which, by co-operation, would ensure a pension practically to everybody. The genius or insurance company that shall work out a feasible plan to do that would be worthy of the world's gratitude.

Judge Dike, of New York, has adopted a drastic method of dealing with the class of crimes so frequently committed by Italians, such as stabbing with stilettos, kidnapping and blackmailing under threats of assassination. In the case of one, Francisco Furfaro, convicted before him of being a professional blackmailer, kidnapper and brigand, he imposed the full penalty of the law. The prisoner was proved to belong to an organized gang which carried on a regular system of brigandage in all its forms for profit. When imposing sentence Judge Dike commented on the crime as one of the most execrable of all offences against human law. Desperadoes who hire themselves to perpetrate murder, and in various ways exert secret terrorism, are enemies of society who must be utterly crushed out of existence. The only regret was that the court could not make the punishment a life term. Here in Montreal stabbing affrays are so frequent that some more severe means than have yet been tried seem to be required to bring strangers from Southern Europe to a clearer realization of the enormity of the dagger habit crime. Flogging once put an end to an epidemic of garotting and would probably have a like effect here. As for secret, organized gangs and societies, the possession of certain well-known symbols found upon men arrested should be regarded as prima facie evidence of membership, and entail a punishment sufficient to spoil the operations of the gangs. The evil is one which requires the most drastic treatment.

A pleasing picture is presented by the Paris correspondent of the London 'Times,' of M. Loubet, ex-President of the Republic of France, in his retirement. It brings before the mind an ideal personality, such as Beranger, the truest and best of French lyrical poets, would have delighted to extol. The simple dignity, naturalness and contentment of the man, his delight in counting up his blessings, his frank confession of an ambition satisfied by the consciousness of having served his country faithfully and won the affection of many friends among royalties and common people; all these fill in the outline of a character which the entire absence of personal exaltation makes perfectly charming. All the more does it impress the imagination when we review the succession of monarchs and great men who ruled France, from the time when Cardinal Richelieu planted the seeds of revolution while thinking he was laying the foundations of a perfect monarchy in alliance with an infallible church, down to the day when a quiet old gentleman was interviewed on the Bois de Boulogne by an English newspaper reporter. In comparison with M. Loubet, how meritricious appears the ponderously bewigged figure of the Grand Monarque Louis XIV., how theatrical the same figure, when, armed 'cap a pie,' with plumed helmet, it appeared on a prancing steed to witness the fall of a fortress it had no hand in besieging, and claim all the honor and glory. The less said of the next King of France the better for his reputation. He met his nemesis in the 'Parc aux Cerfs.' Of his successor it may be said that, blameless himself, he paid with his crown and life for the sins of his predecessors. Then came the Revolution and the reflected figures cast upon the pages of history are a succession of phantoms of madness, crime, towering ambition and false glory, disappearing one after the other in cataclysms of blood, disaster and ruin for France. Now, after passing through an ordeal such as no nation ever endured and survived, France having cast down her false gods and standing serene in hard-won republican peace, pays the homage of quiet respect to one of the men whose life-work aided in bringing about this result. It is well to think upon this picture in these days of strenuous ambitions. M. Loubet is living testimony of the splendid progress France and the world have made during the past century, and it bids us turn with renewed hope and gladness to the prospects of the future.

How to eliminate the middleman and the element of speculation in the cotton trade has been the problem for which the farmers of the Southern States have been seeking a solution for a number of years. With this, among other objects, in view they formed an association and opened correspondence with the cotton millers of England. They were told to build warehouses and their product would be bought direct from them. The association went to work, erected and equipped the required warehouses, and last week announced its readiness to furnish all the cotton needed by the English millers. An agent has been sent to England to arrange all details and hereafter, it is stated, the association will dispose of each crop as it is grown, without having to share the profits with agencies or middlemen. This success has been achieved in the face of many discouragements and confident predictions that the plan was impossible. Now the farmers who produce other staples in grain are asking whether the same idea cannot be carried out in their case? It is said that not infrequently the farmers now realize only a fraction of what they should receive. One instance is cited where the purchase price of a train load of oats went entirely to pay the cost of transportation. Such losses, it is claimed, would not occur were the farmers in direct communication with the market and able to regulate the volume of supplies. The cotton farmers association is as yet only in the experimental stage, and will be watched with interest by other farmers, as the possible opening of a new era in the marketing of farm products. So far the merchant or middleman or speculator or whatever he may be called is the regulator who brings supply and demand to a balance at his profit or loss. To establish an artificial regulation of supply and demand seems a little too much for human ability and foresight, but the experiment is interesting.

It is to be hoped that the Agricultural Conference of delegates from all the British West India Islands and Canada, which is to meet in Barbadoes on January 14, will be productive of more practical results than came from former similar conferences. Canada and the Islands are mutually complementary in matters of trade. We have what they want in the way of flour, fish, hoops, staves and woodenware, and they should have with us a practically unlimited market for fruits, raw sugar and other tropical products. A Barbadoes despatch says the Conference is a preliminary step towards closer union between Canada and the West Indies. This movement has been advocated off and on since the days of the late Judge Haliburton, who, as a Nova Scotian, appreciated the commercial advantages of close relations with the Islands. A considerable trade did flourish at one time, but we have had our tariff aberrations and the decline of the Nova Scotian shipbuilding industry through the advent of iron steamers. Present conditions are favorable to a revival of this trade, which, with proper encouragement, more in the way of removing obstacles than in giving assistance, should increase and flourish as the Dominion advances in population and wealth.

Alderman Bengough, of Toronto, has moved to memorialize the legislature to give local option to electoral divisions in cities of over fifty thousand people. We have been looking for some such move ever since it became publicly known that a very large portion of even such a notorious city as Chicago had delivered itself in this manner from the curse of drink selling. Here is a worthy object for the new anti-alcoholic association of this city to set before it, as a means of gradually eliminating this great curse. It seems certain that this method of coralling the traffic would bring its evil effects into stronger contrast and would bring the whole cursed traffic more speedily into that universal detestation that will one day overtake it.

Notwithstanding the denial from Toronto with regard to the proposed amalgamation of the Crown and Royal Victoria insurance companies, the interviews on our financial page to-day, show that the proposal was most seriously regarded, that the negotiations were carried forward to an advanced stage of agreement — even the name of the united company, Royal Crown, being decided upon—and that the only reason the union was not consummated was a disagreement as to where the head office should be located. On the 'street' the proposal has been greatly approved, as anything that tends to strength in our financial situation, and especially in our insurance and banking institutions, is valuable to the country both at home and abroad. Messrs. Rodolphe Forget and Alderman H. Markland Molson, Montreal directors of the Crown Life, and Mr. David Burke, general manager of the Royal Victoria Life, have played a prominent part in the efforts to unite the two companies.

THE NEW YEAR.

Of all sound of all bells—('bells, the music nighest bordering upon heaven'), says Charles Lamb, 'most solemn and touching is the peal which rings out the old year,' and then proceeds in his quaint humor to express diffidence at encountering the new experiences which New Year's must bring, and delight in dwelling in memory with the old joys and sorrows which have assumed the character of familiar friends. Almost everyone who has passed the first few mile-stones of manhood can sympathize with poor Elia, for the most radical among us is essentially a Conservative. Old clothes, old houses, old books, old friends, old customs are comfortable and have become endeared to us by many associations and there are few of us but regret the last handclasp with the dying year. In youth, of course, we live as if our voyage were to be an eternity, as if all that we know and love were to continue as they are for ever, and as if 'times and seasons and days and years' were but arbitrary titles to distinguish one golden spot on life's boundless ocean from another. When we grow older, however, we begin to know something of the remorseless, unresting march of time, we see one friendly landmark after another drop astern, we clutch at passing treasures only to find them submerged before our eyes and we echo the words of the Hebrew poet, 'Thou carriest them away as a flood.'

The year 1907 which to-night we leave behind us forever has presented a bewildering kaliedescope of events, and none recently has suggested stranger riddles to puzzled humanity. Russia during the year has seen a period of savage struggle and savage repression, and in spite of her third Douma shows as yet no signs of that wise and stable government which guarantees the safety of a people. Austria in the illness of her aged monarch and the restlessness of her heterogeneous population has afforded anxiety to the diplomatists of Europe; so has Germany through her steadily growing strength and the masterfulness of her War Lord; France, with church riots and wine riots at home and Moors abroad, has passed through strenuous experiences; Spain has seen the birth of an heir to her throne, and Portugal has seen her throne tottering; Belgium's king has continued to flaunt his shamefulness and cruelty before the world, and the good Oscar of Sweden has sunk beneath the load of years and sorrow. In the Hague a Peace Congress has met and has adjourned. In Italy the honest head of a great church has placed himself in opposition to all modern thought and research. The government in our Mother Country has opened a true Pandora box of perplexities; the conflicting interests of Lords and Commons, of Ireland, education, socialism and woman suffrage have abundantly troubled her politicians. In the East, India has been sputtering with superficial discontent, Egypt has been moved by the same leaven, Persia is awaking from her long dream, and China is clearing her eyes from the dust of ages. More remarkable than all, Japan has shown herself as great an adept in the art of diplomacy as she did in that of war, and there are many who fear the inception of her keen intelligence and her wonderful organization into international politics. The United States has felt the effects of financial panic, and all countries have felt extreme financial strain because the growth of business has exceeded the means wherewith to carry it on. The wage-earner, who but now was the dominant force in industry, has suffered severely, and is impatiently asking whether all is fair in business and in government, as it is said to be 'in love and in war.' On our Pacific coast and on that of our neighbor, too, the dread of an 'Oriental invasion' has created terror and rage, and corruption in politics has saddened the heart of many a patriot. Religious questionings have led many to wonder whether all certainty were gone out of life and whether the eternal verities themselves were but the shifting sand. In short, the pessimist as he looks over the world, can be excused if he only sees 'upon the earth distress of 'nations, with perplexity; the sea and 'the waves roaring; men's hearts failing 'them for fear, and for looking after 'those things which are coming upon the 'earth.'

But he who looks deeper sees another vision. He looks back on the blessedest, best year that the world ever saw, and looks forward to better ones still. He sees a growing hatred of war and an increasing demand for social justice, he sees China protecting her people from the opium curse, and Finland, and many sections of the United States and Canada rising against the evil of strong drink. He will recognize even in the suffering of the world, not the pangs of dissolution but the birth throes of a newer and brighter life. He will see in the striving of men's souls, not the failure of belief, but the breaking forth of ever brighter light in which old controversies fade. In all the movements of our time he will see the unfolding of a divine purpose. As he looks back along the path which our race has trodden he will see that in the darkest hour it has never been forsaken, but that each most anxious night has been followed by a brighter day. He will see that though men and nations are free, and must be free, to work out their own salvation or their own undoing, yet the outworking of all things is in the hand of God, and that all wrath and ignorance and restless striving will be overruled for the greater good. In the religious field alone he will find that —as has been said—'God is greater than any name of God'—and that though creeds may change and symbols crumble, the eternal verities are unshaken and that there is a Divine presence 'closer than breathing and nearer than hands and feet,' which is leading both him and the world to a happy destiny, So shall he brightly face the new sun that rises bringing in the New Year and with a high heart and cheerful courage enter into and possess this new land which the Lord his God gives him.

A notable man died during the year. 'Gerald Massey,' says T. P. O'Connor, 'fought every step of his life, as it were, never conquered, though bearing the marks of many wounds.' At eight years of age he worked in a silk mill from five in the morning to half-past six in the evening, for a weekly wage beginning at ninepence and rising to one and three-pence. 'I had no childhood,' he wrote, 'ever since I can remember 'I have had the aching fear of want 'throbbing in heart and brow.' No wonder that he became a man sometimes unwise of deed and often of word, yet we may condescend to light our torches at his, and take his New Year's message :—

'Hope on, hope ever! After darkest night
Comes full of long life the laughing morning,
Hope on, hope ever; springtide flush't with light,
Aye crowns old winter with her rich adorning.
Hope on, hope ever! Yet the time shall come
When man to man shall be a friend and brother,
And this old world shall be a happy home,
And all earth's family love one another.
Hope on, hope ever!'

BORDER WEDDINGS.

The city of Windsor, opposite Detroit, with its suburb Sandwich, has for a good while been a sort of Gretna Green for couples from the United States wanting to get married in ways forbidden by the not over-strict laws of their own country. Some years the number of such marriages has been greater than others, but the extent and regularity of the custom show that it supplies a considerable want. Those who regard it as a scandal have occasionally protested, but as it was advantageous to local trade, and brought generous fees to poorly-paid ministers, the procession proceeded unchecked, amusing the citizens, illuminating the hotel-keeping visage with smiles, and giving liveliness to trade. The general effect is described as that of making everybody feel jolly, for these couples, happily united by obliging Canadian ministers, according to accommodating Canadian laws, depart before there is any sign of awakening from the rapture of love's young dream. It is too bad that anyone should be so rude and unfeeling as to seek to put an end to these blissful conditions. They suit all parties concerned admirably, and, as Canadians know nothing of the antecedents of the couples and have not the remotest interest in their subsequent marital happiness, the situation is an ideal one so far as they are concerned. Dr. Hodgetts, deputy registrar-general for the province of Ontario, does not approve, however, of boundary line weddings. The figures he gives are certainly convincing of the impolicy of allowing the custom to continue. He points out that the greater proportion of the 637 increase for the year in the marriage statistics of the province took place at Windsor and Sandwich, and that 83 percent of 1,198 ceremonies performed at Windsor the contracting parties were citizens of the United States, while at Sandwich the percentage was 78. Of the 26C American couples married in the latter municipality, thirty-five men and forty-five women had been divorced. Dr. Hodgetts advises what looks like a somewhat mild amendment to the law, making it necessary that one of the contracting parties should have resided fifteen days in the province before the ceremony is performed. It would at least prevent mere runaways. As the law stands, it looks like outdoing the United States in facilitating that system of consecutive polygamy and polyandry which facility for divorce has established in that conutry. The presumption is that if the ceremony were not illegal where the parties reside they would not come to Canada to have it performed. The immorality of the thing is greater than the illegality, and is a disgrace to all connected with it. The authorities of the churches should look into this.

PROPS OF THE HOME.

A mere man has had the temerity to offer a solution of the house service question. For generations the women heads of households have struggled with it in vain, and are as far from a solution now as ever. The man who thinks he has found a way for making domestic service pleasing to housekeepers and attractive to female helpers is Mr. Rubinow, of the United States Department of Commerce and Labor. Invited to lecture before the Domestic Science branch at the New York Teachers' College, he chose 'Servant girls' for his theme. He must be a man of no ordinary courage to have faced an audience of women and lectured them on a subject concerning which no man could be supposed to know anything. He proved his courage at the start by saying that the trouble was all the fault of the employers. They were too exacting. The long hours of labor, the restrictions imposed on personal liberty, and the vagueness of contracts were the main objections which caused the aversion of young women to domestic service. The pay included room and board. Too frequently these were inadequate and insufficient. Mistresses have their own notions as to propriety of conduct in servants, and their attempts to impose them caused revolt, for these notions often run counter to the fact that the servants do not regard their employment as a permanent calling. As one lady said, the girls have only two objects; the one is to get as high wages as possible for the least work, the other was to get married. These objects, from this mistress's point of view, were what made the problem insoluble.

Now for Mr. Rubinow's discovery of the solution. In the first place, he would fix the hours of service by contract, eight or ten hours a day. Then he would make payment wholly in money, the hired help sleeping at home and going to and from her work at regular hours. That is all. Some of Mr. Rubinow's hearers thought this plan impossible, but as the case is acknowledged to be desperate, there is nothing that ought not to be listened to. There are, however, considerations connected with it which tell against it at the outset, as, for instance, the conveyance of disease from insanitary servants' homes, pilfering and the difficulty of knowing how respectable the girls' behavior was; also the fact that housework so done by outsiders is incompatible with family comfort. The chief objection would seem to be that it is a step in the direction of estrangement and tending to the confirmation of caste rather than in the direction of Christian mutuality and regard. There is another solution which might be worthy of consideration, though it did not occur to Mr. Rubinow. It is to establish a school of domestic service similar in plan to that of trained nurses. It would raise it to the dignity of a professional calling, having understood duties and obligations. It would not interfere with, but rather assist, the servants' right and indefeasible instincts in the direction of marriage, and a woman of any age having a certificate of training and capability could always command a situation at good pay. Here a field could be opened to a large class of young women who, not having an education, are compelled to choose between working in factories or accepting minimum wages in the lower employments of mercantile houses, hotels and shops. The maintenance of the home in cities depends on the finding of a solution to this problem. It ought really not to be hard to seek so long as there are innumerable women wanting homes and innumerable homes wanting help. If no solution is found we must surely degenerate into a race of apartment house dwellers.

MR. LEMIEUX'S MISSION.

The alleged failure of Mr. Lemieux to solve the gigantic question of the clash of races meeting across the Pacific no doubt brings great comfort to politicians who have in parliament been making out of this trying problem an opportunity for adding to the embarrassment there is in it for the government and for the country. There is no sign at all that Mr. Lemieux has failed. The Japanese government stands where it has always stood, and where it must necessarily stand, on its claim to equal dignity with other peoples. Indeed, if dignity of demeanor is in question, Japan can at least claim equality. Japan has told us that she will make no treaty empowering foreign countries to exclude her people. She, however, recognizes that with certain classes her people are unwelcome. She has no desire that her people should migrate to America, or come home thence Americanized. She wants her star of empire to move westward to the peopling of Corea and Manchuria. She empowered Mr. Nosse to say that she was herself, and of course for her own good home reasons, limiting migration to a nominal number. Our government, in sending Mr. Lemieux, could not have any expectation of getting anything more than that, or even of getting that into the form of an international undertaking. All that was open to him was to represent that Japan's intentions were being frustrated, chiefly by way of Hawaii, a representation which without any bargain might well be expected to have practical results. So far as appears his mission in this respect has been as successful as Japanese good will and zeal for her own regulations could make it.

Mr. Lemieux has, however, had the misfortune to pique the United States embassy at Tokio, as we learn from certain patronizing special telegrams coming by way of New York, which, with the usual recklessness as to facts, speak of his 'failure,' and attribute it to his not having co-operated with the United States embassy. He indeed showed himself such a tyro at diplomacy that he had not the common politeness to call at the said embassy. Indeed, he studiously ignored it. This from the United States point of view was of course disagreeable of him. That country has, as is well understood, a like problem on hand. Why not, then, make common cause? Why, indeed, prejudice the cause of the United States by assuming superior claims? The why of this is, however, extremely plain to Canadians. The problem of the United States with regard to Japan is almost identical with her Chinese problem. We have made a great difference between our treatment of Chinese and of Japanese, for the reason that the Japanese are our allies, and we have no such relation with the Chinese. This being the case, it was obvious that to make common cause with the United States or to appear to do so would have put our plea in the eyes of the Japanese on a level with theirs. If there was anything in the imperial treaty of alliance with Japan, or in our own correlative commercial treaty under it, it was the duty of our diplomatist to keep our cause separate from others that were not in the same category. At the same time, when all is said, it has to be acknowledged that our problem is practically the same as that of our neighbors. We, like them, are afraid to face the Orientals. We, like them, wish to treat them as inferiors and keep them out. At least, whatever may be the mind of the silent majority, that is the attitude that is noisy and in evidence. Those who have no interest in the international comity which would in the near future be the very life of our Pacific province will naturally desire to fight the Oriental enemy under the wing of the United States.

BANKS AND BUSINESS.

Great interest has been taken of late in the United States concerning recent financial and commercial conditions in Canada as compared with those across the border. Information is especially sought as to our currency system, and the question is particularly asked, has there been greater industrial stability in Canada than in the United States, and if so is it attributable to the currency system in whole or in part? In reply to such questions, which reach us from correspondents abroad, it may be said at once that there has been no financial panic in Canada as there was in the United States, but there has been some tightening of the purse-strings on the part of our bankers, which has had the effect of checking expansion to some extent for the time being and also speculation. We were developing at too great a rate, and threatened, as the English saying is, to 'outrun the constable,' and the banks thought it wise to skid the wheels for awhile. But that Canada has had no real money trouble, figures are at hand a plenty eloquently to show.

We have thirty-five separate banks chartered by the government to do business, and these have innumerable branches distributed through the length and breadth of the country. The head office of each bank has to make monthly returns to the government showing with some minuteness what the business of the banks for the month has been, the securities they hold and so forth. Taking these reports for a guide, we find that the note circulation of the chartered banks amounted to $84,452,899 last month as compared with $80,502,357 for November, 1906, or an increase of nearly four millions; the paid-up capital of the banks has increased from $94,665,447 to $95,944,826 in the same period; the 'rest' or reserve account from $67,689,549 to $70,534,757; the deposits by the public payable on demand in Canada, have decreased from $183,391,213 to $160,529,719; the deposits bearing interest and payable after due notice has been given have increased from $400,307,693 to $408,902,274; the specie held by the banks has increased from $23,503,550 to $27,648,939; Dominion or government notes from $47,297,497 to $49,188,610; and current loans in Canada from $538,695,115 to $570,896,776. This surely is a healthy state of affairs. There is, indeed, expansion shown in every account except that of deposits on demand and part of the shrinkage shown in that account is undoubtedly accounted for by the fact that many of our people have been investing in small lots of Canadian securities. Indeed a very noticeable recent feature of trading on Canadian stock exchanges has been the sales of small lots, such as five, four, three and two shares, and even of single shares. Such investment purchases are very natural when it is considered that there are gilt-edged securities returning as high as eight percent while the banks are only paying three percent on interest-bearing deposits.

There is not the slightest doubt that our financial stability has been and is the result of our elastic currency system and our branch bank system. All of our chartered banks have power to issue notes of the denomination of five dollars and upwards to the extent of their paid-up capital. The notes in circulation under that denomination are issued by the government and are known as Dominion notes. The capital of the Canadian chartered banks bears double liability. That is to say, in the event of a bank failing, all shareholders are liable to be called upon to pay the par value of their shares to the receiver besides losing their original investment. But this has happened so rarely that shareholders accept that liability with equanimity. The notes of a bank are a first lien upon its assets and they bear interest at the rate of five percent per annum from the time a bank closes its doors to the time that they are redeemed. Not only are the notes of a bank a first lien on all its assets, to be paid even before the public depositors, but there is a fund at Ottawa to which all the banks contribute, and which is available to pay a bank's notes should all its assets not be sufficient to provide for their redemption. That fund, however, has never had to be drawn upon yet.

The banks have power to issue notes to the extent of their paid-up capital, as we have said. Thus, the Bank of Montreal has power to issue notes to the extent of $14,400,000, but its circulation is always well within that amount. The notes of a bank circulate from its head office to its many branches and to head offices and branches of other banks and automatically return through the various clearing houses, expanding or contracting in volume according to the requirements of the country's business. It will be interesting to study the following figures in this connection, showing the average monthly circulation of all the chartered banks for fourteen months :—

1906.	
October	$3,718,630
November	80,502,357
December	78,416,780
1907.	
January	68,219,717
February	70,547,759
March	76,346,013
April	72,840,909
May	70,741,113
June	75,510,402
July	72,942,781
August	76,562,811
September	79,455,000
October	84,289,983
November	84,452,899

In addition to what has been said above, it may be stated that the position of the Canadian banks in times of crisis is further strengthened by the fact that the Bank of Montreal and a few others keep a stock of money in New York in the shape of call and short loans which can immediately be called in if required, and shipped to Canada to meet any calls for cash.

DANIEL O'CONNELL.

The interesting announcement comes from Rome that the Pope has advised or commanded Mr. Redmond, the leader of the Irish Nationalists, to follow Daniel O'Connell in everything. The Pope's advice will carry great weight with Mr. Redmond's constituents and with Irish Roman Catholics generally, so that it is important to know what Daniel O'Connell really stood for. His biographer, Mr. W. O'Conner Morris, tells us that he was sprung from Irish Chiefs who had lost their lands in the wars of Ireland and had felt the full weight of the harsh penal code, which long held the Irish Catholics down. Thus he inherited from his earliest years, with certain traditions of birth and high station, a strong dislike of British rule in Ireland and of the dominant owners of the soil and a firm attachment to his prescribed faith. At the same time, he was strongly in dread of anarchy, of popular movements ending in bloodshed, and of communistic and socialistic views. Mr. Morris tells us that he had a reverence for law, for the rights of property, and for the monarchical form of government, and that, demagogue as he became in a certain sense, his experiences of the French Revolution, while he was a student at St. Omer and Douai, gave his mind a deep Conservative tinge.

Daniel O'Connell, having a firm faith in the influence of his church, perceived that it might be made an instrument of immense political power in Ireland. He thereupon formed the design of combining the Irish Catholic millions, under the superintendence of the native priesthood, into a vast league against the existing order of things, so as to wrest the concessions of the Catholic claims from every opposing party in the state by an agitation continually kept up, and embracing almost the whole of the people. The agitation was to be maintained within constitutional limits though menacing and shaking the frame of society. We know that he gradually succeeded in carrying out his purpose. Catholic associations, at first small, but slowly assuming larger proportions, were formed in different parts of the country; attempts of the government and of the local authorities to put them down were skilfully baffled by legal devices of many kinds; and, at last, after a conflict of years, all Catholic Ireland was ranged to a man in an organization of enormous power that demanded its rights with no uncertain voice. Catholic Emancipation followed and O'Connell had earned his title of Liberator. Mr. Morris, however, shows that the movement being controlled throughout by O'Connell and the priests, it had little in common with the mob rule and violence which he never ceased to regard with aversion.

Nevertheless, O'Connell's triumph, which showed what agitation could effect in Ireland, has not been an unmixed blessing to that country as the Liberator himself, was to realize later. On entering parliament, O'Connell joined the Whigs and gave effective aid to the cause of general reform. The Irish Catholic question, however, again came to the fore, in an agitation for the abolition of tithes and the established church, and Ireland for many months was terrorized by scenes of appalling crime and bloodshed. In this movement O'Connell was rather led than the leader. After the Irish tithes were practically abolished O'Connell steadily supported the government of Lord Melbourne. We read that he sincerely advocated the rights of conscience, the emancipation of the slave and freedom of trade, but that his rooted aversion to the democratic theories imported from France, which were gradually winning their way into England, only grew stronger with advancing age; 'he denounced Chartism in unmeasured 'terms; the sovereign had no more loyal 'subject; and if, as became him, he often condemned the tyranny of bad continental governments, he reverenced the 'constitution and laws of England interpreted in a generous spirit. His conservatism, however, was most apparent 'in his antipathy to socialistic doctrines 'and his tenacious regard for the claims 'of property. He actually opposed the 'Irish Poor Law Act, as encouraging a 'communistic spirit; he declared a movement against rent a crime; and though 'he had a strong sympathy with the 'Irish peasant, and advocated a reform 'of his precarious tenure, it is difficult 'to imagine that he could have enjoyed 'the cardinal principle of the Irish Land 'Act, the judicial adjustment of rent by 'the state.' It will be seen that Ireland has gone far since the days of O'Connell and has taken steps that it would be impossible to retrace. Afterwards, when Peel came into office, a statesman O'Connell personally disliked, he strongly advocated repeal of the union as he declared that a Tory regime was incompatible with good government. It is interesting to note, however, his contention that the repeal of the union would not weaken the real bond between Great Britain and Ireland, and he had 'nothing in common with the rebellious 'faction who, at a later period, openly 'declared for the separation of the two 'countries by force.' His last few years were clouded, as he was alarmed and pained by the growth of a party in the repeal ranks which scoffed at his views and advocated the revolutionary doctrines which he had always feared and abhorred. The Pope declares that O'Connell was right, in the notable words, 'You have a noble predecessor. Follow him in everything.' What will the Nationalists say to that?

BENEFICENT FORESTRY.

National forestry in the United States began with President Cleveland's administration, when certain forests under authority of Congress were set aside for the nation. The new creations were then termed 'forest reserves,' but that title has recently been changed to 'national forests,' because on the word 'reserve' the representatives of the forest grabbers based their opposition to the reform. Mr. Stewart Edward White, in a valuable article on the 'Fight for the forests' in the 'American Magazine,' shows that the national forests are not reserves in the strict meaning of that word. A true reserve is a national park, such as the Yosemite and Yellowstone in the United States, and the Stanley and Banff parks in Canada. In such parks no timber is cut, no water power is utilized, no game is killed. They are kept virgin as mighty playgrounds for the nations. The national forests of the United States come under a different category. They are described as national farms of wood, of water power, of grazing, all for the public benefit. The only restrictions are those to safeguard waste and to prevent the permanent injury of the forest cover. Mr. White explains that any man living near a national forest can obtain, scot free, all the timber he needs for his private purposes up to the value in one year of twenty dollars. That amount would buy quite a little timber on the stump.

He can get this timber from a forest officer on the spot without any red tape. The trees are marked and he goes and cuts them. If he wants more than twenty dollars' worth he has to make application in form. This privilege appears to Mr. White to cover all legitimate free use of a forest by a pioneer. He should have what he needs for his home use, and there is no reason why he should have more. Beside the free use of the timber in the national forests, every stick of it is for sale at a reasonable price. The sole restrictions are that only ripe trees are to be cut, and in such a manner as to protect the young growth from destruction; that whenever necessary the brush and tops must be piled and burned; and that the work must be undertaken within six months and completed within a specified time. The first two provisions prevent the fearful desolation that follows 'skinning' a forest and the fires that succeed the piratical process. The last provision eliminates holding for future speculative values. Not only that, but if any man can find anywhere in a national forest land suitable for agriculture he can establish on it his homestead and in time become sole owner of the land; also if he discovers mineral land he can stake his claim under the mining laws; furthermore, if he wishes to go into grazing, he may do so provided the land suitable for the purpose is not already fully stocked.

The administration of these lands seems to be excellent. Their products are intelligently disposed of; they are carefully fostered and policed; and they are protected not only against trespass and misuse, but also their greatest enemy, fire. Last year only one-eighth of one percent of the national forests was burned over, and only three one-hundredths of one percent was actually destroyed. In all, eleven hundred fires were extinguished by forest rangers, and the total cost of such inestimable fire prevention was only nine thousand dollars. Not only that, but the Forest Service is also busily engaged in adding to the nation's wealth in a dozen other ways. Mr. White quotes several of these. In the South, turpentine used to be obtained by cutting a hole in one side of the tree, called 'boxing,' which in a few years caused the death of the tree. The Forest Service has found a method of extracting turpentine by which the tree is far less injured and the output is increased thirty percent. The western mountains above a certain elevation are covered with a tree called the 'lodge pole pine.' It was long considered about the most useless tree that grows, but the Forest Service has demonstrated that when treated in a certain inexpensive way it makes first rate railway ties. Other timbers long considered useless have been shown to have commercial value, including the western hemlock, and at present the Service is trying various materials other than forest woods for the production of paper pulp. In all this there is food for thought for Canadians. We are told upon the highest authority that there now is being a fierce fight waged for our forests, which threatens to decimate them. Would it not be the part of wisdom for our governments to take example by our neighbors, and insist upon our forestry operations being conducted more conservatively and intelligently under their more direct supervision?

BRAVE RESCUERS

INCIDENTS AT A FIRE IN CHICAGO

Chicago, Dec. 25.—The rescue of a blind man by Captain Peter J. Visser, formerly of the Boer army, and another thrilling rescue, that of a seventy-year-old invalid by Policeman Mitchell McGrath, were witnessed last night during a fire in an apartment building at 3607 Indiana avenue. The blind man is W. A. Weinstock, and the aged invalid is Wm. Glaize. They had been left behind in the rush from the building when the fire was discovered. Visser and McGrath were both singed in making their way through the flames. The property loss is $20,000.

'WORLD WIDE.'

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

ALL THE WORLD OVER.

January One—By G. K. Chesterton, in the 'Daily News,' London.
'A Happy New Year'—Scotsmen Outside St. Paul's—'Morning Post,' London.
Old and New — J. B., in the 'Christian World.'
The Third Douma—The 'Spectator,' London.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE ARTS.

Strauss's 'Also Sprach Zarathustra' — The Birmingham 'Daily Post.'
Australian Landscapes—The Development of the Art of Painting under Difficulties—J.C., in the 'Evening Post,' New York.

CONCERNING THINGS LITERARY.

The Dying Year—By Edward Fitzgerald.
Dirge for the Year — By Percy Bysshe Shelley.
Father's Song at New Year Tide—By Halliwell Sutcliffe, in the 'Westminster Gazette.'
The New Year—By H. D. Rawnsley, in the 'Westminster Gazette.'
The Glad New Year—by H. D. Rawnsley, in the Manchester 'Guardian.'
New Year's Eve—The 'Outlook,' New York.
Dr. Johnson's Resolutions—The 'Academy,' London.
Fiction in the Nursery—'T.P.'s Weekly.'
A Scheme of Reading for 1908—By G. K. Chesterton, in 'T.P.'s Weekly,' London.
On Coming to an End—By H. Belloc, in the 'Morning Post,' London.

HINTS OF THE PROGRESS OF KNOWLEDGE.

Immortality of the Soul—Lecture by Sir Oliver Lodge—The Birmingham 'Post.'
Laveran, Discoverer of the Germ of Malaria—By James J. Walsh, M.D., Ph.D., LL.D., in the 'Independent,' New York.
Science Notes.

So many men so many minds. Every man in his own way.—Terence.

'World Wide' is a weekly reprint of articles and cartoons from leading journals and reviews reflecting the current thought of both hemispheres.

$1.50 a year to any part of the world over [illegible]
& Son[illegible]

MR. NOSSE SPEAKS.

Japanese Consul-General Denies Despatch in Winnipeg Paper.

RELATIONS WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT MOST FRIENDLY.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—Mr. Nosse's attention was to-day called to a despatch which appeared in a Winnipeg paper on Monday alleging that he has charged the Dominion Government with a breach of faith in the negotiations on the immigration question, and that he is in a

THE HON. T. NOSSE.

'royal rage' with the authorities at Ottawa. Mr. Nosse characterizes the despatch as a fabrication from start to finish. He remarked: 'I have never said to a living soul that the Canadian Government has been guilty of any breach of faith. My relations with the authorities at Ottawa at all times have been of a most friendly character. I am not in a "royal rage." On the contrary, at this joyous season of the year, I have nothing but feelings of goodwill towards all men. I am leaving Ottawa to-night for a visit to my native country, and in doing so shall carry away with me the kindliest feelings for the people and the Government of Canada, realizing at the same time that I have made many friends in the Dominion during my many years' residence. I hope in the future, as in the past, to continue my efforts to promote closer relations between Japan and Canada, commercially and otherwise. To all my Canadian friends I offer the Japanese farewell, "Sayonara," which may be interpeted as "au revoir, but not good-bye."'

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—The Hon. T. Nosse, who has represented the government of Japan in Ottawa as consul for six years past, leaves to-night for Japan. Whilst Mr. Nosse's trip is announced as a six months' leave of absence from his duties in Ottawa, it is said to be doubtful whether he will return to his consular duties in Ottawa. He is the first consul that the Japanese Government has maintained in Ottawa, and his great many friends in this city would like to see him return.

STOLEN MONEY FOUND

FINDER RECEIVES REWARD OF $2,000.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 27.—Fourteen thousand dollars, believed to be part of $40,000, secured by train robbers on the Great Northern near Rexford, Mont., last September, was found by Frederick Lang, a watchman, in an abandoned mining shaft near Leonia, Ida., east of here, a few days ago, and returned to the company. Lang received a reward of $2,000. The money was shipped by the Commercial National Bank of Chicago and consigned to the Exchange National Bank of Spokane. Fourteen thousand dollars was recovered some time ago when two men were arrested.

MORAL AND SOCIAL REFORM

Toronto, Dec. 27.—The Moral and Social Reform Council of Canada was formally constituted at a meeting yesterday in the Central Y. M. C. A. as a federation of the Moral and Social Reform forces of the Dominion. There was a very representative gathering, including members of the Lord's Day Alliance, Dominion Alliance, Trades and Labor Congress and the Grange, and after adoption of the constitution the officers were elected for the ensuing year.

According to the constitution, any church, denomination or society whose organization is, or is intended to be, Dominion wide, and is in sympathy with the object of the council, may be given representation as a unit on the council, if not objected to by a majority of the delegates of any unit already represented. Each unit may be represented by not more than ten delegates.

The object is to promote by educational, legislative, or administrative action such moral and social reforms as are approved by a majority of the representatives present at any regularly called meeting.

The council adopted a resolution saying that it stands ready to co-operate with churches, organizations and individuals of other nations and other colonies of the Empire, in promoting any moral and social reforms of international interest of which this council approves.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

A Change is Needed. — Through the long winter one needs a change. Why go South when 'The Welland,' St. Catharines, offers an environment at moderate cost which will minister to tired nerves and worn out bodies? Try the tonic ... of 'The St. Catharines Well' ... ful influence of 'The Wel... manager, St. Cathar... Trunk Rail...

CABLEGRAM IN DISPUTE.

Mr. Asselin Issues Statement Denying Authorship of Message Bearing Mr. Gouin's Signature.

SEVERAL WITNESSES CORROBORATE HIS DECLARATION THAT HE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.

Referring to the cablegram addressed to the president of the Belgian Syndicate, bearing the signature of Mr. Gouin, and which is declared by the Premier to be a forgery, Mr. Asselin now writes, enclosing a copy of his own solemn declaration as well as that of other persons to prove that he had no connection whatever with the matter.

The manager of the 'Nationaliste' asks that reference be made to those declarations, on the ground that the alleged forgery is being made use of by the political press.

In his declaration, Mr. Asselin says that he saw, for the first time, the cablegram referred to, in the newspapers, on Dec. 23, 1907. He adds:—'On Oct. 31, I was in Quebec for a week; I did not return to Montreal before the 5th of November; I remained the entire day of the 5th at my house, 85b Drolet street, without communicating with anyone, and did not go to my office before the 6th, in the morning. I never had knowledge, either directly or indirectly, from any one of the drawing up or of the sending of this cablegram. I never, either directly or indirectly, issued instructions regarding the sending of the cablegram or the receiving of the answer at No. 477 St. Denis street or elsewhere.'

Another declaration is from Miss Alma Tremblay, stenographer, an employee of the 'Nationaliste.' This confirms Mr. Asselin's declaration as to his absence from Montreal at the end of October and the beginning of November, and adds that she never received any instructions from Mr. Asselin concerning the drawing up or sending of the cablegram referred to, nor the receiving of a reply; that she never knew anything, either directly or indirectly, or by means of any hint concerning the drawing up or the sending of the cablegram; that Mr. Asselin never told her or gave her to understand that a telegram addressed to Mr. Gouin was to come to her house; that Mr. Asselin never received at deponent's house anything but the ordinary mail of the 'Nationaliste,' and that from Oct. 15 to Oct. 19 only.

A third declaration is signed by the five persons living at No. 477a St. Denis street, where the reply to the cablegram was to be sent. They declare that after living with them from Oct. 15 to Oct. 19, Mr. Asselin left for Quebec on the 22nd of the same month, and has never returned to their house since; that Mr. Asselin never spoke to them about the cablegram referred to, nor gave them any instructions concerning the receipt of a reply.

CABINET MEETING.

PROVINCIAL MINISTERS AT THE GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

There was a meeting of the Provincial Cabinet at the government offices in Montreal Thursday, the Hon. Lomer Gouin and the following ministers being present. The Hon. Messrs. Turgeon, Weir, Roy, Allard and Kane. The Hon. Mr. Devlin was the only member absent, being kept away by the election campaign in Nicolet.

Interviewed after the meeting, the Premier declared that he had nothing to communicate to the press and that the date of the session of the Legislature had not been fixed. He also said that the date of his departure for a short holiday was not yet settled, but admitted that he would probably go to Mexico.

Two delegations called upon the ministers during the forenoon. One came from L'Assomption, and was headed by Mayor J. S. Rivet, of that town. It asked government aid for the construction of a bridge over the L'Assomption River, in front of the parish church. A bridge existed there formerly, but it was carried away by the ice, some thirty years ago, and the people of the locality now claim that the growth of the town and the increase of business render the reconstruction of this bridge a necessity. The delegates were promised due consideration of their demand.

The Rev. Abbé Dubois, principal of the Jacques Cartier Normal School, headed a deputation of professors of that institution composed of Messrs. N. Brisebois, N. G. Chabot, P. Malone, R. Z. Bauline and Chs. Gill. They applied for an increase of salary and set forth that although the qualifications of a normal school professor must be at least equal to those of a teacher in an ordinary school, the maximum salary given the latter by the Catholic School Commissioners of Montreal is $1,200, while, with one exception, not a single professor of the Jacques Cartier Normal Schoool is allowed such an amount for his services. They were also told that their request would be duly considered.

The 'Witness' has stood for decency and uprightness in Canadian public life. —'Courier,' St. Croix, N.B.

GEORGE DENT.

Port Arthur, Ont., Dec. 27.—George Dent, one of the oldest employees of the Canadian Pacific Railway in this city, died yesterday. Mr. Dent first entered the employ of the C. P. R. at Owen Sound, at the time the steamers 'Alberta,' 'Athabasca' and 'Algoma' were built. He came here in the year 1884. Since that time he had been constantly in the employ of the company, being for the past eighteen years foreman in the local freight sheds.

TWO-CENT-A-MILE CASE.

Grand Trunks Appeal for Delay Granted by Railway Commission.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—The chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners handed out to-day the following in reference to the order regarding two-cent a mile fare between Toronto and Montreal:—

Robertson vs. Grand Trunk Railway Company—The order in this case was issued without communication of a draft to the parties. The details were settled by the board. No time was allowed after final disposition of the appeal to the Supreme Court for the taking of steps to put the order in force, although the order directed that tariffs should be prepared and filed. Necessarily some period of time is required in order to prepare for the new service.

While I do not feel any doubt as to the correctness of my conclusion upon the question of law involved, and while that conclusion has been unanimously affirmed by the Supreme Court of Canada, of course I cannot say that the argument for the Railway Company was so frivolous or unreasonable that the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council may not give leave to appeal. If we were asked to postpone for a very long period the operation of the order, it might not be proper to do so, but as the railway company expects to have its application to the Judicial Committee heard in February, and as some time ought to be given to the company to make preparation for complying with the order, I think we might reasonably direct that the order shall not take effect until the first of March next.

IMPROVING THE ST. LAWRENCE ROUTE

WHAT THE MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES AND THE HARBOR OFFICIALS HAVE DONE THIS YEAR.

Owing to the great interest taken by the Hon. L. P. Brodeur, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and the deputy minister, Lieut.-Col. Gourdeau, splendid work has been done in the matter of improvements to the St. Lawrence during the past season. Messrs G. W. Stephens, C. C. Balantyne and L. E. Geoffrion also share the credit as well as responsibility for the progress and improved conditions.

Hon. L. P. Brodeur.

A large amount of dredging has been accomplished between Montreal and Quebec, in spite of the fact that the dredging becomes more difficult every year, as the soft clay is practically finished and only rock remains to be removed. The great object of the St. Lawrence deepening is to give a uniform depth of thirty-one feet from Montreal to Father Point—a distance of 340 miles. To accomplish this, seventy miles of channel required dredging. At the end of the season of 1906 fifty-six out of the seventy had been finished, while during the summer of 1907 four miles more were completed, leaving only ten miles to do.

The improvement of the St. Lawrence was commenced in 1844, and the machinery of the first dredge was brought from England. The dredging was commenced as a public work, but in 1850 legislation was passed transferring the plant to the Montreal Harbor Commissioners, and authorizing them to proceed with the work as they should deem best. At that time the depth of the water in Lake St. Peter was eleven feet, and it is now from thirty-one to thirty-three feet.

The work of dredging on the St. Lawrence always begins on May 1, and continues until Nov. 29, the only stop being on Sundays. There are two crews on each dredge, one for night work, and the other for day work. This season six dredges were at work between Montreal and Quebec, and the hydraulic dredge, 'No. 7,' did splendid work in Lake St. Peter. Below Quebec the 'Galveston' (now No. 9), has been kept exceedingly busy, and the bad luck which formerly attended this dredge seems to have completely disappeared since her name was changed.

Mr. F. W. Cowie, in describing the work done this year, stated that below Batiscan two dredges were fully employed in removing the clay from the river bed, while four other dredges were operating in solid rock. This dredging in rock is a nerve trying operation, as the great strain on the machinery and hull of the dredges keeps the crews working all the time at high pressure. The clay dredges are the 'Laval' and the 'Baldwin,' each of which worked 163 days. The 'Laval' worked 73 percent, and the 'Baldwin' 68 percent of the time, which is considered a very fine showing, as the weather is notoriously bad in that part of the river. The rock dredges were the 'Aberdeen,' 'Minto,' 'Lafontaine' and the 'Laurier.' The average service for these dredges was from 64 to 69 percent of the full working time, and it is estimated that they dredged 908,000 cubic yards of rock bed.

The dredges that were working on the clay took out 724,000 cubic yards. The 'J. Israel Tarte,' working in Lake St. Peter, off Sorel, took out 2,795,625 cubic yards. Dredge No. 9 began work very late in the season, owing to the fact that she was delayed by the ice on her voyage up from St. John, N.B., and did not arrive until the middle of June, but from that date until Nov. 14, she raised 353,590 cubic yards. The channel bed she operated on was of sand, gravel, and stones. The total amount dredged in the ship channel was therefore 5,000,000 cubic yards, which, calculated at an average of seven cents per cubic yard, works out about $350,000. The depth of water in the ship channel has been very good this season, owing to the copious rain falls. The average depth for the different months was as follows:—May, 37 feet 1 inch; June, 35 feet 9 in.; July, 34 feet 3 in.; August 32 feet 10 in.; September, 32 feet 4 in.; October, 32 feet 9 in.; and November, 33 feet 7 in.

The highest water was recorded on May 2, when the depth was 33 feet 7 in. The lowest was on September 2, when the depth was 31 feet 10 in. At no period did the water go down to the minimum record of 30 feet. The amounts that have been spent from time to time in widening and deepening the channel since the work was first undertaken, half a century ago, to enable ships of 500 tons to come up to Montreal, is well on towards ten million dollars. The result, however, is that ocean greyhounds like the 'Victorian' and the 'Virginian,' of the Allan line, each 12,000 tons register, can steam right up to the Montreal wharves, thus making Montreal practically an ocean port.

A splendid addition to the dredging fleet was made this season, when the 'Beaujeu,' the new hydraulic dredge, which was built at the Sorel shipyards, was launched on Lake St. Peter. The following are her chief dimensions:—Beam, 45 feet; depth, 20 feet; and length, 274 feet. The capacity of the hoppers for dredging is 2,000 cubic feet, and the 'Beaujeu' only draws fifteen feet of water when loaded. Although the new dredge only commenced work at the end of the season, she quickly proved her powers by filling up with 2,000 cubic yards in 20 minutes, thus breaking all dredging records.

SUNFIELD EXECUTED

Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 27.—Jake Tamillo, alias Sunfield, was hanged at 7.55 this morning, for the murder of Andrew Radzyk, on July 12.

NOW READY.

Collected from the leading publications of international fame, give a most pleasing and effective review of the year just closing.

The 'Annual Cartoon Number' of 'World Wide' is growing in popularity. It contains, besides the annual collection of caricatures, an index for the volume and the contents of the regular weekly edition.

All annual subscriptions to 'World Wide' include the special 'Annual Caricature Number.'

'1907 Caricatures' would make a delightful souvenir to send to friends as a New Year's Card, particularly to friends abroad, who would be sure to enjoy it immensely. Five cents a copy Postpaid to any part of the world.

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Carefully and ably selected from the world's greatest magazines, reviews and literary, political and scientific journals. Nothing is selected that is not of world wide interest—though special care is given to include articles of peculiar interest to Canadians. Even if one could subscribe to all the publications from which 'World Wide' makes its selections they would cost hundreds of times as much as the 'World Wide' subscription, and, worse still, one would lose an immense amount of time selecting in them the articles really worth reading.

The Editors of 'World Wide' make it possible for one to enjoy in a single weekly magazine, light and easy to hold, the best essays, reviews of the best fiction, and, in fact, all the most timely and important articles from a long list of the best periodicals reprinted without the annoying comment and too often careless abridgment effected by most eclectics—and all for the trifling sum of five cents a copy or a dollar and a half a year. Postage included at this price to any part of the world.

A dollar and a half is not a large sum to pay for over one thousand pages of the best contemporary reading, covering all subjects of human interest, and embodying the freshest thought in literature, art, international affairs, and current discussion—besides an able resumé in short compass, of the news week by week and a number of the week's best cartoons.—Other papers of the same type charge from four to six dollars; 'World Wide' is the cheapest of its class—and certainly the best from the Canadian point of view, for unlike its contemporaries over the border it is, of course, strongly British and Canadian, and, unlike its English contemporaries, it is interesting throughout to Canadians.

As 'World Wide' has the whole field of English and American Periodical Literature to select from, it is able to present a wider range of subjects, treated by a more brilliant list of writers than any single magazine published in England or the United States.

Only thinking men and women can appreciate 'World Wide.'—But to those with an alert interest in what is going on 'World Wide' is nearly indispensable.—It saves both time and money. ITS READERS ARE THE LEADERS IN EVERY COMMUNITY.—Ask any of them what they think of it.

Five cents a copy—$1.50 a year.—New Subscribers for 1908 will receive the 'Cartoon Number' for 1907.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

SPECIAL CLUB. 'World Wide'..... $1.50 'Canadian Pictorial'..... 1.00 'Weekly Witness'..... 1.00 3.50 } FOR ONLY $2.50

REV. ROBERT McCOSH DEAD

RECTOR OF CHRIST CHURCH, CHATHAM, ONT., PASSES AWAY.

Chatham, Dec. 27.—The Rev. Robert McCosh, rector of Christ Church in this city, dropped dead last night shortly after partaking of supper. The cause of death was heart failure, from which the deceased had been suffering more or less for some time past. The late Mr. McCosh had been rector of Christ Church for the past fourteen years and during that time the people of this city, especially the members of his congregation, had become deeply attached to him. He possessed the love and deep respect of all who knew him.

A curious coincidence in connection with his passing away was that in his Christmas sermon he took for his theme 'In the midst of life we are in death.' He was about 58 years of age.

RANCHER'S NARROW ESCAPE.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 27.—While feeding two Belgian Shire Stallions, occupying stalls on both sides of the feedway, Charles Slocum, a rancher at St. John, Wash., near here, was attacked by the animals, which kicked and stamped him until he was black and blue and bleeding from a score of wounds. Before becoming unconscious he managed to crawl from under the stallions' feet, and while he was prostrate on the barn floor the big animals continued their fight, kicking and rearing until the structure presented the appearance of having been blown up with dynamite. Pieces of boards kicked out of the side of the barn were found 10 feet away and the interior of the structure was wrecked. One of the horses snapped a heavy chain, used in fastening it to the stall. The stallions were imported from Belgium a year ago, but this is the first time they have exhibited signs of vicious tempers. Slocum looks upon his escape from death as something little short of a miracle.

'There is a Spirit at the heart of things,
A Mind that grasps the scheme of words complete
Whose thoughts can pierce the bitter and the sweet
And all that pain of human life that flings
Its shadow o'er lost hopes. But not alone
Stands Knowledge Infinite, for Love is there—
A tender pity for each soul's despair.
One Hand has ne'er into the darkness thrown
A broken life, deemed worthless by the world,
But gathers up the broken melody,
And with a tender touch restores the song;
That, when life's perfect blossoms are unfurled,
The good the Eye Divine alone could see
Shall make more fair a heaven of righted wrong.'

The 'Witness' has received compliments from its contemporaries the world over.—'Courier,' Perth, Ont.

SHOW THIS TO YOUR TEACHER.

By far the most popular Sunday-school paper in Canada is the 'Northern Messenger.' It contains from twelve to sixteen pages a week of the most interesting matter. It is so interesting that scholars who are not too eager to come to school will come so as to get their 'Messenger.' It has by far the largest circulation throughout the Dominion of any Sunday-school paper, which should be an indication at least of its popularity.

Please show your teacher also the larger announcement elsewhere in this paper.

FINANCIAL REVIEW.

Saturday, Dec. 28, 1907.

During the past week the price movements of stocks on the local market has shown a slight change. As has been the case for months past, most stocks dealt in have gone into the strong boxes of shrewd investors, who continue to take daily advantage of the extremely low quotations at which all securities are selling. The opinion prevails that all those who are fortunate enough to have the ready cash to pay for stocks, bought at the prices now prevailing, are bound to reap rich reward before many weeks or months have passed. Indeed, the consensus of opinion is that after the New Year money conditions are likely to become easier, and if such proves to be the case, the market cannot help enjoying an advance of considerable proportions. The brokers are prepared to pay a fair rate of interest on money, to be devoted to the purchase of stocks, because they, as well as the public, realize that the present market offers a most favorable opportunity to pick up well-known issues at bargain prices. It is not a question of rate, so much as being in a position to procure funds to take advantage of prevailing conditions. These considerations, however, only apply to those who buy as a speculation. For those whose purpose is profitable investment it is no matter whether the rise is soon or late, the return at present prices is magnificent.

Among the leading issues that have shown strength this week were Power, Montreal Street, and Twins, and as an evidence of the scarcity of these stocks it may be interesting to note that on a small turnover of Power, the price advanced from 84 to 87. This is a true indication of the ease with which stocks advance, when there is the slightest demand. Montreal Street has gained three points during the past few days, which demonstrates the unwillingness of holders to part with this security. In foreign stocks dealt in, on the local exchange, Mexican showed great strength on rumors of an approaching declaration of dividend. Illinois Traction preferred, on moderate transactions, shows an advance of 1½ point. The recent earning of this company have been most favorable, and no doubt had much to do with this advance. Practically all other stock and bond issues have maintained a fair average price, considering the condition of the money market. The year 1907 has been anything but a profitable one to the members of the Stock Exchange, and there is possibly not one of them who will not welcome the coming of the New Year. They are unanimously of the opinion that 1908 will bring about renewed activity on the stock market.

A careful survey of the trade conditions of the Dominion will, however, reveal much brighter prospects. The last week of the year finds conservatism predominant in practically all our industries, but there is no feeling of uneasiness apparent anywhere, and the general sentiment appears to be that trade will recover with unprecedented rapidity during the next twelve months. As this city is admitted to be the centre of trade for the whole country, the commercial situation at large is usually accurately reflected here. What do we find? Our banks were never more prosperous. Our manufacturers as a natural outcome of the financial disturbance across the border are conducting their industries with more caution, adopting the policy of curtailment and consequently the reduction of expenses. But in the face of all this they tell us that from one end of the Dominion to the other payments from customers were never more prompt than they have been during the past few months. Orders are pouring into our wholesale houses asking for increased spring supplies. These orders must be filled in time if the trade of the country is not to be retarded. The bankers do not hesitate to declare that there is plenty of money in their vaults for legitimate business purposes, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the necessary demands of their customers. Then, again, the good news comes to us almost daily of the prosperity among the farming community. The farmers have certainly made money, as evidenced by the exceptionally high prices paid to them for all kinds of farm produce.

The prospects for the coming year are most encouraging. On every side the banker, the manufacturer, the contractor, the wholesale and retail merchant are making ready for a big year's work. The railway and steamship companies predict a record business during 1908, while our farmers are determined to break all previous efforts along the line of agricultural development. Canadians of every class have reason to look forward with much satisfaction to the possibilities of the coming year.

There is really very little to say of the current stock market in the United States. Holiday influences will, it is expected, be predominant for the next week or ten days, and the trading confined to the exchange of scattered lots by the room contingent. Interest, especially on Wall street, has narrowed down to the academic discussion of what may happen in the money market after the turn of the year. It is expected that money will remain tight until well into the month of January. After that time it remains to be seen how the requirements for new financing will be met. According to reports a number of corporations will be in the market either for the extension of obligations or for new capital, and it is expected that demands from this source will absorb considerable funds, leaving but little for stock speculation. The extent of the development of business troubles after the balance sheets for January show actual conditions, is a matter for careful consideration for the American business man, who is giving the situation thought. It is not impossible that further depression in the industrial line may continue, but the comparative ease of money which is expected by that time should have much to do with obviating trouble and make it possible gradually to let out. Another feature of encouragement is the course of United States foreign trade. The exports for last month were $204,000,000, an increase of $22,000,000 over November of last year. The imports during the same time were $110,000,000, or about $9,000,000 less than a year ago. In this way the country is paying for the money advances it has been constrained to apply for.

PRICE CHANGES OF STOCKS AND INVESTMENT RETURNS

The following tables of active and inactive stocks listed on the Montreal and Toronto Stock exchanges have been compiled up to and including Friday afternoon's session on the Montreal market. Last Saturday's prices are also included so that the week's record may be complete. The tabulated information contains the amount of dividend payable, if any, the month when due and the highest and lowest prices of 1906-1907, together with the investment returns on curren' quotations:

	Div.	Payb'l.	1906. High.	1906. Low.	1907. high.	1907. Low.	This week. High.	This week. Low.	Last sale.	Price per share.	Re-turn.
C. P. R. . . .	3½	H Jan	201	159⅞	195½	140	153¼	151⅞	151⅞	$151.88	4.6
Power	1½	Q Feb.	99¾	86	96½	70	87	85	86¾	86.38	6.9
M. S. R. . . .	2½	Q Feb.	233¾	230½	239	157	180	179½	180	180.00	5.5
Twins	1¼	Q Feb.	122	105¾	167½	68	84	83	83	83.00	6.0
Tor. Ry. . . .	1½	Q Jan.	126	104½	115½	87⅞	94¼	93½	94	94.00	6.4
Detroit			122	80	84½	28½	35	34	34	34.00	...
Richelieu . .	1¼	Q Mar.	88	79¼	83½	48½	60	59	60	60.00	8.3
N. S. Steel .	1½	Q Jan.		73½	59½	79	45	55¼	54	54¾	54.75	11.
Dom. Coal . .	1	Q Jan.		81¼	56	70¼	37	39½	39½	39½	39.50	10.1
Iron bonds .	2½	H Jan.		87	79	80	64½	70½	70½	70½	70.50	7.1
Iron Com. . . .				54¼	20½	25	13⅛	16¼	14¾	14¾	14.75	...
Mackay Com	1	Q Jan		77	67¾	75	42	63½	52⅝	52⅝	52.38	7 6

Stocks	Dividend	Payable	High 1906	High 1907	Low 1907	Last sale	Return
BANKS							
Montreal	2¾	Q. Mar.	261	257	225	226	4.4
Merchants	2	Q. Mar.	175½	170	150	152¼	5.2
Roche	1	Q. Mar.	163	159¼	134	135	5.9
E. Town	2	Q. Jan.	165	162	150	152	5.2
Molsons	2½	Q. Jan.	230	215½	183	188	5.4
Toronto	2½	Q. Mar.	250	234	200	205	4.8
B.N.A.	4	H. Apl.	146¾	153½	148¼	152¾	5.2
Royal	2½	Q. Jan.	242¾	242½	218¼	218¼	4.5
Dominion	3	Q. Jan.	223	263¼	210	234	5.1
Imperial	2½	Q. Feb.	254½	230	196	217	5.0
Standard	3	Q. Mar.	250½	246½	215	215½	5.5
Ottawa	3	H. Mar.	227	224	224	224	4.4
Quebec	1¾	Q. Mar.	146	145	124	124	5.6
Union	2½	H. Mar.	167	152	125	125	5.6
N.S.	3	Q. Jan.	295	293	274	275¼	4.1
Comm.	3	Q. Mar.	190½	179½	158	162	4.9
Sovereign	1½	Q. Feb.	150¾	134½	95	114	5.2
BONDS							
Coal	2¾	H May	102½	100	92	99	5.0
Textile	3	H. Jan.	109¼	110¼	106¼	113	5.3
M.P.R.	2¾	H. Feb.	105	104	97½	97	5.0
Col. Cot.	3	H. Apl.	110	98	92¾	92½	6.4
Lke. Wds.	3	H. June	113	107	100	101¼	5.9
PREFERRED STOCKS							
Textile	2	Q. Jan.	122¼	120	106	108	7.4
Iron			63½	66¼	36	41	
Coal	3½	H. Feb.	121	112	85	95	7.3
Cal'tile	1¾	Q. Mar.	120	120	110	113	6.2
B. Tel.	1¾	Q. Jan.	115	105	92	93	7.5

Stocks	Dividend	Payable	High 1906	High 1907	Low 1907	Last sale	Return
PREF CONT.							
Mackay	1	Q. Jan.	75¼	71¾	50	60	6.9
Lke. Wds	1¾	Q. Mar.	115	112	99¾	102½	6.6
Illinois	1½	Q. Jan.	101¾	94¼	70	77	7.8
Tri. City	1½	Q. Jan.	95	93½	80	80	7.5
Lau. Paper	1½	Q. Jan.	114½	110	98	102	6.8
Magd	1¾	Q.	....	....	71¾	70½	7.1
Havana	1½	Q. Jan.	97⅞	85	68	75	8.0
Textile	1¾	Q. Jan.	109¾	98¼	75	79¾	8.3
B.C. Pack.	3½	H.	81	74¾	74¾	74¾	9 7
MISCELLANEOUS							
Bell Tel.	2	Q. Jan.	158½	145	115	118½	6.8
Mon. Tel.	2	Q. Jan.	171	162	130	137	5.8
Mon. Cot.	1¾	Q. Dec.	133	128	103¾	103¾	6.8
Hafx. Ry	1½	Q. Jan.	108½	104½	87¼	97	6.2
Trinidad	1¾	Q. Jan.	91	78	70¼	5½	6.5
Toledo	..	..	....	56¾	29¾	9¾	...
Switch	7	Y. Dec.	111	93½	94½	75	9.3
Soo	4	H. Apl.	164	136½	60	80	5.0
Lau. Paper	3	H. Jan.	107½	93	80	80½	7.0
Magd	..	..	....	....	31½	31	31 ..
Havana	..	..	....	52	45¾	21	21 ...
Textile	1¾	Q. Jan.	..	..	45	42	44 11.0
Lke. of W's	3	H. Feb.	100	107	65	71½	8.5
Mexican	..	..	....	70	57¼	55	45 ...
Sao Paulo	4	Q. Jan.	145¼	138¼	98¾	112	7.1
Rio	..	..	....	48	48	26¾	33 ..
Ohio	..	..	....	53¾	30¾	29	30 ..

DEPOSITOR'S ACCOUNT SOLD

New York, Dec. 27.—A depositors' account of $1,148 in the Knickerbocker Trust Company, which suspended during the recent financial depression, was sold at auction yesterday for $685—sixty cents on the dollar. The sale was made at a weekly auction of stocks and bonds. Last week an account of $1,000 was bid in by the owner at 66 cents on the dollar.

CONFIDENCE IS RETURNING

New York, Dec. 27.—Yesterday was the date of the expiration of most of the sixty-day withdrawal notices required by the savings banks at the height of the panic in October, but scarcely a depositor called for his money. The banks expected few demands, as they were convinced the feeling of financial unrest was practically over. In most cases to-day's withdrawals were more than offset by deposits.

WINNIPEG MARKET REPORTS

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.— Grain receipts at points on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railways yesterday amounted to 98,900 bushels. Of this amount, 77,600 bushels were wheat and 21,000 bushels other grains. On the corresponding day of last year the receipts amounted to 86,000 bushels of wheat and 13,000 bushels of other grains. The total receipts to date this year have amounted to 23,304,000 bushels of wheat and 4,646,000 bushels of other grains.

Clearing House returns at the banks for the week ending Dec. 26, were $11,917,778. Corresponding week, 1906, $10,544,128; corresponding week, 1905, $7,939,993.

The Missouri Pacific third week in December, decrease, $30,000. From July 1, increase, $745,538. Central Branch, third week in December, decrease, $4,000. From July 1, increase, $7,474.

CANADA COTTON TRADE IS FLOURISHING

New England Manufacturers Have Decided to Curtail Output for Next Year.

Information received from Boston this morning states that at a meeting of the cotton manufacturers of leading spinning centres of the New England States, held in that city yesterday afternoon, it was announced that the treasurers and managers, representing more than 80 percent of the spindles, have agreed to curtail production to an amount equal to 25 per cent of the entire production.

This move has for some time past been discussed among the United States manufacturers, who have organized a strong association to protect their interests.

The statement regarding the curtailing of production was shown to some of the Cotton people here, and when asked for their opinion and as to how it would affect Canada, they stated:

'It would no doubt prevent over-production in the United States, and keep American goods from being slaughtered in the market, as at the moment the supply of cotton manufactured goods in the United States is small. The real reason of the prompt curtailment in New England is the tightness of money. New York commission houses are not in a position to advance cash on cotton goods to mills as they usually do, and have no doubt advised manufacturers to curtail at once, rather than accumulate stocks of manufactured goods on which it would be difficult to get advances at the present time.

'Manufactured stocks of cotton goods in the mills in Canada are very small, and no curtailment has taken place. If stocks should accumulate no doubt our mills will have to curtail on certain lines, but no general closing down is anticipated.

ANOTHER HEAVY CUT MADE IN DEFICIT.

New York Bank Statement Shows Gradual Business Recovery.

The showing of the associated banks of New York city in their statement of Saturday, Dec. 28, was by far the best made since the subsidence of the late financial flurry.

The largest reduction made since the October panic was announced. In cash holdings alone, the $9,490,000 gain was the largest in any week during many months. The $17,500,000 cut in loans was itself a sign of return to a normal status. With the week's reduction in the deficit to $20,170,000, that item now stands at the lowest figure reported since the panic week. Two or three weeks more ought to dispense with it.

Changes for the week were as follows:

Deficit	Dec. $11,580,650
Loans	Dec. 17,762,400
Specie	Inc. 6,371,200
Legal tenders	Inc. 3,067,300
Deposits	Dec. 8,568,600
Circulation	Inc. 1,077,000
Deficit against deposits other than U.S. bonds	Dec. 11,653,875

The week's averages of the New York banks compare as follows with the same period in 1906:

	1907.	1906.
Loans	$1,147,694,400	$1,032,978,000
Deposits	1,060,925,400	981,301,100
Circulation	71,786,600	53,670,800
Specie	187,874,300	179,822,000
Legal tender	54,686,700	71,371,500
Total res.	$ 242,561,000	$ 250,694,500
Res. req.	262,731,350	246,325,275
Surplus	$	5,369,225
Deficit	$ 20,170,350	
Ration res. to deposit	23.1 p.c.	25.5 p.c.

Amount of Government deposits reported, $78,889,100, against $78,596,200 last week and $16,529,000 in this week last year.

In the current week of 1906 cash holdings increased $4,501,400, loans increased $5,789,700, surplus reserve increased $2,088,325. Stocks fluctuated sharply in this week; time money rates eased, call money loaned at 3 percent and at 18 percent. Sterling fell to 4.82¾, lowest level since 1893, but no gold was engaged.

CANADIAN PACIFIC EARNINGS.

The statement of earnings and expenses of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company:

	Nov. 1907.	July 1 to Nov. 30, 1907.
Gross earnings	$6,953.56	$34,466,910.69
Working exp.	4,508,973.35	22,113,086.68
Net profits	$3,445,034.21	$12,353,833.01

In November, 1906, the net profits were $2,263,122.94. And from July 1 to Nov. 30, 1906, there was a net profit of $12,320,272.36. The gain in net profits over the same period last year is, therefore, for November, $181,911.37; and from July 1 to Nov. 30, $33,560.65.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ORE SHIPMENTS

Nelson, B.C., Dec. 28—Shipments and ore receipts from the mines to the smelters of South Eastern British Columbia districts for the past week, and year to date, in long tons, are as follows:

Shipments.	Week.	Year.
Boundary	Nil	1,141,073
Rowland	5,398	283,460
East of Columbia River.	4,364	183,535
Total	9,762	1,608,048
Receipts—		
Smelters Trail	4,872	265,165
Northport	11,779	100,197
Marysville	675	21,509
Others	Nil	1,119,079
Total	7,336	1,506,941

CAPITAL INCREASED

A private letter from Paris states that a meeting of the shareholders of the Credit-Foncier-Franco-Canadien took place recently at the Bank of Paris and Payes Bas under the presidency of Mr. Thore, director general of the Bank of Paris and des Payes Bas. The object of the meeting was to seek permission to increase the capital stock from twenty-five millions to forty millions by the creation of 30,000 new shares at 500 francs per share. The authorization was unanimously accorded by the shareholders of the Credit-Foncier-Franco-Canadien.

THE MARKETS.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE PRICES

The trade in flour on the local and domestic markets is quiet and there is no change in values to report though the tendency seems to be upward in sympathy with the strength of the wheat market.

The oat market is dull in the absence of anything like an active consumptive demand and prices hold steady in spite of the firmer feeling that is reported from the west. No. 2 Ontarios are quoted at 50c to 50½c; No. 3 at 48c to 48½c; No. 4 at 47c to 47½c, and rejected grades at 44c to 45c per bushel, ex-store.

The trade in millfeed is quiet in sympathy with the dulness that is pervading the whole market. Very little business is passing and prices are unchanged.

Rolled oats are moving slowly on a small inquiry. Jobbers are asking $2.75 per bag for small lots.

The best grades of hay are firm on light supplies, but low grades and clovers are weak.

The following table shows the stocks of grain and flour in store in Montreal on the dates mentioned:

	Dec. 28, 1907.	Dec. 21, 1907.	Dec. 29, 1906.
Wheat, bush.	81,618	78,358	64,728
Corn, bush.	79,756	85,662	47,783
Peas, bush.	14,960	15,450	20,172
Oats, bush.	168,798	179,429	43,814
Barley, bush.	89,358	93,993	73,439
Buckwheat, bush.	23,146	22,178	22,667
Flaxseed, bush.	114,132	101,347	....
Flour, brls.	93,236	82,200	40,472
Meal, brls.	422	193	632

A brisk jobbing trade in butter is reported by dealers on this market, but wholesale business is at a standstill. Some dairy rolls, and a few packages have been received on the local market. This grade is rapidly absorbed and sells as a substitute for the higher priced creamery butter. Fancy lots have brought as high as 25c, but the bulk of the offerings have been sold at 23c to 24c per pound. Creamery is offered at 26c to 27c for fresh receipts and 28c to 29c for fall made stock.

There is a firm tone to the cheese market and values range from 13c to 13¼c for white, and 13¼c to 13½c for white. The demand has been steady though not very active and stocks are diminishing rapidly.

Reports of a weakening market in the United States, and the receipt of some consignments of eggs from western dealers, have frightened some of the local jobbers pretty badly and there seems to be a decidedly weak element in the egg situation here. One dealer claims to have bought good quality western eggs at 17c delivered on Saturday, and the asked price for storage stock on the local market is wavering somewhere below 20c. Selects are quoted at 24c, or 23c if the higher figure is not obtainable, and new laid stock is selling at 30c to 35c.

Poultry prices have been steadily advancing during the past week, on account of the scarcity of really good stock. Turkeys, in particular, have gone up in value, and as high as 17c has been paid for choice birds, with the bulk of the fresh offerings selling at 15c to 16c. There is no particular change in the price of chickens which bring from 9c to 11c, according to quality. Good fowl are worth 8c to 9c, and poor stock sells for a few cents less. Ducks are only worth about 10c, but this low price is due to large offerings rather than to poor quality. Geese are in good demand at 10c per pound.

Beans are being quoted at several prices, and the figure in each case seems to have been fixed by the cost of the stock rather than by the value of beans on the open market. Several of the local dealers bought when there were reports of poor crops and a scarcity and their prices are rather outside the general run. Prime 3-pound pickers are quoted from $1.80 to $2.10 per bushel in small lots and $1.50 to $1.70 by the cahload.

The offerings of live hogs were fairly large this morning, and prices for select lots, weighed off cars, ranged from $6.25 to $6.50 per hundred pounds.

Fresh killed abattoir dressed hogs are quoted by local packers at $8.75 to $9 per hundredweight.

The inquiry for cured and smoked meats has improved during the past fortnight and both hams and bacon are in better demand.

Lard is firm and steady and wholesale orders are coming in freely.

FLOUR—Manitoba spring wheat patents, $6.10; second patents, $5.50; winter wheat patents, $5.50; straight rollers, $5 to $5.25; in bags, $2.35 to $2.50; extra, $1.30 to $1.90.

ROLLED OATS—$2.70 in bags of 90 lbs., (nominal).

OATS — No. 2 Ontario, 50c to 50½c; No. 4 48c to 48½c; No. 2 Manitobas, 47c to 47½c; rejected, 44c to 45c.

CORNMEAL — $1.60 to $1.70 per bag; granulated, $1.60.

MILLFEED— Ontario bran, in bags, $22 to $24; middlings, $25 to $26 shorts, $23 to $24; Manitoba bran in bags, $22 to $23; shorts, $24 to $25.

BEANS — Prime pea beans, in jobbing lots at $1.80 to $1.90 per bushel.

POTATOES—90c to 95c per bag of 90 lbs., in jobbing lots.

PEAS—Boiling, in broken lots, $1.17 to $1.20 per bushel.

HAY — No. 1, $16.50 to $17 per ton on track; No. 2, $15 to $16; clover, $13; clover mixed, $14.

PROVISIONS — Barrels, short cut mess, $22.50 to $23; ¼ brls., $11.75 to $12.25; clear fat back, $23.50 to $24.50; long cut heavy mess, $21 to $23; half barrels, do., $10.50 to $11.25; dry salt long clear backs, 10¾c to 11¼c; brls., plate beef, $13.50 to $15; half barrels do., $7.25 to $7.75; brls., heavy mess beef, $10 to $11; ½ brls., do., $5.50 to $6; compound lard, 10c to 11c; pure lard, 12½c to 13c; kettle rendered, 12½c to 13c; hams, 12½c to 13½c, according to size; breakfast bacon, 14c to 15c; Windsor bacon, 14½c to 15½c; fresh killed abattoir dressed $8.75 to $9; live, $6.25 to $6.50.

BUTTER—Sept., 28c to 29c; fresh receipts, 26c to 27c; dairy, 23c to 25c.

CHEESE—13c to 13½c.

EGGS—Pickled and cold storage, 20c per dozen; selects, 22c to 24c; new laid, 30c to 35c.

ASHES—First pots, $6.10 to $6.20; seconds, $5.50; pearls, $7.15 to $7.35 per 100 pounds.

BUSINESS WELL HANDLED IN CANADA

London, Dec. 30.—At a meeting of the North of Scotland and Canadian Mortgage Company, both Mr. Ogston, the chairman, and Mr. Walker, the deputy chairman, who recently visited Canada, expressed themselves very pleased and highly satisfied with the very able and efficient way the company's business is managed in Canada.

DEMERARA RY. EARNINGS

The following are the gross and net earnings of the Demerara Electric Company for the month of November, 1907:

Gross	$10,73.273
Net	4,604.11

CATTLE MARKETS

LIVE STOCK MARKETS, Dec. 30.

About 554 butchers' cattle, 46 calves, 145 sheep and lambs and 1,132 fat hogs were offered for sale at the Point St. Charles stockyards this forenoon. The heavy snowstorm seemed to have a depressing effect on trade, which was further depressed by the small supplies and higher prices of the cattle; hogs also are higher in price. The best cattle sold at about 5c per lb., but they were not extra; pretty good animals sold at 3¾c to 4½c, and the common stock at 2½c to 3½c per lb. The calves were chiefly grassers, which sold at 3c to 3¾c per lb. Good veals sell at 4c to 5¼c per lb. Sheep sold at about 4c per lb., and the lambs at 5½c to near 6c per lb. Good lots of fat hogs sld at 6¼c to near 6½c per lb.

Toronto, Dec. 27—There was no market at the City Cattle Yards to-day. About 30 cattle, 50 sheep and 10 hogs came in but they were all bought by one firm. The prices of last week represented values to-day as nearly as could be ascertained.

East Buffalo, Dec. 30.—Cattle—Receipts, 2,200 head; slow and steady to 10c higher; prime steers, $5.25 to $5.60; shipping, $4.75 to $5.25; butchers, $4.10 to $5.10; heifers, $3.25 to $4.75; cows, $2.50 to $4.35; bulls, $3 to $4.50; stockers and feeders, $3.50 to $4.25; stock heifers, 2.25 to $3; fresh cows and springers steady to $2 higher, $18 to $54.

Veals—Receipts, 800 head; active and 50 cents higher, $5 to $9.75.

Hogs—Receipts, 18,700; active and strong; closing slow; heavy and mixed, $4.90 to $4.95; yorkers, $4.80 to $4.90; pigs, $4.75 to $4.80; roughs, $4.25 to $4.50; stags, $3.25 to $3.75; dairies, $4.75 to $4.90.

Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 10,000 head, active and higher. Lambs, $5 to $7.75; yearlings, $5.75 to $6.50; wethers, $4.75 to $5.50; ewes, $4.25 to $4.75; sheep, mixed, $2 to $4.75.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS.

London, Dec. 19.—To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Thursday last, showed increase of 15 head, amongst which were a good many fat beasts left over from last Monday's market. Very few sales were transacted, so few buyers being present, consequently a fall in value ensued. Top prices paid per 8 lbs. as follows:—80 to 90 stone Scotch, 4s 8d; extreme, 10d; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; 26 stone Runts, 4s to 4s 2d; 100 stone shorthorns, 4s 8d to 5s 10d. Increase of 310 in number penned in sheep market, compared with previous week here, as in the beast department. Very few transactions were recorded, rates having to be forced at 2d per 8 lbs. less money. Leading pens were quoted from 8 lbs. as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone do., 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone do., 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s. Calf trade not worth noting. Quotations per 8 lbs., sinking the offal—Beasts, 2s 6d to 4s 10d; sheep, 3s 10d to 6s. Total supply—Beasts, 220s; sheep, 320; calves, 10; milch cows, 5.

London, Dec. 19.—Good supplies; trade very quiet for this season of year, prices being barely maintained. English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; shorts, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 4s; do., seconds, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; do., forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d. Mutton—Scotch wedders, 4s 8d; do., tegs, 5s; do., ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; English wedders, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; do. ,ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; Dutch sheep, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; English lamb, 6s to 6s 8d; veal, 3s 8d to 5s; extreme, 5s 4d; English porkn 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Dutch do., 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8 lbs.

FARMERS' MARKET PRICES.—Dec. 27.

There was another bumper farmers' market, in the vicinity of Bonsecours market this forenoon, both the sellers and the buyers being present in unusually large numbers. The basket brigade, who come to the city by rail, filled both of the market halls, but the supply of turkeys was not equal to the demand, and prices were from one to two cents per lb. higher than on last Friday's market. Oats and buckwheat were more plentiful than on any day since last winter. The market gardeners had larger supplies than usual and lower prices prevailed all round. Oats sold at $1 to $1.15 per bag; buckwheat, $1.20 to $1.30 do.; potatoes, 75c to 85c per 80 lb. bag; turnips, 50c to 60c do.; carrots, 45c to 55c do.; beets, 50c to 70c do.; parsnips, 75c to 90c do.; onions, 90c to $1.10; cabbages, 50c to $1 per barrel; celery, 25c to 60c per dozen for home grown, $1 to $1.25 for imported; beef hindquarters, 5c to 6½c per lb.; do. fronts, 3½c to 4½c do; dressed hogs, 9c to 9¾c do. Nelson Bickerdike is selling, at his store on St. Paul street, western frozen hogs at 8c to 8½c per lb., and mutton carcasses at 5c to 6c do.; lamb's mutton, 9c do.; dead turkeys, 16c to over 18c per lb.; geese, 12c to 13c do.; ducks and chickens, 13c to 15c do.; live geese, $3.50 to $5 per pair; tub butter, 25c to 28c per lb; print butter, 28c to 30c do.; new laid eggs, 55c to 60c per dozen; older eggs, 30c to 45c do; apples, $2 to $4.50 per barrel; cranberries, $9 to $10 do., or 45c to 50c per gallon; Valencia oranges, $3 for small cases, $4 for the large cases; California navel oranges, $3.25 per box; Porto Rico sweet oranges, $2 do.; lemons, $2.50 to $3 do.; Almeria grapes, $5 per keg; bananas, $1.60 to $2.25 per bunch; hay, $4.50 to $16 per 100 bundles of 15 lbs.; straw, $5 to $6 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

FOREIGN RAILWAY EARNINGS

The Detroit United eleven months' gross increase, $616,392; eleven months' net increase, $176,637. Surplus, after charges, increase, $56,325.

The Wabash third week in December, decrease, $33,330. From July 1, decrease, $85,269.

The Toledo and Pacific third week in December, decrease, $39,549. From Jan. 1, increase, $1,834,317.

The Denver and Rio Grande third week in December, decrease, $32,800. From July 1st, increase, $962,800.

The Detroit United November gross increase, $45,085. November net decrease, $38,915.

BANK WILL REOPEN ITS DOORS

New York, Dec. 27.—Judge Alton B. Parker received a telegram from Kingston, N.Y., yesterday afternoon announcing that Judge Betts had handed down a decision dissolving the receivership in the case of the Hamilton Bank. Under the decision, the Hamilton Bank will be permitted to reopen and resume business.

ONTARIO MARKETS

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—Geese are in good demand now, and will be up to New Year's. There was a fair supply on By Ward market this morning, considering that the bad weather kept the attendance of farmers down. The quotation was on the whole bird, $1 to $1.25, with the latter being the most general. There appeared to be lots of turkeys, which sold at 16 cents per lb. Farmers do not bring in potatoes these days, and trade with the hucksters in this article of food is fair. Not many eggs were offered this morning, but some of those having them wanted 50 cents a dozen for fresh ones. Other sellers quoted them at 35 cents, also claiming them to be fresh. Butter has not showed much variation for some days, and oats and hay were at the same figure as last week.

Ingersoll, Dec. 30.—White wheat, 90c to 92c per bushel; red fall wheat, 90c to 90c; peas, 70c to 75c; barley, 60c to 62c; oats, 40c to 42c; corn, 73c to 75c; oatmeal, $3.50 to $4 per cwt.; flour, $2.60 to $2.85 per cwt.; bran, $22 to $23 per cwt.; shorts, $25 to $25 per ton; butter, 30c to 32c per lb.; creamery, 32c to 35c; eggs, 28c to 30c per dozen; potatoes, 95c to $1.10 per bag; hay, $13 to $16 per ton; hides, $9 to $10 per cwt.

Toronto, Dec. 30.—Business in the local market is beginning to brisk up, and its outcome favors a resumption of active trading shortly after the New ear. Few important sales of Ontario wheat are being effected, but prices reflect the firmness in outside markets, white wheat being held at around a dollars, with bids at 96c. Flour is firm, and sales of winter wheat patents for export are reported at $3.70; Manitoba wheat, No. 1 northern about nominal at $1.20; No. 2 northern, $1.15; No. 3 northern, $1.11; feed wheat, 64c; No. 2 feed, 54c, lake ports.

Barley—No. 2, 71c to 72c outside; No. 3 extra, 69c to 70c.

Flour, winter wheat patents for exports selling at $3.70; Manitoba patent, special brand, $5.80 to $6; seconds, $5.20; strong bakers, $5.10.

Ontario wheat, No. 2 white, 96c to 97c; No. 2 red, 95c to 96c; No. 2 mixed, 95c. Peas, 83½ outside; rice, No. 2, 80c. Corn, old No. 2 yellow American, 73c, Toronto freights; new No. 2 yellow, 65c to 65½c; new No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, 67c to 67½c. Oats, No. 2 white, 45½c; mixed, 44½c outside; 48c to 48½c on track, Toronto. Buckwheat, 62c outside. Bran, $19 in bulk outside; shorts, $21. Butter and eggs quiet, but steady; cheese continues dull.

HOW WHEAT FLUCTUATED

Highest and lowest prices of Chicago and Winnipeg cash and future options for the week ending Dec. 28:

CHICAGO.

Day.	Option.	High.	Low.	Change
Monday	May	105⅞	104⅞	—1
"	July	98⅝	97⅛	—1½
Tuesday	May	106½	104⅝	*1⅛
"	July	98½	97⅛	*1
Wednesday	(Christmas Day)	no markets.		
Thursday	May	107⅝	105⅞	*1½
"	July	99⅝	98⅛	*1½
Friday	May	107	105⅞	N1⅛
"	July	99¼	98¼	* ⅞

Saturday's figures not obtainable.

WINNIPEG.

Day.		High.	Low.	Change.
Monday	Dec.	106	105	*1
"	May	113⅝	113⅜	— ⅛
"	July	115¼	114¼	—1
Tuesday	Dec.	106⅝	104⅞	* ⅞
"	May	114	112⅞	*1⅛
"	July	115⅝	113⅜	*1⅜
Wednesday	(Christmas Day)	no markets.		
Thursday,	Exchange closed.			
Friday	Dec.	106¼	— ⅞	
"	May	114⅞	114⅝	— ⅜
"	July	116¼	115⅞	— ⅜
Saturday	Dec.	107	106¼	— ⅞
"	May	115½	114⅜	* ⅝
"	July	116⅝	116¼	* ⅛

*Advance. -- Decline.

SEASON'S GRAIN HANDLED AT PORT OF MONTREAL

During the past season 25,646,000 bushels of grain found its way to Montreal through the St. Lawrence canal system which is a very much larger traffic than was recorded in any previous year. The return included 15,461,000 bushels of wheat, 3,882,000 bushels of corn, 2,937,000 bushels of oats, 1,960,700 bushels of flax and 414,000 bushels of barley. These figures represent the grain traffic through Cornwall canal eastbound, but it is fair to assume that the bulk of it continued to Montreal for export.

B

THE MACDONALD MOVEMENT FOR RURAL EDUCATION.

WHEN the history of Canada in the twentieth century comes to be written, it is safe to say that considerable prominence will be given to that remarkable movement which has found its latest expression in the founding of the Macdonald College at St. Anne de Bellevue. This movement is not a thing of sudden growth or of local character. It began many years ago in some interesting little experiments undertaken by Sir William Macdonald and Dr. James W. Robertson, the present principal of Macdonald College. Which of these two men actually initiated the movement it would be impossible to say, but that they and they only are responsible for it is undisputed.

The movement makes for nothing more nor less than a revolution in rural education in Canada, and the Macdonald College may be looked upon not as the culmination of the movement, but as the beginning of that revolution. Hitherto rural education has taken little heed of rural needs either in this or any other country. In the future an organized effort is to be made in Canada on a definite scientific basis to educate young people with the particular end in view of making them successful and happy in rural life and agriculture.

Nobody can estimate what the result of this new rural education will be, but Dr. Robertson recently gave an instance of what it may accomplish. Years ago the people in many parts of the province of Quebec made it a practice to grow hay on the rich alluvial soil of the St. Lawrence Valley and ship it into the markets of the United States. In many places the hay was only resorted to after a generation of consecutive cropping with wheat. Each crop was repeated year after year until the fertility of the soil was exhausted. The land is now yielding less than 1 1-4 tons of hay per acre, and that often of rough and weedy quality. Now if those farmers had been properly educated with a view to the needs of rural life, they would have known that the hay from 200 acres when sent out of the country carries away more of the elements of fertility than say the whole $6,000,000 worth of butter exported from Canada last year. Had they known that, they would never have been beguiled into the easy-going farm practice of growing and shipping hay.

What has happened in Quebec will inevitably happen on the prairies of the west, and with much more disastrous results, unless the farmers on those lands, especially the newcomers, are informed and trained as to how to make the best out of the land without robbing it. If the land in the west is harried and impoverished like the lands in the St. Lawrence Valley, terrible indeed will be the result. Unlike the farmers in Quebec, those on the prairie have no other resource to fall back on.

It will thus be seen that this movement for a new system of rural education is one of national importance; that as a matter of protection, safety, and insurance, it is necessary to look well to the training of young people towards rural life, and to look well to the training of leaders for them.

One of the experiments which began the movement was that known as the 'Macdonald Seed Grain Competition,' which has been attended by remarkable results. The seed branch of the Department of Agriculture was a direct outcome of that competition, as was also the formation of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association. The competition was carried on by boys on farms dotted all over Canada. The idea was a happy thought of Professor Robertson. In the summer of 1899, when he was the Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying for the Dominion, he put aside $100 of his own money to offer in prizes to Canadian boys and girls who would send him the largest heads from the most vigorous plants of wheat and oats on their fathers' farms. He met with a wonderful response, and he then went to Sir William Macdonald, and told him here was a great chance to do some educational work in progressive agriculture. If the boys, farmers' boys all over the Dominion, could be got to select the heaviest heads of grain for seeding purposes, the result would be the gradual evolution of a much heavier and more prolific grain. He asked Sir William for $10,000 in prizes that would start this thing and keep it going for three years. Sir William provided the money with all goodwill, and the young competitors in every part of Canada were instructed to select the largest heads and grow seeds from these heads in a plot by itself. There were over 1,500 entries. Out of that number 800 completed in full the first year's work, and 450 completed the three years' work in a satisfactory manner. Ninety-two percent of the reports on these plots said on behalf of parents and guardians that the quarter-acre hand selected seed plots carried crops decidedly more vigorous and heavy than the crops from the same varieties of grain grown on the same farm in the same season from unselected seed. Here was an object lesson of immense importance to many hundreds of farmers, for if results so notable could be gained by three years of intelligent labor, what would be possible in thirty years when this practice became the common one through which to obtain seed for growing on the farms throughout Canada?

SCHOOL GARDEN, MACDONALD CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL, KINGSTON, N. B.

SIR WILLIAM MACDONALD,

The man behind an epoch-making educational movement.

Many of the farmers on whose farms the competition was carried on formed themselves into the Macdonald-Robertson Seed Growers' Association, out of which grew the Canadian Seed Growers' Association. The report at the recent annual meeting of this society contained a marvellous record of valuable public service. The estimate of members of this association and of the Seed Branch of the Department of Agriculture is that one of the direct results of the seed grain competition was an increase in the value of the grain crops of 1906 in Canada to the extent of at least $500,000.

The Macdonald Seed Grain Competition grew out of the work done to extend manual training in the public schools of all the provinces of Canada. Sir William C. Macdonald furnished funds to establish manual training centres in connection with the public schools in twenty-one places from Prince Edward Island to British Columbia, and to maintain them without cost to the pupils or the public for a period, in most cases, of three years. At first special teachers of ability and experience were brought in from outside, mostly from England. Some twenty-seven manual training teachers were thus brought into Canada. As time went on Canadian teachers were trained and became duly qualified. Before the end of the period of maintenance by the Macdonald fund, there were forty-five manual training teachers on the salary roll at a cost of some $3,600 per month, and more than 7,000 boys were taking the courses. Summer courses were provided for teachers of urban and rural schools. In the cities on Saturday forenoons, or at some other convenient time every week, classes were arranged for the teachers from whose rooms the boys went to the manual training centres. In Ottawa these classes were attended by over ninety teachers, and in Montreal and in Toronto by over a hundred in each place. This work was begun seven years ago, and in 1903 (in Montreal in 1904) the local authorities in the several provinces took over and extended the work. The equipment was presented free to the school boards, and in the case of the Normal schools to the provincial governments. Now over 20,000 boys and girls in Canadian schools receive the benefits of manual training in their regular course under the school authorities as a result of Sir William's benefaction in giving that form of industrial and agricultural education a good friendly lift.

Under the Macdonald Rural Schools Fund arrangements were made for providing a school garden at each of five rural schools in each of five provinces. A trained instructor was placed in charge of each group of five gardens and of the nature study work at them. He spent one day at one school and the next at another. The cost of this was met by Sir William Macdonald. At the school gardens an effort is being made to give the children information and training in three important matters in connection with agriculture, viz: The selection of seed, the rotation of crops and the protection of crops against disease and insects. It is really industrial education. Children find out something by doing, observing and recording the results themselves. The school garden is one way of making rural life more popular as well as efficient.

A few instances of the results from the experimental plots in the gardens managed by the children themselves, may be cited. In Prince Edward Island, at Tryon, the children obtained an increase of 32 percent in the yield of wheat from a plot on which selected seed was sown as compared with a plot alongside for which the seed had not been specially selected. In Prince Edward Island, also, the children obtained a yield of 17 percent increase in a barley field after clover, as compared with a plot alongside where no clover had been grown.

At most of the gardens two plots, side by side, were planted with potatoes under equal and similar conditions. The treatment of both plots was alike, except in regard to the spraying with Bordeaux mixture to prevent blight. One plot in each garden was sprayed with the mixture three to five times as the case might require, whereas the other plot was left unsprayed. In every case the yield of potatoes from the sprayed plot was larger than the other. The following list shows the increase yields through spraying six gardens:

Knowlton, Que.	111 percent.
Richmond, Ont.	100 percent.
Carp, Ont.	85 percent.
March, Ont.	81 percent.
Guelph, Ont.	43 percent.
Brome, Que.	41 percent.

The establishment of consolidated rural schools is another step taken by Sir William Macdonald for the improvement of rural education. Four object lesson consolidated rural schools were provided by the Macdonald Rural Schools Fund—one in each of the four provinces of Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

They were situated at places chosen or approved by the provincial departments of education. In each case a new building was erected to take the place of the small schools which at that time were serving the single sections proposed to be consolidated. They were each equipped with ordinary class-rooms and an assembly hall, and also for manual training, household science and nature study with a school garden.

A consolidated school board was elected as a part of the school system of the province concerned. It manages the school as a part of the scholo system of the province. The school at Middleton, in Nova Scotia, was opened in September, 1903; the one at Kingston, in New Brunswick, September, 1904; the one at Guelph, in Ontario, November, 1904, and the one at Hillsboro', in Prince Edward Island, early in the summer of 1905.

The Macdonald Rural Schools Fund meets for a period of three years the additional expense of the consolidated school over the cost of the small rural schools which formerly served the locality. The school sections contributed exactly the amount of the former expenditure, and the extra cost is met by the Macdonald fund for three years to enable the people of four provinces to have those object lessons and experiments in education.

One teacher from each province was chosen in advance to become the principal of the consolidated school when established. They were formed into a class with the other teachers who were to be in charge of the groups of school gardens and sent on salary and at the expense of the Macdonald fund to receive special training at Chicago, Cornell, Columbia and Clark universities, in the United States, and also at the Ontario Agricultural College. Other excellent teachers were engaged by the consolidated school boards. One object of the consolidation being to fit nature study with school garden work, household science and manual training into a course of study with the hitherto ordinary subjects in such a way as to give the best possible education for rural life, teachers with such special qualifications were employed. That increased the cost of maintenance. The remarkable and great increase in the daily average attendance of pupils also prevented any reduction in the number of teachers required, such as has been the case in the United States. There, consolidation of schools has been effected to a considerable extent in some seventeen different states, but without the improvement and enlargement of the courses by school gardens, household science and manual training.

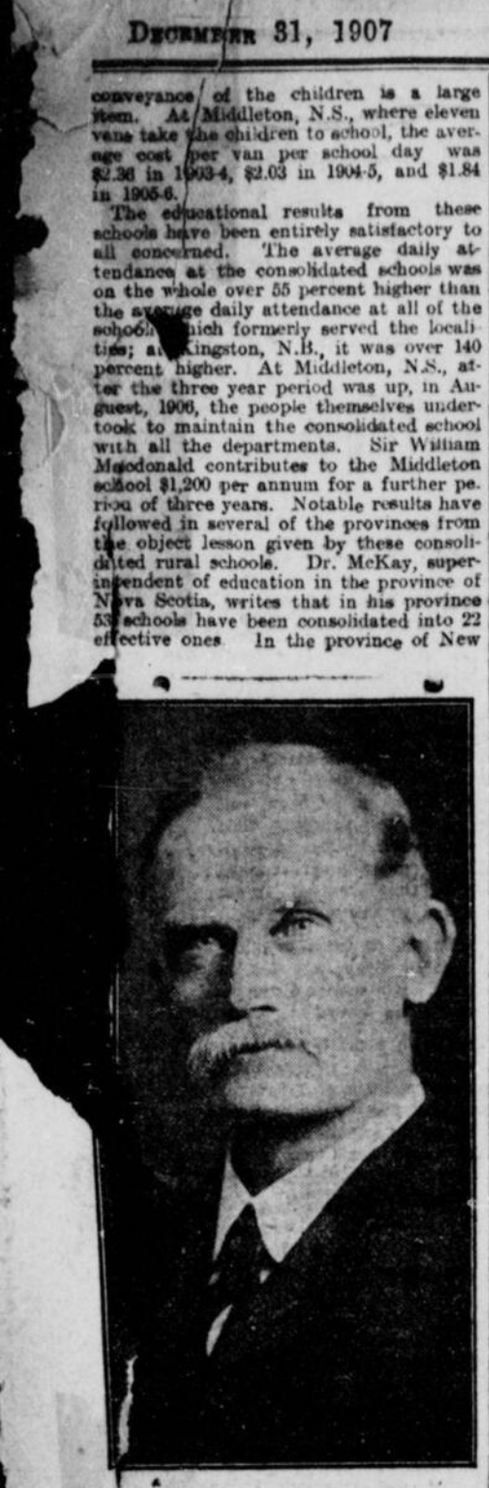
The consolidated schools cost more to maintain than the single rural schools, but the increased cost is caused largely by the better salaries paid to the teachers. The old system which the four schools above named supplanted had exactly the same number of teachers, namely, twenty-nine, but whereas under the old system these teachers received on the average $296 per annum, those in the consolidated schools received on the average $506 per annum. The cost of the

...NING IN WOOD. MACDONALD CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL, KINGSTON, N. B.

HOUSEHOLD SCIENCE ROOM. MACDONALD CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL, GUELPH, ONT.

conveyance of the children is a large item. At Middleton, N.S., where eleven vans take the children to school, the average cost per van per school day was $2.36 in 1903-4, $2.03 in 1904-5, and $1.84 in 1905-6.

The educational results from these schools have been entirely satisfactory to all concerned. The average daily attendance at the consolidated schools was on the whole over 55 percent higher than the average daily attendance at all of the schools which formerly served the localities; at Kingston, N.B., it was over 140 percent higher. At Middleton, N.S., after the three year period was up, in August, 1906, the people themselves undertook to maintain the consolidated school with all the departments. Sir William Macdonald contributes to the Middleton school $1,200 per annum for a further period of three years. Notable results have followed in several of the provinces from the object lesson given by these consolidated rural schools. Dr. McKay, superintendent of education in the province of Nova Scotia, writes that in his province 53 schools have been consolidated into 22 effective ones. In the province of New



JAMES W. ROBERTSON, LL.D., C.M.G.,

Principal of the Macdonald College, and Director General of the Macdonald movement.

Brunswick there are four large consolidated schools, each with nature study and school garden, manual training and household science. The provincial government pays half the cost of conveying the children and gives other special grants.

The Macdonald Institute at Guelph constitutes another branch of the work. Sir William Macdonald gave the sum of $182,500 to provide buildings and equipment at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, to train teachers now in the service for this 'new education.' Besides serving that purpose the Institute has become a headquarters for manual training, for household science and for providing short courses of instruction and training for farmers' daughters and others in cooking, sewing, domestic art and other branches of domestic economy. Two buildings were erected. Short courses of instruction in nature study and school gardens were provided without fees to teachers. The governments of four eastern provinces where the consolidated schools were established gave scholarships to enable teachers to attend. Over 200 teachers have already taken these courses.

The Macdonald College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, upon the founding and endowment of which Sir William Macdonald has spent millions of dollars, has grown out of the attempts and accomplishments briefly outlined above. In some measure it grew out of the school garden movement and the consolidated schools, to serve as a headquarters for the training of leaders. In some measure it grew out of the manual training movement. In some measure it grew out of the oft-expressed desire on the part of the educational leaders all over the Dominion for such advancement and improvement of education for rural communities as would not only prepare the children for life at its best in rural occupations, but would also satisfy the people as being the right training for their children.

As will be gathered from descriptions of the college given from time to time in the 'Witness,' one of its objects is to carry on research work and investigation and to disseminate knowledge, all with particular regard to the interest and needs of the population in rural districts. Another primary object is to provide suitable and effective training for teachers, and especially for those whose work will directly affect the education in schools in rural districts.

As the college has barely commenced its active career, no general results can yet be put forward but it is interesting to note what has already been accomplished by experiments in one department that was in full swing long before any students arrived—namely, the poultry department, which is under the charge of Mr. F. C. Elford. Last winter 250 hens were kept on the college grounds in small colony houses scratching for their dry food, fed once a day, and picking snow, because it was too cold to give them water. The thermometer ran down occasionally to 15 degrees and 18 degrees below zero Fahr. In the severest weather a cotton curtain was unrolled at night in front of the perches. The hens had no other protection beyond that and the one-board thick colony house. There was no sickness except in the case of two hens which dropped off the perch from apoplexy, being too fat. These two were not laying any eggs. But in the case of the other hens, while everyone did not lay during the winter, between Nov. 19 and March 31 10,122 eggs were obtained. In the coldest weather the hens laid about six dozen eggs per day, and in the milder weather about 150 eggs per day. The feed consumed by these 250 hens during that time cost $117, and the balance sheet showed a handsome profit for the winter.

That is how the usefulness even of hens may be increased by taking a course of this 'new education,' the establishment of which Sir William Macdonald and his brilliant director-general, Dr. Robertson, are making their chief life work.

WEEK OF PRAYER

TOPICS SUGGESTED BY THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

The topics suggested by the Evangelical Alliance for the Week of Prayer, are as follows:—

Sunday, Jan. 5.—Topics for sermons or addresses.—'Lord, teach us to pray.'—St. Luke, xi., 1. 'Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name; ask and ye shall receive.'—St. John xvi., 24. 'Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace.—Heb. iv., 16. And when they had prayed, . . . they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.'—Acts iv., 31.

Monday, Jan. 6.—Thanksgiving and humiliation.—Thanksgiving for all the mercies of the past, and for special blessing in connection with last year's Week of Prayer. For quickened desire upon the part of many to glorify God in holiness of life and zeal for the spread of the Gospel. For the blessing of continued universal peace. For 'all those departed this life in thy faith and fear.' Humiliation on account of our own individual and corporate shortcomings, and our failure to realize God's ideal both in life and labor. For divisions and strife still manifest in the churches. For the dishonor done to the Word of God and to the name of Christ by many who are called by his name. Prayer for a fresh sense of the peace-giving and cleansing power of the precious blood of Christ. For a renewed demonstration of the spirit and of power. For the fuller glory of the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in and through his people, and for his speedy and personal return. Scripture readings: Psalm xcv.; Psalm c.; Dan. ix., 16-19; Rom. vii., 18-25; Phil. iv., 4-9; I. John i., 5-10.

Tuesday, Jan. 7.—The Church universal: praise and prayer for the 'one body' of which Christ is the head.—Praise for the growing sense of brotherhood amongst many who own him as Lord. For every manifestation of oneness in him. For weakening barriers and growth of sympathies between all true believers. Prayer for a fuller obedience to him who is 'head over all things to the Church.' For a larger realization of his indwelling presence and power as life-giving Lord. For a completer apprehension of that for which we have been apprehended of him. For those in spiritual danger through departure from the truth as it is in Jesus. Scripture readings: Psalm cxxxiii.; Isa. v., 1-7; John xvii., 20-23; I. Cor. i., 1-10; I. Cor. xii., 12-27; Eph. iv., 1-16.

Wednesday, Jan. 8.—Nations and their rulers.—Prayer for all sovereigns, rulers, and those set in authority under them. For all statesmen and legislators, that divine wisdom may be theirs. That intemperance, gambling, and impurity in all countries may be arrested. For Christian treatment of the weaker races by the stronger nations. For a real recognition of the divine rights of the King of kings. For all soldiers and sailors, for the press, and for all who guide public opinion. Scripture readings: Psalm lxxx., 8-19; Psalm lxxxv.; Prov. xiv., 31-35; Isa. i., 16-20; Matt. xi., 20-24; I. Peter ii., 11-17.

Thursday, Jan. 9.—Foreign Missions.—Praise for all that has been accomplished by God's grace in heathen and Mohammedan lands. For the widely-open doors now set before the Church in the world. For tidings of revival in India and China during last year. For the faithful work of our missionary brethren and sisters, and of native Christian workers. Prayer for a more faithful recognition of the Church's responsibility toward the non-Christian workers. Prayer for a more faithful recognition toward the non-Christian world. For all missionary societies and agencies, both in their home and field organizations. For a large increase of men and means to carry forward the work. For all Bible translation and distribution. For all branches of missionary work—evangelistic, medical, educational, and industrial. For all missionaries and native churches, that they may be strengthened with all might by his spirit. Scripture readings: Psalm xcvi.; Isa. xlix., 6-12; Matt. xxviii., 16-20; Acts i., 6-11; Acts xi., 19-24; I. Thess. i.

Friday, Jan. 10.—Families, educational establishments, and the young.—Prayer for all parents, and the revival of piety and Christian worship in the home. For the discharge of mutual obligations by Christian masters and servants. For all Sunday-schools and Christian work amongst children and young people. For the maintenance of Bible-teaching in elementary and secondary schools. For teachers and students in all universities and colleges. For showers of blessing on all young men and women, and associations formed for their physical and spiritual welfare. For the wider and truer observance of the Lord's Day. Scripture readings: Deut. iv., 5-10; Ps. xxxiv.; Prov. i., 7-16; Mark x., 13-16; Luke ii., 41-52; II. Tim. iii., 10-17.

Saturday, Jan. 11.—Home Missions and the Jews.—Prayer for an obedient recognition by the Church of her obligation to give the Gospel to the Jews. For all missionary effort for the conversion of God's ancient people in all lands. For all forms of Christian social work amongst the masses in our great cities. For all evangelistic work in the needy villages of our land. For all Home Mission workers, that they may be 'filled with the spirit' and be made increasingly witnesses to Christ. Scripture readings: Gen. xxii., 15-18; Psalm cxxii.; Jer. xxxi., 7-11; Luke xiv., 16-24; Acts xx., 28-32; Rom. xi., 25-32.

PREMIUMS ! PREMIUMS ! PREMIUMS !

Open to Our Subscribers or their Families.

given free as a return for a little pleasant work in introducing our publication into new homes. Some of the old favorites for which there is a perennial call, also many new ones. Something to interest everyone. No limit to the number of premiums that one person may earn, so long as the required number of NEW subscriptions at FULL REGULAR RATES are sent in.

All premiums sent post-paid anywhere in Canada, unless expressly stated otherwise. Everyone relies on our premiums— quality good—each premium just what we say it is. 'Far better than we expected' is the universal verdict.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS are those who have not before taken the paper, or who, at least, have not been on our mailing list within the last two years; in short, whose subscription means a genuine increase in our circulation.

RENEWALS. Though all these premiums are calculated on the basis of NEW SUBSCRIBERS at full rates, we will accept renewals AT FULL RATES on the basis of TWO RENEWALS where ONE NEW SUBSCRIPTION is called for.

SOUVENIR 'INDIAN' SPOONS

(This cut shows only a part of the handle, full size, but serves to give some idea of the beauty of the design.)

Full size, heavy sterling teaspoon, handle beautifully ornamented with head of Indian and paddle. Impossible to do justice in a few words to this handsome spoon—given for FOUR NEW supscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00. Bowl may be engraved to order—any one name—without extra charge.

SOUVENIR 'PROVINCE' SPOONS

Coffee size, sterling silver, handle finished with coat of arms of the various provinces in beautifully coloured hard enamel. One of these spoons with coat of arms of one's own province, and the name of one's town or Christian name engraved on the bowl would be a life long pleasure to the owner. No extra charge for engraving any one name on the bowl. Gold or silver finish as desired. One of these sterling spoons free for TWO NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00 each.

STERLING 'KING AND QUEEN' SPOONS

Coffee size, sterling silver souvenir spoons, handle showing head of King or head of Queen as selected.

Bowl may be engraved to order—any one name—a very pretty spoon indeed. May be had in either silver or gold finish. Free for only TWO NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00.

STERLING SILVER TEA SPOONS

Full sized teaspoon, sterling silver, 'Diana' pattern, a stock design that may be duplicated any time, a very beautiful spoon. One spoon free for THREE NEW subscriptions to the 'Witness' at $1.00 each. The beauty of this offer is that one can add steadily to one's stock, piece by piece, first teaspoons, then forks, etc., as may be desired, and in time secure a very handsome and very valuable set of sterling silver without a cent of cash outlay, purely by a little persistent yet pleasant work.

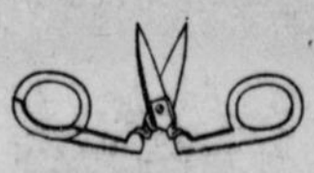
A HANDSOME SET OF TEA SPOONS

Any housekeeper would appreciate a set of six "1847 Rogers" best plated teaspoons. They will wear for a lifetime.

One set of six spoons, packed in neat satin-lined box sent free for only FIVE NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00 each.

N.B.—Other first quality plated table ware of the same design may be added in similar way.

FOLDING POCKET SCISSORS.



Very handy for school use—or for the work bag. Free for only ONE NEW subscriber to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00

STAMP AND PAD FREE

Any boy will be charmed with this rubber stamp, with his name and address on and self-inking pad; with care should last for years. Free for two NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness,' at $1.00 each.

GOLD NIBBED FOUNTAIN PEN

A very satisfactory fountain pen, guaranteed by the makers to be 14k. gold nib, well hammered, ensuring elasticity and easy writing. Usually sold at $1.75 to $2.00. Given for only two new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00 each.

SAFETY RAZOR

If you've never used one, just try it. Can't cut yourself. A novice can handle it. 'Once tried, always used.' Each razor has twelve highly tempered blades, which can be honed and stropped if desired, so they will last for years.

Free for only THREE NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00 each.

HANDSOME GOLD LOCKET AND CHAIN

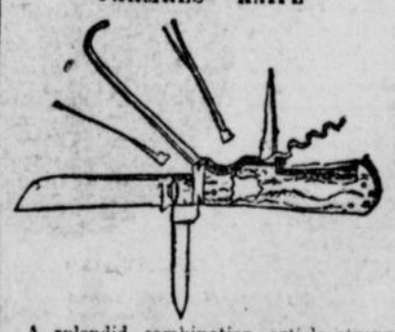
(This cut shows the locket, and a section of the chain, full size.)

One of the most admired of all our premiums. Splendid quality 14k. gold-filled, bright or dull finish; twisted rope chain and heart-shaped locket, medium size; with place for two portraits. Both locket and chain given for SIX new subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00 each.

Either locket or chain alone for THREE NEW subscriptions, as above.

N.B.—For 15 cents a letter, in cash, we will have locket engraved with handsome monogram, two or three letters. Or for one additional NEW subscription to the 'Witness' at $1.00, we will engrave locket free.

FARMRES' KNIFE



A splendid combination article, strong buckhorn handle, seven useful tools in one, besides two fine blades—Sheffield make. A knife for every practical man.

Free for only TWO NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian homestead, at $1.00 each.

RED LETTER ART BIBLE

A handsome large type illustrated Bible, leather bound, splendidly finished in every way; 35 half-tone engravings, 3 colored illustrations, 17 maps, 4,500 questions on Bible subjects, besides the usual helps. Prophecies about Christ and words of Christ printed in red.

Free for only FIVE NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead, at $1.00 each.

BAGSTER SCHOLAR'S BIBLE

If there is a boy or girl in your home old enough to read who hasn't yet a Bible of his or her own, send in your own renewal to the 'Witness at $1.00, and include a NEW subscription (also at $1.00), from some neighbor who has not been taking the 'Witness,' and we will send you a nice Scholar's Bible, cloth bound, red edges—just the thing for home or school use.

BAGSTER TEACHER'S BIBLE

A large Bible printed in Long Primer type; index, concordance, maps, illustrations, 150 pages of valuable 'Aids to Bible Study.' This style is in very great demand for adult Bible classes, Men's Own meetings, as well as for Sunday-school teachers.

Free for only THREE NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00 each.

BIBLE BOOKS FOR THE BAIRNS

To each subscriber in a club of four or more 'Witness' subscriptions (new or renewal) at $1.00 each, we will give one dainty gift book, bound in white, in gold and colors, each book a study of one of the 'Boys of the Bible.' This is a capital offer, as publisher's price of these books is 50 cents. Books will be sent in one package in care of the remitter, who will receive one extra larger book for his trouble in sending this friendly club.

A FINE SET OF CARVERS FREE

No better gift to any housewife. Sheffield make; blade 8 inches long; automatic spring guard, buckhorn handles. Free for only 3 bona fide NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness,' at $1.00 each, or for your own renewal at $1.00, and $1.20 in cash.

MAPLE LEAF BLOUSE SET.

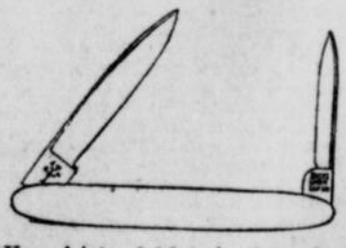
As popular this year as last.

This year we offer a set of 3 pins in large or small size, as desired.

Large pins have word 'Canada' across the face; small ones have no inscription. All made of best enamel, beautifully colored.

One set either size ONLY ONE NEW subscription to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00

GIRL'S PEN KNIFE.



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

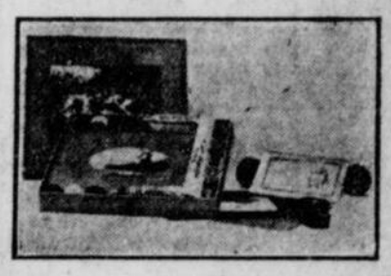
FIVE INCH SCISSORS.

Just the thing for the work basket. Celebrated Boker make—good quality steel. Free for only one NEW subscriber to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00

A USEFUL JACK KNIFE

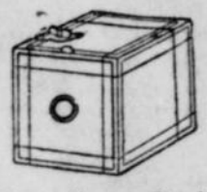
A fine two-bladed knife, made by Joseph Rogers, Sheffield, England. The cut shows style and make. Knife closed is four inches long. A useful tool for the adult, while every boy says 'It's a dandy.' Free for only TWO NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00 each.

PASSEPARTOUT OUTFIT FREE



All needed supplies (Dennison's best) for making this popular work—12 mats, 12 backs, 10 rolls colored binding, tags, rings, tube glue, tube paste and glass-cutter, with book of directions. Free for four NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness' at $1.00 each, or for your own renewal at $1.00 and $1.75 in cash. (Or three new subscriptions to 'World Wide' at $1.50 each.)

FIRST CLASS CAMERA FREE



Snap-shot or time. Standard make. Best on the market for the money.

No. 1. Size of picture 2 1-4 x 2 1-4 in. Free for three NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness,' at $1.00 each.

One roll of films, 6 exposures, sent gratis with this camera.

No. 2. Size of picture, 2 1-4 x 3 1-4 in. Free for six bonafide NEW subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness,' at $1.00 each. Two rolls of films (each six exposures), sent gratis with this camera.

N.B.—Where desired, three NEW subscriptions to the 'Messenger' at 40 cents, may be substituted for one to the 'Weekly Witness.'

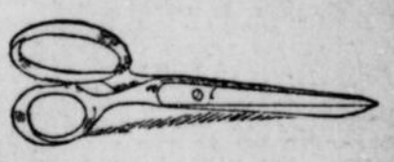
STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS

A few sets still available of these popular views, and when they are gone we will not be able to repeat this generous offer:

1. One set of 24 colored views (showing 'Trip Round the World') for only ONE NEW subscription to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' and one's own renewal to the same at $1.00 each.

2. One set of 50 colored views (Japanese, wide range) to any old subscriber sending in TWO NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00 each.

CUTTING SHEARS



Indispensable to the home dressmaker. Eight inches long. Good tempered steel. Every pair warranted by the makers.

Free to an old subscriber sending his own renewal at $1.00 and ONE NEW subscription to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' at $1.00 a year.

A SERVICEABLE WATCH

Ingersoll 'Yankee,' stem wind, stem set, guaranteed a good practical article. Satisfies any man, delights every boy. With care lasts for years.

Free for only TWO NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead' at $1.00 each.

REMEMBER! All the above premium offers are for ABSOLUTELY NEW subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead at $1.00 each. TWO RENEWALS at $1.00 each to count as ONE NEW subscription. Further particulars cheerfully given. Sample copies, and subscription blanks freely and promptly sent on application.

Remit the correct number of subscriptions for any of the above offers. Name your premium clearly and it will be sent at once.

Address, John Dougall & Son, Publishers of the 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' 'Witness' Block, Montreal.

P.S.—In any of the above offers TWO NEW yearly subscriptions to the 'Northern Messenger' at 40 cents each and 15 cents ... equal to one 'Witness,' or one NEW subscription to 'World Wide,' $1.50 as equal to one 'Witness.'

Every Sufferer from Piles Should Read this Carefully.

Knowing the frequency with which people suffer from this ailment, Dr. Hamilton made an exhaustive study into the cause of piles.

He found that the lower part of the bowels is like a network of blood-vessels, and if subjected to persistent pressure, a section will bulge out and form what is commonly known as piles.

The only effective mode of curing this trouble is the regular use of Dr. Hamilton's Pills, which can be taken before retiring. Next day will bring wonderful relief.

'I suffered up to about the limit of human endurance with piles,' writes Miss Lueders, from Cornwall, Ont., 'I was employed in a factory here, but for a while had to give up work till I got better of this trouble. I read in the Montreal 'Herald' about Dr. Hamilton's Pills, and after using them for two weeks was cured. I can recommend these pills very highly; there are none better. They at once relieve and prevent a constipated condition of the bowels, and from my experience can be depended upon as a perfect safeguard against piles. Dr. Hamilton's Pills of Mandrake and Butternut, I am sure, would be a benefit to every girl or woman.'

Take Dr. Hamilton's Pills and your system will be regenerated, revitalized, and made proof against disease.

Good for men, excellent for women, and most effective for children. All ages and both sexes find Dr. Hamilton's Pills a marvellous medicine. Although active, they do not gripe or cause inconvenience, still they cleanse and purify the system, thereby maintaining a high standard of health. Sold by all dealers, 25c per box, or five boxes for $1.00, or by mail, from N. C. Polson & Co., Hartford, Conn., U.S.A., and Kingston, Ont.

MR. LEMIEUX SAILS TO CANADA.

Minister of Labor Concludes Negotiations With Japanese Government.

Tokio, Dec. 25.—The Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, Canadian Minister of Labor, and party, sail for home on the 'Empress of China,' to-morrow, Dec. 26.

Mr. Lemieux said to the Associated Press:—

'My lips are sealed on the subject. Any statement I have to make belongs first to the Dominion Government. My mission will be completed only after my return to Ottawa. My colleagues there will be in a position fully to discuss and consider the whole question in its various phases. I have every reason to believe that a solution of the difficulty will soon be reached, and am pleased to say that my negotiations with the Japanese Foreign Office was conducted in the friendliest spirit. I return with nothing but the most pleasant recollections.'

The Associated Press is in a position to state that the situation is identical with its previous forecast. Mr. Lemieux and Sir Claude M. Macdonald, the British ambassador, fully agreed with the terms of the memorandum whereunder the Japanese Government outlines its plans for the future control of immigration, the announcement of which will probably be made when a similar arrangement is outlined to Mr. Thomas J. O'Brien, the American ambassador, with whom, it is understood, has been submitted a number of suggestions from the American Government for the consideration of the Foreign Office. The suggestions, it is believed, largely served as a guide to the arrangement submitted to Canada through Mr. Lemieux, and there is reason to believe that the Japanese Government will soon submit to Mr. O'Brien the details of the plans to control immigration to America, which practically amounts to the prevention of all labor immigration.

The attitude of Mr. Lemieux towards the American ambassador has caused much comment in diplomatic circles. Mr. Lemieux entirely ignored the American embassy, and evidently preferred not to discuss the matter with Mr. O'Brien. It is understood that the foreign minister, Viscount Hayashi, throughout his conferences with Mr. Lemieux, consistently declined to sacrifice any treaty rights or to set any limit on the number of Japanese which will be permitted to land in Canada monthly.

ZIONIST MOVEMENT

HOUSE TO HOUSE CANVASS BEING MADE IN TORONTO BY HEBREWS.

Toronto, Dec. 25.—The members of the Toronto branch of the Zionist movement decided to organize a house to house canvass among the Hebrews in the city in order to raise as large a sum as possible for emergency purposes in connection with the Zionist movement. This decision was come to at a meeting at Massey Hall, held during the afternoon, where a number of prominent Zionist speakers and Hebrew clergy addressed a large audience. Mr. De Sola made a lengthy address and appeal in English to the members, in the course of which he produced a cable from Herr Woolfshon, of Cologne, president of the World's Federation of Zionists, asking the audience for immediate contribution for the cause.

Mr. De Sola said that Herr Woolfshon and Dr. Catnelson, president of the Jewish Colonial Trust, had recently obtained an interview with the Sultan of Turkey, in the course of which they presented their grievances, and that at the interview the Sultan had practically stated to Dr. Catnelson and Herr Woolfshon that if the Zionists were in a position to carry out the terms suggested in the negotiations, he would grant them the territories asked for. The speaker urged upon his audience the necessity for prompt and liberal giving.

A HEARTY RECOMMENDATION.

The best publication that comes to the desk of the editor is 'World Wide.' 'World Wide' is a weekly reprint of the best things in American and British publications. Somehow you feel as you read it you are getting the essence of the best current thought on science, literature, education, human progress, statesmanship and great issues. Almost every article in every issue you feel you [illegible] among your treasures.

THE 'KEEWATIN' AT OWEN SOUND.

Big New C.P.R. Steamer Makes Run From Buffalo on Christmas Day.

Owen Sound, Ont., Dec. 26.—Navigation for the season closed on Christmas Day by the arrival of the 'Keewatin,' the second of the big new passenger steamers for the Canadian Pacific Railway. The steamer made the run from Buffalo through heavy weather and without the usual aids to navigation. Captain E. B. Anderson, commodore of the lake fleet, was in command. The arrival of the 'Keewatin' brings the value of the steel tonnage in Owen Sound harbor to over three and a half million dollars, as beside the five fine passenger steamships of the Canadian Pacific Railway, there are eight big steel freighters and other craft which will bring the monetary value over the amount named.

The long delay at Buffalo, where this steamer and her sister ship, the 'Assiniboia,' were put together after coming up through the canals in sections, made it doubtful whether she would be able to reach Owen Sound before the spring, but the mild and open weather which has prevailed for the last ten days enabled the 'Keewatin' to get away from Buffalo at nine o'clock last Sunday night. Some delay was occasioned on Lake Erie by fog, but the 'Keewatin' entered the Detroit river by daylight on Tuesday morning, and was favored by summer weather right through to this port, where she arrived at half-past nine o'clock this morning.

The 'Keewatin,' which is the latest acquisition to the C. P. R. upper lake fleet, is 350 feet long, and has a 3,600-ton register, with a classification of A1 at Lloyd's, which, with her sister ship, is the only vessel on the Upper Lakes with this qualification. She can carry 250 first class cabin passengers, and with the 'Asiniboia' will give a greatly improved service by the C. P. R. during the summer months.

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION

MR. SCOTT SAYS THAT TOTAL THIS YEAR WILL REACH 300,000.

Toronto, Dec. 26.—Mr. W. Scott, head of the Immigration Department at Ottawa, who is in the city on a holiday, said, when interviewed to-day, that the total immigration to Canada this year would very nearly touch the three hundred thousand mark. Mr. Scott declined to discuss the local situation further than to say that with the present heavy immigration to Canada it was inevitable that there should be a certain amount of congestion in the cities in the winter.

CHAMPLAIN TERCENTENARY

EARL GREY REQUESTS LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR TO APPOINT COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARK SCHEME.

Quebec, Dec. 27.—Last evening at a meeting of the executive committee appointed in connection with the third centenary of the foundation of Quebec, the chairman stated that His Excellency had requested Lieutenant-Governor Jetté to appoint a committee of ten Quebecers, who would specially attend to this national park scheme. Nine members had already been selected and a central committee will also be appointed by the Governor-General. Subscriptions will be asked for throughout the British Empire and in France towards the project, and Earl Grey will be the patron of that association, while the Lieutenant-Governors of each province will be requested to become vice-patrons. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Hon. Mr. Gouin have already accepted this position.

A VETERAN'S TRAGIC FATE.

New York, Dec. 25.—While on his way to the home of his son with a Christmas present, with which he hoped to bridge over a quarrel of long standing between himself and the young man, Jas. Rhind, an aged Civil War veteran, was run over and killed by a Third avenue trolley car at Sixty-Fourth street today. Rhind was partially blind from an old bullet wound and did not see the car.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS AT DINNER.

The Hon. Sydney Fisher and Mr. R. L. Borden Respond to 'Our Country.'

HON. MR. WEIR CRITICISES PROPOSAL FOR EXPORT TAX ON PULPWOOD.

Three hundred guests sat down at the thirty-third annual dinner of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association, held on Monday night, at the Windsor Hotel, and the function was regarded as one of the most successful in the history of the association.

THE STEADINESS OF THE DOMINION.

The Hon. Sydney Fisher and Mr. R. L. Borden both responded to the toast of 'Our country,' proposed by the vice-president, Mr. S. J. Mathewson. Mr. Fisher said that this was Canada's good time. True, there had been a financial flurry of late, but when its effects in Canada were compared with events in the United States, no one could help feeling pride in the steadiness of the Dominion. People in Canada, he said, reading the papers, full of American news, and reports coming from American channels, were apt to underestimate the Dominion, and prone to think that what they read of the United States was matter of their own instead of a foreign country. The facts of the past few months showed that it was a pity people did not get more news of their own Dominion instead of her great rival across the boundary.

While the United States suffered, in Canada no banks had failed, and, as a matter of fact, there was no lack of currency in this country, the banks of the Dominion still working within $13,000,000 of their possible currency issue, while well able to take care of the trade.

Mr. R. L. Borden, referring to his recent tour of the Dominion, compared himself to a commercial traveller, who within about fourteen weeks had travelled 12,000 miles and presented his samples to about 100,000 customers, whom he had found in very good form indeed, and had given him a very cordial welcome.

So far as parliament was concerned, he was sorry that there were not more representatives of the commercial interests there, especially such commercial men as he was addressing, who had so varied a knowledge of the various resources of the country, which would be of great use in parliamentary discussions. This led him to discuss the injustice that was being done commercial travellers in that, through their frequent peregrinations, they were frequently not allowed to vote, owing to absence from home, and were thus deprived of their undoubted right to the franchise.

THE PROPOSED TAX ON PULPWOOD.

The Hon. W. A. Weir, Provincial Treasurer, and Mr. P. E. Leblanc, leader of the Opposition in the Local House, responded to the toast of 'The Quebec Legislature,' proposed by Mr. Max Murdock.

Mr. Weir said in part:—'I am glad to know that on the whole your association is in favor of freedom of commerce; and in this connection, let me refer to a proposition that has recently been placed before the public that the export of pulp wood be prohibited or taxed. The object in view, that of forcing the institution of pulp and paper industries in this country, is certainly very laudable. But there are many things to be considered before such a policy is adopted. One of the great assets of the province of Quebec, from which the Provincial Government derives a very considerable portion of its revenue, is its forests of pulp wood. The export prohibition, or the export tax, would very considerably affect the present value of our forests and the annual revenue we derive therefrom. It is a question how far the Dominion Government would be justified in pursuing such a policy having such financial effects, without making due compensation to the provincial treasury. There is also to be considered the effect upon our colonists or settlers.

LONG SAULT DAM

OBJECTION RAISED TO SCHEME OF DEVELOPMENT COMPANY.

Ottawa, Dec. 24.—Objection is being urged from various quarters against the proposal of the Long Sault Development Company for damming the St. Lawrence river at the foot of the Long Sault Rapids above Cornwall. The power that would be created by the erection of a system of dams at this point would no doubt be very large, but it is claimed that the enterprise would have a serious effect on navigation, and that it would result in property damages for as much as thirty miles up the river. It is pointed out in support of the latter contention that twice within the past half century, when an ice blockade occurred at the Long Sault Rapids, the water rose to such an extent as to cause serious floods in Morrisburg, thirty miles away. The International Waterways Commission has been asked by the Dominion Government for a report on the whole question before any action is taken either to approve or to disapprove the enterprise in question.

GUNNING ACCIDENT FATAL.

Niagara Falls, Ont., Dec. 24.—Charles Sheppard died in the General Hospital here yesterday as the result of an accident on Dec. 7, when his right arm was shattered by a shotgun in the hands of a companion while walking on the street in Queenston. Sheppard was not quite twenty years old, and was the son of Mr. Frank Sheppard, postmaster of Queenston.

The January Number OF THE CANADIAN PICTORIAL

Even Surpasses the Xmas Number.

We knew it would. It is one of our series of surprises for 1908. It is a great ten cents worth—and the best of it is that the January number can be confidently regarded as a step to still better issues throughout the year.

The January issue contains over two thousand inches of splendid pictures. A year ago our great boast was just half that amount. But then a year ago we only had half our present circulation. It is really wonderful how rapidly the 'Canadian Pictorial' has developed in interest, in size and in circulation.

What its subscribers and what expert publishers think of it has appeared from time to time in these columns. Some few appreciations appear in this issue. They are just samples of what the many are saying all over Canada.

CONTENTS

The January issue will be particularly interesting as containing an illustrated article on the photographing of great news events, and people, places and phenomena of great interest. These series of photographs shows what great peril, tact, perseverance, resource and courage is at times demanded of the photographers all over the world who supply photos at great expense to the 'Canadian Pictorial.'

The contents for the January issue, comprising over two thousand square inches of pictures, are every one of them of intense interest to Canadians.

The cover in a deep blue is a fine reproduction of an oil painting showing 'New Year's Morning' dawning over a lonely Canadian farm house. Canadian winter scenes are well represented, such as chopping in the Ontario bush, splitting the home firewood, the first snow along the rivulet, sunlight in the snow-clad woods. The recent opening of the Canadian Parliament supplies some capital pictures—the entrance of the Governor-General, and a page of charming debutantes at the drawing-room. The centenary of Joseph Brant, the great chief of the Six Nations, is also represented in this delightful number. Eight sovereigns in one group, taken at the recent unique gathering at Windsor Castle, as well as the picture of twenty-five Royal personages, including the King and Queen and their guests, will be of special interest. This issue contains also some particularly fine animal pictures, including a magnificent leopard shot by a missionary in the forest of West Africa, and photographed by his wife.

The Women's Department contains a splendid picture of Lady Evelyn Grey; articles on 'Queen Victoria's Letters,' 'Household Management,' 'The Toilet,' and 'The Baby.'

The news of the month in picture and comments, wit and humor, etc., etc., makes up a very full and interesting issue, a pleasure for one's own table, and just the thing to send as a New Year's greeting to friends at a distance. No nicer New Year's card than this.

Only ten cents a copy. One dollar a year. The 'Pictorial' Publishing Co., 142 St. Peter street, Montreal.

SUBSCRIBERS.

'Witness' subscribers, after reading the above, will be sure to include the 'Canadian Pictorial' when deciding on what magazines they will take. It is not a luxury, but a necessity in every home of any culture throughout the Dominion.

The clubbing offers announced elsewhere in this issue will give you great satisfaction. One or other of them will be found particularly suited to each case.

CHINESE SITUATION.

Suppression of Public Meetings in Pekin Ordered by Dowager Empress.

Pekin, Dec. 27.—The Dowager Empress has given verbal orders to the Interior Department and to the police to suppress all public meetings in Pekin, and there is reason to believe that this order will be extended to the provinces.

The popular agitation along the lines of 'rights recovery' is growing in a phenomenal manner. The question of provincial as against federal sovereignty enters largely into the matter. Women's societies, schools for boys and for girls, the family newspapers, and the political press, all are participating in the agitation, and for a month past the Government here has been receiving telegrams in increasing numbers expressing the strong desire of the senders that the rights which have been alienated from them by foreigners be restored to the Chinese. The movement has reached such magnitude that the Government is thoroughly alarmed, and it is to-day striving to find a conciliatory position between the revolutionary agitators and those who consider themselves to be aggrieved. The agitation embraces the question of the patrol of the West River by Great Britain, in an effort to put an end to the piracy there, and leading Englishmen here apprehend that the present popular hostility will result in an inquiry into the British trade. The Government is relying on the support of Great Britain, whose insistence upon China's maintenance of the original position has produced an apparent solidarity among the Chinese ministers. The pressure of the British Government is strengthening the position of Yuan Shi-kai, whose security and influence in Pekin is regarded by foreigners as essential to the safety and progress of China.

It is declared here that the foreign agitation in the matter of the attitude adopted by Great Britain with regard to Manchuria, and the warning of Russia concerning the annulment of the telegraph convention, have led the British Foreign Office to take action, and it is understood that this has been in the form of representations to the Tokio Government. China, it is stated here, considers the attitude taken by Japan to be based upon impossible claims, and Japan, it is averred, is taking advantage of China's complications with Great Britain in order to postpone the negotiations regarding Manchuria.

Travellers arriving here complain of what they call the organized incivility, and in some cases the 'brutal conduct' of the Japanese trainmen and guards on the Manchurian Railway.

The 'Witness' has the approval of the most influential men in Canada.—'News-Times,' Wallaceburg, Ont.

REFUSE TO PAY RENT.

Thirty-Thousand Families in New York Revolt Against Landlords.

New York, Dec. 25.—As a result of a movement which has been under way for more than a month, thirty thousand families on the Lower East Side will refuse to-morrow to pay rent, and if their demands for a reduction are not met, wholesale evictions will follow. The Socialist party, with headquarters in the Eighth, Fourth and Second Assembly districts, is directing the revolt against landlords, claiming the present industrial conditions do not warrant the same rentals that tenants were able to pay a year ago.

Four hundred women, organized by Miss Pauline Newmann, have made a house to house canvass to obtain written pledges that a reduction of from 20 to 30 percent would be demanded, and if this was refused, that no rent would be paid.

A PRINCESS EXECUTED

WOMAN BOMB-THROWER HANGED AT MOSCOW.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 26.—Newspapers report that an unknown woman who was hanged at Moscow a few days ago for throwing a bomb at Governor Herschelman on Dec. 14, was Princess Meschtscherski, wife of an impoverished scion of an ancient noble house, whom she deserted because the marriage was unhappy.

The 'Witness' is unexcelled.—'Advertiser,' Elmira, Ont.

BRIDGE COMPANY LOSES CASE.

The Court of Appeal on Monday reversed the judgment of the Superior Court in the case of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. and the Dominion Bridge Company. The judgment complained of granted the Dominion Bridge Company $1,040.80 damages on account of loss sustained when, in October, 1904, while it was receiving upon its scow 'Miramichi,' then alongside the C. P. R.'s ship the SS. 'Lake Michigan,' certain pieces of iron which were being lowered by means of a derrick operated by the plaintiff company, situated upon its floating scow 'Champion,' two heavy pieces of iron became dislodged and slipped from the deck of the defendant's ship, falling upon the scow 'Miramichi,' breaking holes through the scow and causing it to list to one side and then sink. The first court held the Canadian Pacific Railway Company responsible, but the majority of the Court of Appeal held a different view and dismissed the action. Judge Bossé and Judge Martineau ad hoc, dissented.

CUT WAGES.

Action of Erie Railroad Will Affect 1,800 Men.

New York, Dec. 25.—Mr. Underwood, president of the Erie Railway, made the official announcement yesterday that on and after Jan. 1 the clerical employees, numbering between seventeen and eighteen hundred men, will have their wages cut from two to ten percent. Only those who receive less than $60 a month will be exempt.

It was learned on high authority that almost every railway in the country intends to do likewise, there being a general understanding on the subject. The upmber of employees who will be affected by the wholesale reduction is estimated at over two hundred thousand. Depression of business is the reason assigned for the cutting down of wages.

The Erie Railway will save $200,000 a year by the reduction, while the combined roads will save millions.

It has also been ascertained that the reduction in pay will affect the vice-presidents, treasurers, secretaries and other high-priced officials of the roads, but not the presidents.

The train hands on sixty-five of the railways are voting whether to go on strike if their demands for more pay are refused. The final decision will be announced on Jan. 2. The present action of the companies indicates what their answer will be to the train hands.

LAID OFF FOR HOLIDAYS.

Toronto, Dec. 25.—Some four hundred employees of the C. P. R. car and machine shops at Toronto Junction have been laid off for a short period. Some will resume work on Monday and the rest on Jan. 6. The fact that the suspension will be for so short a period was good news to those to whom the lay-off was at first a disagreeable shock, and who feared that a long period of idleness awaited them.

ST. JOHN ELECTIONS.

St. John, N.B., Dec. 27.—The Real government ticket here has been practically decided upon. It will consist of Messrs. Edward Lantalum, M.P.P., A. O. Skinner, D. J. Purdy, M.P.P., and Mayor Edward Sears. Mayor Sears does not want to run, but will probably consent. Arrangements are that, if elected, he should resign later, and, with Dr. Pugsley, run for the Dominion House.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

A Change is Needed.—Through the long winter one needs a change. Why go South when 'The Welland,' St. Catharines, offers an environment at moderate cost which will minister to tired nerves and worn out bodies? Try the tonic influence of 'The St. Catharines Well' and the restful influence of 'The Welland.' Apply the manager, St. Catharines, or any agent of the Grand Trunk Railway system.

Agricultural.

COMING EVENTS.

New York Poultry Show, New York, Dec 30—Jan 4, 1908.

Annual Convention Alberta Farmers' Association, Jan. 8-9.

Eastern Dairymen's Convention, Picton, Jan. 8-10, 1908.

Western Dairymen's Convention, Woodstock, Jan. 15-16, 1908.

Eastern Ontario Fat Stock and Poultry Show, Jan. 20-24, 1908.

Boston Poultry Show, Boston, Jan. 13-18, 1908.

Quebec Provincial Poultry and Pet Stock Breeding Show, Victoria Rifles' Armory Hall, Montreal, Jan. 28, 29, 30, and 31, 1908.

National Live Stock Convention, Ottawa, Feb. 5, 6, 7, 1908.

Convention of Agricultural Societies, Manitoba Agricultural College, Feb. 10-17.

Manitoba Provincial Poultry Show at Neepawa, Feb. 11-14.

Spring Stallion Show, Toronto, Feb. 12-14, 1908.

Ontario Horse-breeders' Show, Toronto, Feb. 12 to 14.

Western Horticultural Society's Convention at Winnipeg, Feb. 18-22.

Manitoba Dairy Convention, Winnipeg, Feb. 18-22.

Manitoba Agricultural Societies Convention, Winnipeg, Feb. 18-22.

Annual Convention Ontario Association of Fairs and Exhibitions, Toronto, Feb. 19 and 20.

Provincial Seed Fair, Summerside, P. E. I., March 18 and 19.

Regina Winter Fair, March 19-21.

Canadian National Horse Show, May 4-9.

CURRENT COMMENTS

Poultry houses with earth floors must be absolutely dry and free from frost.

* * *

Feed for eggs during cold weather. Winter eggs always bring high prices.

* * *

Keep an empty salt sack in the stable, rub the driving horse with it every day, and see how his coat will glisten.

* * *

If the farmer regards not his soil neither shall the soil show him kindness in the days of weather stress and financial strain. The prudent farmer is kind to his soil.

* * *

The milker should wear clean clothes, have clean hands and be a healthy individual. Many cases of typhoid fever have resulted from drinking milk handled by convalescents.—Prof. F. S. Edwards.

* * *

January is a good month to increase the grain ration of the dairy cow. Do not put it off until she freshens and then expect her to fill the pail. Remember that it is what goes into the mouth that determines to no small extent the size of the flow of milk.

* * *

The problem of winter egg getting comes up regularly every year. Right now the question is on, and a good many of people are studying it. It is worthy of all the well directed attention that can be given it. Eggs will sell for high average prices from now on until after Easter. The poultry keeper who has plenty of eggs to sell during this period is going to make some money.

* * *

Hens, even in a good building, are more easily started on the way to laying before severe cold comes than after. Putting off the right kind of care of them one week will delay the profits two weeks. When extreme weather comes, they should be up in splendid condition, and then held there till eggs begin to come. There is no mystery about the necessary care of them to get eggs. A good variety of nourishing food, exercise, oyster shells, some meat and grit, mixed with judgment and common sense, will always make the hens begin to sing and lay after a little.

* * *

During the second week in February a grain exhibition, open to the agricultural societies of the province, will be held at the Manitoba Agricultural College. The agricultural societies have been formed into three districts. The eastern district includes all societies as far west as Portage la Prairie, Carman and Morden. The south-western district comprises all sections on and south of the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway and west of the eastern district. The north-west district is made up of the remaining part of the province.

* * *

The annual convention of the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association, to be held at Picton on Jan. 8, 9 and 10, promises to be a very interesting function. Addresses by well-known agriculturists are announced, and the programme is full of good things for those concerned in this important branch of industry. Dr. Robertson, the Hon. Sydney Fisher, the Hon. Nelson Monteith, Messrs. G. A. Putnam, C. C. James, G. A. Barr, J. A. Ruddick, J. W. Mitchell, T. McGillicuddy, and Dr. W. T. Connell are among the speakers announced.

* * *

The government of Manitoba has issued its annual crop report. This puts the total grain crop at 99,102,679 bushels. The total wheat yield was 39,688,266bushels, with an average of 14.22 per acre; oats 42,233,140 bushels, with an average of 34.8 per acre; barley, 16,732,724 bushels, with an average of 25.7 per acre; potatoes, 5,092,161 bushels, with an average of 157.2 per acre; roots, 2,514,291 bushels, with an average of 254.6 per acre. The total area under grain crop was 4,707,483 acres, and the total area under all crops was 4,834,817 acres. The average of grasses was: Brome, 1.38 tons per acre; rye, 1.41 per acre, and timothy, 1.3. The value of new farm buildings erected was $1,733,825, as compared with $4,515,085 last year.

QUEBEC DAIRY COMPETITION

LIST OF AWARDS—POINTS TO BE STUDIED.

The autumn competitions of dairy products were held this year at the following times and places: The first, for butter, at Quebec, on Oct. 25; the second, for butter, at Montreal, on Nov. 2, and the third, for cheese, at the Dairy School at St. Hyacinthe.

Eighteen competitors took part in the first, nineteen in the second and sixty-three in the third. The cheese were properly ripened in the ripening rooms of the Dairy School before being examined. Nine bronze medals were won at the first competition, eight bronze medals at the second, and six silver medals and eighteen bronze medals at the last.

The following is a list of the winners: Quebec, Oct. 25, 1907.—Butter.—Bronze medals and diplomas of the second class: Joseph Royer, Ste. Marguerite, Dorchester, 95½ points, $6; Irénée Thibault Cacouna, Temiscouata, 95½ points, $6; J. A. Ratté, St. Paul East, Montmagny, 95½ points, $6; Evariste Dumas, N. D. du Lac, Temiscouata, 94 3-4 points, $4; Auguste Malenfant, St. Cyprien, Temiscouata, 94 3-4 points, $4; J. Adelard Hamel, Ste. Emelie, Lotbiniere, 93½ points, $2; Auguste Breton, St. Epiphanie, Temiscouata, 93 points, $1; Achille Lacasse, St. Gervais, Bellechasse, 93 points, $1; Elisée Dumas, St. Epiphanie, Temiscouata, 93 points, $1.

Montreal, Nov. 2, 1907. — Butter.—Bronze medals and diplomas of the second class.—Wilfrid Begnoche, Upton, Bagot, 95½ points, $6; Alfred Dubois, Richmond, Richmond, 94 points, $3; J. F. Montpetit, Pontchateau, Soulanges, 93½ points, $2; Eugène Boucher, St. Felix de Valois, Joliette, 93½ points, $2; H. Paquette, St. Valerien, Shefford, 93½ points, $2; Edgar Tessier, Honoréville, Iberville, 93 points, $1; Emile Casavant, St. Dominique, Bagot, 93 points, $1; Henry Martin, fils, St. Leon, Maskinonge, 93 points, $1.

St. Hyacinthe, Nov. 9, 1907.—Cheese.—Silver medals and diplomas of the first class.—Charles Simard, Baie St. Paul, Charlevoix, 98 points, $11; Eugene Boucher, St. Flavien, Lotbiniere, 97½ points, $10; Odias Fontaine, St. Ths. d'Aquin, St. Hyacinthe, 97½ points, $10; J. E. Massicotte, St. Luc, Vincennes, Champlain, 97 points, $9; Nap. Frappier, St. Robert, Richelieu, 97 points, $9; Felix Noel, Fir Grove, Dorchester, 97 points, $9.

Bronze medals and diplomas of the second class:—Aimé Carrier, St. Honoré, Beauce, 96½ points, $8; Sergyis Salvail, St. Pierre de Sorel, Richelieu, 96½ points, $8; Albert Laurin, St. Hermas Station, Two Mountains, 96½ points, $8; Emile Bouchard, St. Felicien, Lac St. Jean, 96 points, $7; Jos. Blanchette, Ste. Anne, Kamouraska, 96 points, $7; Mathias Poulin, St. George East, Beauce, 96 points, $7; Wilfrid Touchette, Lawrenceville, Shefford, 96 points, $7; Liniere Lessard, St. Joseph, Beauce, 95 points, $5; J. A. Pelerin, Hebert, Megantic, 95 points, $5; Albani Tremblay, Hebertville, Lac St. Jean, 95 points, $5; Alph. Trepanier, Deschambault, Portneuf, 93½ points, $2; Emond Lessard, Grande Montagne, Beauce, 93½ points, $2; Zenophon Bergeron, Methot's Mills, Lotbiniere, 93 points, $1; Louis Castonguay, Edmondville, Lotbiniere, 93 points, $1; Flavien Audet, St. Irenée, Charlevoix, 93 points, $1; Seraphin, Croteau, Ste. Croix, Lotbiniere, 93 points, $1; Joseph Ouellet, Old Lake Road, Temiscouata, 93 points, $1; Vital Bilodeau, St. Sebastien, Beauce, 93 points, $1.

The judges at these competitions were: For the butter, Messrs. J. A. Vaillancourt, J. H. Scott, traders, of Montreal, and J. D. Leclair, inspector-general of the creameries and professor at the Dairy School of St. Hyacinthe. For the cheese, J. A. Vaillancourt, J. H. Scott and Elie Bourbeau, inspector-general of cheese factories and professor at the Dairy School of St. Hyacinthe.

The judges again draw the attention of the competitors to the general appearance of the products, especially of the cheese. A good number of exhibits lost points owing to defects injuring the appearance. There has been great progress in this direction for some years past, but perfection has not yet been attained.

On opening the boxes of butter a certain number were found not smooth enough on the surface: two or three of them were very dirty. Among the cheese there were boxes which were too high or not high enough, or too large for the cheese which they held. Some of the cheese had strings round them, and generally their surface was more or less cracked. A certain number had not the weight stamped on the boxes. These are defects which the trade would like to see disappear.

In a general way the quality of butter forwarded was not bad; but these butters were a long way from representing the first quality, since none of them obtained the silver medal. The principal fault again this year is in the aroma and the flavor. The attention of the makers is directed to the cleanness of the milk which they receive and also to the cleanliness with which they should do their work. Every year they are recommended to pay attention to this, and not without reason, for now it has been proved that the bad qualities in butter are almost always caused either by the want of cleanness in the milk employed or cleanliness during the manufacture.

The principal defects in cheese are also in the aroma and the flavor, and arise from the same cause.

Cheese is now made more scientifically and with more care than in the past; the cheese makers understand their business now better than they did; these competitions fully prove this, but cleanliness either on the part of the patrons or of the makers is not yet sufficiently scrupulously observed. To attain perfection and better prices a general effort in this direction must still be made; this is the advice of competent persons and it is often repeated. Besides, it is advice which is well founded, for when, as often happens in these competitions, a considerable proportion of the butter or cheese is found with a taste of the stable or of the fish or of other similar objectionable flavors, it is evident that there has been negligence in this respect.

The butters of the July competition were again examined on Aug 24, and on Nov. 4, to make sure of their keeping qualities. Almost all of them had lost part of their aroma and had contracted more or less of a bad flavor in that interval of time, although they had been kept in cold storage. The loss of points in one case reached as high as seven points in the hundred; and averaged from three to four points. Six of the exhibits of butter, that is, one-third of them, had taken a fishy flavor, although without it at the first examination.

We now know that this taste is due to a noxious germ or microbe, which has been isolated and cultivated, and which later on develops in the butter. A curious circumstance was that the only butter which kept unaffected was an unsalted butter

This rather surprising fact requires to be studied, and it is mentioned because hitherto it has been the general impression that salting assisted in the preservation of butter.

BUILDING UP A DAIRY HERD

(By Geo. Carlaw, Warkworth.)

There is no subject of more importance to the dairymen of the province than that of building up the average dairy herd for the production of milk for the factory. In spite of the hundreds of good dairy cows in the province, the average amount of milk produced is about 3,000 pounds per cow per year, and less than 150 pounds of butter per cow per year. It, therefore, follows that the owners of these average cows and all the cows below the average, and many of them above the average, must be interested in the improvement of their dairy cattle.

There is no such thing as the dual or general purpose cow; that is to say, the dairy farmer cannot go out among the beef-breeds of cattle and select dairy cows, as well adapted to the cheap production of milk as if he confined himself to some of those breeds that are already noted for their results in this direction. A cow combining excellence in the production of both milk and beef will not have either of these qualities developed to such a high degree as a cow noted for either of these special lines. The qualities necessary to convert grass or other foods into a large flow of rich milk are not the same as those for converting it into good beef. Therefore, the farmer who is following some line of dairy husbandry must select sires to head his herd from those breeds that have for generations been bred to a high degree of excellence in the production of milk and butter.

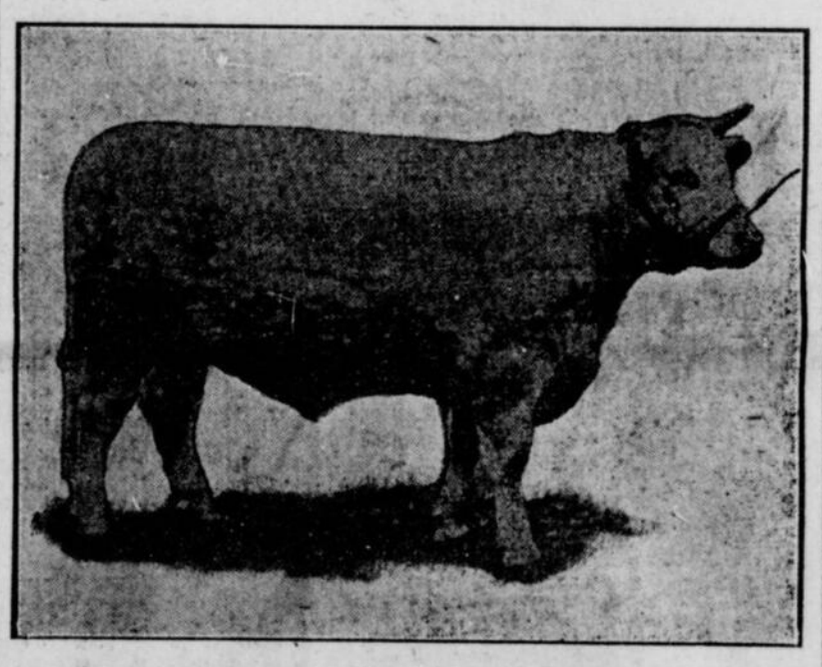
The sire is said to be half of the herd, but I believe in a herd of poor grades he is very much more than half. By all means use a registered bull, but do not use him because he is registered, as some of them are registered which should not be. Get the pedigrees of several bulls before purchasing, and see what their sires and the dams of their sires have been producing, and be very particular to find out what kind of producers their own dams are; select the best. Buy the very best bred dairy bull you can find. Do not pay so much attention to his ancestors' prize winning at fairs, but to what they can do at the pail and churn. Look not so much to one or two sensational records they may have, but to a good, steady record from beginning to end of each year. Too much importance cannot be placed on the necessity of seeing the dam and knowing that she has a good, square udder, with quarter evenly divided and the teats well placed on each quarter. The teats should be about two and one-half to three inches in length, and of medium size, and be free from all obstructions inside. Prepotency in breeding is the power in an animal to transmit in a marked degree his or her good qualities and characteristics to his or her offspring.

Select the best cows in the herd by weighing each cow's milk after each milking; or, in other words, keep individual cow records and know what your cows are doing. If this is too much trouble select one day in each week, and weigh each cow's milk after milking, morning and evening, and keep the records in a book specially kept for the purpose, using a separate page for each cow. This is not so much trouble as it at first seems, and you will have the satisfaction of knowing at the end of the year which are your profitable and which the unprofitable cows. With very little calculation you can at the end of the year know what your cows are costing you; and without any trouble you can know how much it costs to produce milk; and when you find out the cows that are actually losing you money, sell them to the butchers. There is no use in trying to build up a herd from unprofitable cows, but keep the cows that are showing you a profit. After selecting our sire and cows in this way, we should raise the heifer calves from the best cows. In raising the calves guard against their becoming over fat, but too many of them are not kept up in that nice, thrifty condition so desirable for the full development of every organ in the young cow. If they are not fully developed in the young, growing animal we can never develop them when the cow has reached maturity; and if kept too fat when young, the sensitive mammary glands become congested with fat, and they will never make that desirable, profitable dairy cow.

SMITHFIELD CATTLE SHOW

THE KING WINS SEVERAL PRIZES.

The Cattle Show in the Agricultural Hall, London, again had a very large number of entries. As usual, the King, who takes a big interest in all matters relating to agriculture, was a strong competitor in several classes. Although he did not win the championship, he was fairly successful. A Devon steer from Windsor was second in the class for young steers. A Hereford cow, also from Windsor, was first in its class, and a Hereford steer second. A white Shorthorn steer from Windsor got first prize, and an older Shorthorn steer from Sandringham third. Another Shorthorn heifer from the same farm was second. In the class for Highland steers under three years old the King got both first and second prize with two animals from Sandringham. In the next class for older steers His Majesty came second. A Highland cow from Sandringham was first.



THE KING'S WHITE SHORTHORN STEER BY ROYAL CHIEFTAIN.

Winner of the First Prize and Cup for the best beast under two years in the Smithfield Show, London.

The judging for the championship was responsible for an incident without parallel in the history of the show. The judges of the Shorthorns and cross-breeds were Mr. Henry Dudding and Mr. G. C. Terry. When they came to the class for Shorthorn steers over two years old they placed Sir Oswald Moseley's red and white steer first, and Mr. Peter Dunn's steer, which was champion at Birmingham, second. But when Mr. T. H. Hutchinson and Mr. Clement Stephenson had all the winners before them in order to award the champion plate for the best beast in the show they chose Mr. Dunn's steer in preference to that of Sir Oswald Moseley, thus reversing the decision of the earlier pair of judges.

The cheering that greeted the award of the championship judges indicated that the verdict met with favor at the hands of the hundreds of cattle connoisseurs, who watched the judging almost with bated breath.

The triumph of Mr. Jordan, of Driffield, who won both first and second prizes for long-woolled Leicester sheep, says much for the continuity of British flocks, for his father several times won gold medals at Smithfield for the same breed in the early fifties of last century. This year's winners came from the same stock, and from it considerable numbers have lately gone out to Tasmania.

The King and the Prince of Wales were exhibitors at the King's Lynn Christmas Fat Stock show. In a strong class for pairs of steers bred and fed by the exhibitor the King won a silver cup with a beautiful pair of roan Shorthorns. A red Shorthorn shown by His Majesty was reserved in the heifer class. In the class for fat beasts bred in Norfolk the King's red and white steer was highly commended. His Majesty sent four pens of sheep, which were passed over.

About forty young men are taking the agricultural course at the Macdonald College. These are nearly all from the farm, and the majority intend going back to their farms when through their course. What a pile of good that institution will do the farming community of Quebec and the east.

FOUL BROOD

I believe I received my first lesson on 'Foul Brood' when I had only five colonies, and only new hives to work with. When the bees swarmed, I used full sheets of foundation, in breed chamber and super, and fresh supers of foundation as each one was filled with honey, till I had turned up enough supers to give me the largest surplus per colony I have ever had. I said to a bee-keeper who visited my yard at that time, and who was acquainted with its condition: I always had a dread of this disease. 'I hope I have no foul brood in my hives' He replied: 'There is no danger of that, they were good, healthy colonies when you got them, and you have been treating them for foul brood ever since, by giving them so much new foundation and new hives.' I hardly appreciated the lesson at its true value at the time, but it has recurred to me many times since, and has almost reconciled me to the use of the—still objectionable—wax press, that makes a frequent change into clean, new quarters practicable, and assists very materially in avoiding disease.

In the spring of 1905, my queens were clipped by two experienced bee-keepers, one of whom gave me a hint in regard to the effect of strong colonies on foul brood, although he only said, as he contemplated the strong force of bees in the hives, 'It is a sign there is no disease in them, when you see colonies as strong as these.' The other, finding a hive with a large proportion of drone combs in it, asked for worker combs to replace them. When I brought him combs from an old brood chamber, he said, as he put them into the hive, 'I would not do this in many apiaries, for fear of foul brood, but I believe it is safe here.' From the first one I learned the importance of keeping colonies strong; from the latter, that there was a risk in using old combs. At every bee-keepers' convention that I have attended, there has always been a great deal said about the danger of feeding honey back to bees, it has led me to adopt the plan of feeding only pure-white-sugar-syrup.

'I have been keeping bees for eight years, and in that time my apiary has been examined four times by foul brood experts, although the inspector has only visited it once in an official capacity. These years have given me four rules for the avoidance of foul brood. They are: to keep the hives clean, by renewal of foundation; to feed only pure white sugar syrup; to keep the colonies strong, and open to inspection. Easy rules, some say; but sometimes one is very loath to destroy a well-formed comb, when blackness and old age are its only apparent faults, and there is quite a temptation to see what a weak colony will do through the summer, rather than reduce the size of the apiary; and who would not hesitate a little at the thought of feeding all pure sugar, with a stock of low-price honey on hand that might be used if there were no danger of contagion, while a visit from the foul brood inspector would inspire as much antagonism with some beekeepers as is evinced towards inspectors generally.

The inspector of horses has to contend with the man who will drive a diseased horse into a public shed, and tie him where a friendly horse on either side may rub noses with him, and contagion be increased three-fold thereby; and the foul brood inspector has had his own experience with opposing forces too, in the bee-keeper, who was so sensitive to own to the existence of disease in his apiary, and tried to cure it on the quiet; and the timid ones, who knew of existing disease in neighboring apiaries but were afraid to inform; and the owners of said apiaries, who were ready to become the mortal enemies of both informant and inspector, if these questionable colonies were interfered with; and the man who once kept a colony or two, or four, or five, perhaps, and what they died of, he knew not what, left them on their stands, a menace to all the apiaries within miles of them. But a better day is coming. The reports of our foul brood inspectors for this year show that they have received letters from 600 bee-keepers in this province, asking that their apiaries might be inspected, and of that number, it was found when they were inspected, that 396 of them were not diseased. While it is gratifying to know that such a large proportion of the apiaries inspected were free from disease, it must be just as gratifying to the inspectors and to the government that appointed them, to know that there are nearly seven hundred bee-keepers in Ontario who have no longer any antipathy to, or careless indifference towards, but a decided appreciation of the benefits of free inspection. And we have reason to hope, from this year's foul brood reports, that if the bee-keepers continue to take advantage of their privilege of inspection, and maintain a course in their yards that shall tend to healthful conditions there, it will not be long before foul brood shall cease to exist in Ontario.—Miss Treverrow.

DAIRYING IN THE WEST

Writing in the 'Farm and Ranch Review,' on the subject of wheat growing vs. dairying in the west, Prof. W. J. Carson, of Manitoba Agricultural College states that why dairying has not made more progress in the past may be attributed to three main causes. In the first place, other branches of agriculture contributed in a much larger degree then than now to the revenue of the farm. Secondly, the country has been advertised as being adapted to the growing of wheat, which has been the means of driving farmers into that line of farming. Practically nothing has been said of its adaptability to dairying, while as a matter of fact a larger part of the West is better suited to that than wheat growing. Thirdly, the lack of knowledge of dairying and the profits that may be gathered from that industry. But the returns from wheat growing, either through a decrease in quality of the product, or a falling off in production, has been getting less to the farmer from year to year. The price of beef has fluctuated to such an extent as to make that branch of farming unprofitable.

Meantime, while the returns from other branches of agriculture have suffered year by year a steady decline, the position of the dairy farmer has constantly changed for the better. A much-increasing demand has developed for dairy products, such as cream, butter and cheese, in which there has been no foreign competition of such a character as to affect prices seriously, until at the present time prices are almost double those of ten years ago. This in all probability is due to a rapid increase in the population in the West, and also to a more extensive knowledge of the value of milk and cheese as a food, and its intrinsic cheapness as compared with other foods. The effect of these various influences together with the assistance rendered by the governments of the different provinces, will be the means of raising dairying into a much more prominent position as a branch of agriculture in the West than it has heretofore occupied.

STICKING TO ONE THING

A man should not stick to one thing after he finds out that he cannot make a success of that one thing or is not adapted to the kind of pursuit he is following. But, on the other hand, one of the greatest obstacles to success in agricultural pursuits is the strong tendency of men to get tired of any particular line of work and change to something else. Prof. Eugene Davenport recently referred to this in relation to the breeding of dairy cows. 'That,' he said, 'is the reason why more effective breeding up of our dairy herds has not occurred. If 100 men say will go into the grading up with Jersey bulls, at the end of five years it would be found that ninety-five have changed to something else.' At the end of the ten years still fewer are engaged in the lines in which they started. This prevents a great amount of good being accomplished from the lines of breeding that so many intelligent men understand. One man starts with Holsteins and changes to Jerseys. Another starts with Jerseys and changes to Holsteins. One man begins to raise strictly dairy cattle and in five years is found trying to breed beef cattle for milk purposes.

The man that will select something in which there is money and keep to it is the man that will make money. He will be tempted over and over to go into something else that seems to promise great things, but in changing he loses the results of his years of experience. It is the fund of experience that makes it possible for him to accomplish more from breeding than can men that have not had experience. Tenaciously sticking to one thing promises greater things for the stock breeder than anything else.

DAIRY HINTS

There is no fixed ration for a herd of dairy cows. Each animal has its own peculiar characteristics which must be ascertained by observation and catered to in order to obtain the best results. Each animal should be fed according to its preferences and those that do not respond to good treatment should be discarded for those more profitable.

Milk that contains blood indicates that the cow has received an injury to the udder. Wash the udder with warm water twice a day, the water to be as warm as the cow will bear; wipe dry and gently rub the udder with a towel until considerable heat is created. For warts on udder or teats, apply castor oil after each milking, washing the parts with warm water when the cow is next milked.

A cow is valuable only according to what she produces and its cost. One cow producing fourteen pounds of butter is more profitable than two cows producing seven pounds each, because she requires less room and also entails less expense for food and labor, thus producing butter at a lower cost per pound.

Farmers who consider that three hundred dollars is too much to pay for a fourteen-pound butter cow should remember that no outlay is too great, provided the returns therefrom are satisfactory. There is a great difference in the price of a purebred Jersey and a common cow, but there is also a wide difference in the butter produced.

TO CURE A SHEEP-BITER

The plan shown in our sketch of stopping a collie from biting sheep has been practiced with complete success on a pastoral estate in Queensland. The material used in making the ring is small-sized steel fencing wire. The ring is about an inch in diameter, and the ends overlap slightly. To judge by the animal ringed, this practice causes no more inconvenience to a dog than does a ring in the nose of a pig or a bull.

Attend every Farmers' Institute in reach of your farm and garden, and support it.

POULTRY.

this page matters pertaining to y on the farm will be discussed week to week. The answers to all ons that readers desire to ask will e found here.

page will be made as practical helpful as it can be made, but by the co-operation of our readers is be If you have any trouble hear about it. If you have un- success, give us the benefit of it. have a plan or picture of your poultry house, internal fixtures, or ing of interest to poultry men.

will aim to keep the discussions seasonable lines; but any informa- egarding poultry will be considered . We would also be glad to get ggestions from our readers. If you a subject discussed make it possible pening the discussion.' The desire t every reader will consider this her page. This is a special in- u for you to share its benefits.

WANT EGGS THIS WINTER

continuation of our articles on this t, we may emphasize the fact that ullets must be from a good laying , and healthy stock, hatched at ght time and kept growing and ous. If they are not kept healthy they go into winter quarters, they ot likely to produce many eggs dur- he cold months. In this country, winters are long and severe, it res attention to keep hens in the of health. If the pullets, however, gone into their winter quarters in od thirfty condition, the poultry- under ordinary conditions, should them so.

nty of fresh air and exercise dur- he day, with comfortable, well ated quarters to roost in at night, o small factors in continuing the y condition of the laying pullets ghout the winter.

alled egg-producing foods, of a lating nature, may have their place me flocks, but I would prefer not obliged to depend on them. The may also be said of hot mashes— ally where hens are housed in cold ers. Neither of these are neces- to health, and, in fact, are usually nental.

t what is the ideal food for laying I am not prepared to say. This here the judgment of the feeder come in. We hear a good deal about nced rations' for our laying hens— ct, some writers make it so com- ed that no person but a chemist nderstand what to feed. Don't let writers scare you. The easiest way f the difficulty is: let the hen bal- her own rations.

e her a variety of good, wholesome, food and you may have no doubt the hen will make a wise choice. the artificial conditions in which are placed during the winter hs, it is, of course, necessary to y certain elements in the food, for nce: the grit, the lime in the oyster the animal food in the beef-scrap, or green food in the vegetables. up the appetite of the hen by giv- er a variety of food. Don't be l of giving her too much—you can- over-feed a laying hen.

e system of feeding is, to a certain t, important. There are so many ns, however, that one need not be loss to find a method, or a combi- n of methods which suit conditions. method used at the Macdonald Col- is a combination of the hopper sys- and feeding in the litter. In the er is placed dry bran, which in- a regular supply of food to the t all times. I do not like to see n going to bed hungry—especially old nights her crop should be full. can the better stand the low tem- ure. This hopper, as well as a hopper containing grit, oyster shell beef-scrap, is accessible at all times. a day, between two and three ck in the afternoon, a liberal allow- of mixed grain is thrown into the . The hens scratch for this, fill up crops before retiring, and, when ing comes, there is still sufficient left in the straw to keep them ching until the next feed in the noon.

e advantage of this system are two- -the grain in the litter encourages fowl to exercise, which is very es- al, and, as they prefer the whole to the bran, they will scratch in litter as long as there is any grain Should the supply be exhausted e they are fed again, they go to the er, and need never be very hun-

e quantity we feed to each hen var- Some hens eat more than others eat more some days than they do rs. The only standard we have is standard of the hen's capacity. We to keep a little grain in the litter, hat if a hen is hungry she is not uraged by scratching and not get- anything. On the other hand, if e is too much left in the litter, she it too easily, fills up too quickly and not require to work for it. Let have then all that she will scratch and, when she gets too lazy to ch for her living, reduce her ra- .

we want eggs in the winter time, and the stock and the feed, it is also sary to have a proper house. By a er house, I mean (a) a house in the place that is dry. Damp houses r hold healthy stock. (b) A house plenty of ventilation but without s. During the day the house should pened up, so that the hens, while are scratching in the litter, enjoy tmosphere as fresh as out doors. (c) t put on double windows in the reducing the dampness in the adds to the humidity. ive the house a matter

It is to the credit of Canadians that this valuable daily is being more and more appreciated by them.—'Observer,' Coaticook, Que.

Eggs and Poultry.

FOR SALE — WHITE WYANDOTTES, 5 Hens, 1 Cock, $5 6 Pullets, 1 Cockerel, $5. Barred Rocks, 1 Cockerel, 6 Pullets, $5; Red Caps, 1 Cockerel, 2 Hens, $4. Buff Rocks, 2 Hens for $1.50. Rose Comb Brown Leghorns, 1 Cockerel, 1 Hen, 4 Pullets, $4.50. S. C. White Leghorns, Cockerels, $1 each. MRS. WESLEY FISHER, Benmiller, Ont.

PURE BRED BARRED ROCKS, WHITE Wyandotte and White Leghorn Cockerels, $1 each. JOHN R. MORGAN, Wales, Ont.

MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEYS—HEALthy young toms for sale. GEO. H. TOLCHARD, Chesley, Ont.

25 BARRED ROCK COCKERELS, SIX months old, weight 5 to 7 lbs., free range, bred from 200 egg hens, worth $5; yours for $2, or 3 for $5. C. E. WEEKS, Kelowna, B.C.

EGGS, EGGS. — PARSON'S POULTRY Tonic for Eggs. Its composition is a guarantee that it makes hens lay. It tones the whole system; increases and enriches the blood, assuring health and vigor, and gently stimulates the egg-producing organs. Best method of feeding hens for eggs printed with each package. Try it. It will surprise you. Easily given. Simply dissolve in drinking water. Per package, postpaid, 25c, 60c and $1.00. Sample free. H. B. CAMERON Lancaster, Ont.

MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEYS, TOULouse, Embden and African Geese: pairs not related; $4.00; Pekin and Cayuga Ducks, $1.00 each; Homer and Tumbler Pigeons, 50c each; Squab Raisin Pigeons, $3.00, for 12. WADE & SON, Sarnia, Ont.

FOR SALE—30 PURE BRED TOULOUSE Geese, 20 Bronze Turkeys, 10 Pure Bred Barred Rock Cockerels, 10 Pekin Ducks, 1 Fox Terrier Puppy. P. D. SINCLAIR, Box 88 Maxville, Ont.

Situations Vacant.

HOME WORK.—WE WANT RELIABLE families to operate our high-speed Automatic Knitting Machines at home, whole or spare time knitting for the trade; good wages. For all particulars, address THE CANADIAN WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTING CO., Orillia, Ont. Dept. W.

WANTED — RELIABLE SCOTCH SHEPherds, with experience in the North-West; wages forty dollars per month and board. Write to DAVID DICKIE, Meeteetse, Wyoming, U.S.A.

For Sale.

NOTICE OF GROUND FEED FOR SALE. —I am prepared to ship ground feed on short notice (wheat and oats mixed), and ground together; the best feed for all kinds of stock. You need the feed. We have it here, why not order a car or more at once. JOHN WILSON, High River, Alberta.

BOILER, FIRST CLASS CONDITION, 12 ft. long, 4 ft. diameter, 30 tubes, 3 in. and 3½ in.; also 20 horse power engine. Apply BENJAMIN CAMPBELL, Hartington, Ont.

WINDMILL (WHEEL and 50 FOOT GALvanized tower) complete as it stands, Brantford make, will take $75 cash before taking away. R. S. MARTIN, Hamilton, Ont.

(Late Classified Ads See Page 24.)

RAZOR STEEL SAWS

SECRET-TEMPER CROSS-CUT

FOR FARMERS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thousands of these saws are shipped to the United States and sold at a higher price than the best American saws.

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY

SHURLY & DIETRICH,

Maple Leaf Saw Works, Galt, Ont.

MEN WANTED AT ONCE on salary and expenses. One good man in each locality with rig or capable of handling horses to advertise and introduce our guaranteed stock and poultry specialties. No experience necessary; we lay out your work for you. $25 a week and expenses. Position permanent. Write W. A. JENKINS Manufacturing Co., London, Ont.

FARMERS' SALES AND WANTS.

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

Live Stock.

FOR SALE —TWO EXTRA FINE HOLstein bull calves; grand sons of the greatest cow 'Dekol 2nd'; another grand dam gave 41 lbs. milk for 330 consecutive days. Royally bred. Price low. Terms easy. J. E. K. HERRICK, Abbotsford, Que.

LOCHABER STOCK FARM OFFERS SEVeral choice Shorthorn Bulls for sale; prices right; some nice Berkshire pigs (imp.), and home-bred Bronze Turkeys, big Rangy ones; Barred Rocks, White and Partridge Wyandottes, Imperial Pekin Ducks. Stock Ad,. D. A. GRAHAM, Warstead, Ont.

FOR SALE, 3 A.J.C.C. JERSEY COWS, and 1 yearling heifer. R. JAMIESON, Perth, Ont.

BEAUTIFUL ANGORA KITTENS, ALL colors, very cheap. MRS. WARREN PEASLEE, Jefferson, Maine.

Agents Wanted.

MEN WANTED — RELIABLE MEN IN every locality throughout Canada to advertise our goods, tack up show-cards on trees, fences, bridges, and all conspicuous places; also distribute small advertising matter; commission or salary, $83 per month and expenses $4 per day; steady employment to good, reliable men; no experience necessary; write for particulars. EMPIRE MEDICINE CO., London, Ont.

MEN WANTED — LET US START YOU working for us, tacking up show cards, and distributing advertising matter; $840 a year, and expenses $2.50 per day. We want one good man in each locality, local or travelling. Write at once for particulars. SALUS MEDICINAL CO., London, Ont.

WANTED, LOCAL ORGANIZERS AND route men. Apply quick to ALFRED TYLER, Wholesale Tea Importer and Spice Grinder, London, Ont.

WANTED, NOW, RELIABLE AGENTS TO sell fruit and ornamental trees. We positively guarantee our trees to be hardy for Quebec, selling selected varieties approved by Government Experimental Farm. Trees true to name. Delivery guaranteed in good condition; exclusive territory; outfit FREE. Established over 25 years. For terms write, PELHAME NURSERY CO., Toronto, Ont.

AGENTS WANTED, TO PUSH WORLD Wide 'on special trial rate offer. Nothing nicer to canvass for. Generous commissions; it is just what intelligent people are looking for. Write for terms, samples, etc JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, Montreal.

Business Chances.

FOR SALE, the THRIVING TOWN OF Lamont, good butcher business, creamery and grain crusher, combined; also, one hundred and ninety acres of land adjoining town, fenced, and sixty acres, broken. Will sell all or part, or half interest in all. Apply Box 102, Lamont, Alta.

Canaries For Sale.

CANARIES FOR SALE, FINE SINGER or Breeding Pair; cash or on my easy payment plan. Write, WAITE, Owen Sound, Ont.

Farm and Other Lands

FOR SALE, VALUABLE FARM, 95 Acres, known as Robertson Farm, Windham Township, Norfolk County; convenient to school, churches, market, station, post-office, stores, cheese factory, and telephone. Apply T. R. NELLES, Simcoe.

Books, Cards, &c.

POSTCARDS — BRITISH AND FOREIGN Views beautifully produced in monochrome in various art tones; 20 for 25c, postpaid. A. G. BROWN, Creighton, Ont.

POST CARDS, FIFTEEN HANDSOME New Year's Postals, Embossed, Jewelled, etc., only 25c. Sample Package, all kinds, only 50c. G. P. LE GRAND, New Carlisle, Que.

POSTCARDS — 20 DIFFERENT COLORed—flowers, scenery, comics, etc., 20c. A RICE, Granby, Que.

SONG BOOK — 150 OLD TIME SONGS, with words and music, 10c. A RICE, Granby, Que.

COINS AND STAMPS, ALL NATIONS, revenues, small dealers supplied. W. H. MYERS, Gordon Bay, Ont.

Miscellaneous.

FOX TRAPPING — ANYONE WISHING the best methods send stamp for particulars. E. M. WEATHERBEE, Wytopitlock, Maine.

WANTED! I WANT TO TAN YOUR hides, skins and furs soft and pliable; never get hard. Also to make and line your robes, or make your fur coats. Try me for best of satisfaction. I aim to please you. Address B. F. BELL, Delhi, Ont.

FOX AND MINK TRAPPERS—I TEACH you how to trap absolutely free (8 secrets); no fake. I buy the fur. I supply guns, traps, etc. I want 80,000 skins. Enclose stamp for price list and free methods. E. W. DOUGLASS, Stanley, N.B.

25 ENVELOPES PRINTED WITH Return name and address on corner, postpaid, 25c. Samples free. W. HOWIE, Printer, Beebe Plain Que.

It is remarkable that after taking subscriptions for the 'Witness' for twenty years it is impossible to recall that one subscriber ever discontinued his subscription, and its circulation is among the best people of this country.—'Times,' Picton, Ont.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

Don't Overdraw Your Bank Account.—To overdraw your bank account, whether mentally or physically, is more suicidal even than to overdraw materially. Repair wasted tissues, strengthen shattered nerves and rejuvenate your rheumatic system by visiting the famous Mineral Salt Surings of the 'St. Catharines Well,' of St. Catharines, Ont. A postal card to J. Quinlan, District Passenger Agent, Grand Trunk Railway System, Montreal, will bring illustrated descriptive matter. in 25c. and $1.00 sizes by all dealers.

A WOMAN'S POULTRY FARM

Among the many exhibitors at the Crystal Palace poultry show this year it was a woman who attracted most attention.

Miss N. Edwards conducts the largest poultry farm owned by a woman in England, if not in the world. As an authority on everything that relates to poultry, says an English correspondent, she is second to none. She has proved not only that poultry farming may be made a profitable occupation for women, but that a woman who has had no previous experience at it, and no equipment but intelligence, perseverance and a small capital, may soon become even fairly wealthy at it. Provided, one should perhaps say, she happens to be a woman of the Miss Edwards type.

Her name is almost as well known among poultry experts in America, South Africa, Argentina, and all the countries of Europe, as it is in England. Her farm at Coaley, near Dursley, a pretty village in the Cotswold district of Gloucestershire, is a place of pilgrimage for poultry lovers from all over the world, and so great has her fame become that she has recently been compelled to add the taking of pupils in poultry rearing to her other activities. Her pupils have come from all the ends of the earth. She is a woman of education, and, in fact, she was a teacher before she took up poultry farming.

'I was attracted to poultry farming in a rather curious way,' she said. 'It was just thirteen years ago and I had been forced by ill-health to give up a situation as a governess. My health was breaking down, and while I had a little money saved the outlook seemed rather black.

'One morning I took up a London newspaper, and the first thing that caught my eye was an advertisement appealing to some kind person to advance $250 to a governess who was going blind, to enable her to start poultry farming. The idea appealed to me at once. I had my eyesight, and I had more than $250, and I knew that if I could live in the open air, my health would return. I looked into the possibilities of poultry farming and I made up my mind that I could make it pay.

'I started with twenty birds, and about half an acre of land, and my experiences at first were heart-breaking. I knew nothing about poultry and I had to buy my experience at the usual high price. Of course, I started with the wrong birds, the wrong appliances, the wrong everything, and I had to start all over again more than once. My first incubator took three hundred eggs. I loaded it to the full capacity and I sat up with it, night and day. Out of the three hundred eggs I got three chicks, and they all died the second day. Some of the eggs were hard baked and some of them were chilled. I had to get rid of that incubator.

'Now I export all over the world. I sent the very first Buff Orpingtons that ever entered the United States in 1899, ites to the United States. I sent some and in 1904 I sent the first Black Faverolles to the United States. I sent some Buff Orpingtons to Kimberley just before the siege began, and they laid well all through it. I am told that they were considered too valuable to kill. I have also sent birds to Burmah, Buenos Ayres, Nigeria, Alaska, and almost every other place you could name.'

Although her business has grown to the proportions of a great commercial enterprise, Miss Edwards still looks after every detail herself. When she is not attending shows and exhibitions she is at Coaley farm, and she is up by daylight every morning making the rounds with her manageress. No detail is too small to escape her attention. When she makes her rounds in the open she usually carries a light gun with her, and woe to any crow, jackdaw, magpie or other enemy of newly hatched chicks that makes its appearance.

In addition to rearing poultry she has developed a large trade in poultry-rearing appliances. When she began she found that she could improve on many of the existing incubators, brooders, batching boxes and other things, and as time went on she devised entirely new conveniences for brooding hens or growing chicks.

Some of the prices she has obtained for her birds are amazing. Several of her exhibits at the Crystal Palace show were priced at $500 and she has frequently obtained as much as $375 and $250 for a single bird.

Miss Edwards is an enthusiastic advocate of poultry farming as a career for educated women.

'If properly managed,' she said, 'the work proves a pleasure with wide interests and a source of great profit. It offers almost unparalleled advantages as a work for women, for it can be carried on in many cases at home.'

She fully realizes, however, that all cannot succeed, and she strongly advises those who intend going in for poultry keeping to learn something about the business before embarking on it.

DON'T FRIGHTEN THE HENS

If any class of stock require careful undemonstrative handling it is the poultry. Don't speak cross in the henhouse, never scare or frighten in any way. A writer in 'Farm Poultry' gives his experience regarding the subject. Very few who keep poultry are blameless.

In 1896 I came into possession of forty-two hens, which after a time I dressed for market, cleaning them for the cook. All but one were in perfect condition; that one having the entire bunch of eggs very hard, and all enclosed in a sort of sack. I have never seen anything like it since, but have had many cases of hardened yolks, and yolks loose among the intestines.

For a few years I kept a few hens and found no hard yolks when the poultry was dressed for my customers. I increased my stock to such an extent that I was obliged to have help to care for it. In 1903 I took a thirteen-year-old boy to help. He did pretty well, but things began to get stirred up, and the hens were not as quiet as formerly. I do not remember the internal state of the poultry dressed while he was with me, because I had now at that time associated a boy and hard yolks together. Two years later I had an eighteen year old boy; he was quick motioned, and in a hurry ot get through the poultry work to get at the farm work. The hens became nervous, and ran away rather than towards us, and did not lay very well, and I began to find hard yolks in dressing the poultry. My latest and last (I hope) helper was a fourteen-year-old boy, good in many ways, but quite irresponsible in some ways. The hens under his influence became so wild that when any one of the family walked by the hen runs the poultry would run and fly to the opposite side of the yard, often beating against the wire in their haste to get away from whoever was near. This boy, in feeding the hens, would sometimes get a lot of them together eating what he had put down for them, then he would throw the feed pail, in their midst just to see they fly and flutter.

It was while he was with me that I came to the conclusion that these sudden frights and starts caused the trouble with the eggcluster, for the hen without hard yolks was the exception whenever I dressed any of those fowls. I talked to the boy and explained to him the effect of roughness and too much haste in moving among poultry, and I showed him the hardened yolks. I had one pen of nine Indian Games that became so wild they would break a window glass in trying to get out of the hen house when I entered it, and they stopped laying. I decided to kill them. After I had dressed them the boy asked if I had found any hard eggs in them. I told him I had. I believe he had done something, perhaps many times, which had spoiled these hens as layers. Certainly I did not have hard yolks until after the hens had been well stirred up and scared. I do not blame the boys for all of the trouble, for I more than suspect that I caused a share of it, at least in a pen of Plymouth Rocks. Some times a customer would come and insist on having a hen or two immediately. I could not induce such ones to wait until night and come when I could quietly pick the hens off the roosts. Rather than lose the trade I would get a wire and catch them by the leg as they went past me. The hens very soon found out what I was doing, and kept away from me. Then I slowly followed them about and worked until I caught what I wanted. It scared them, however, and they rushed with more or less haste into the corners. In less than a week the hens stopped laying. I did not dress any of them at that pen at that time, but sold them alive, so I do not know the state of the egg cluster.

I have sent the boy away, and have sold every hen and chicken had on the place, and next spring intend to begin all over again, keeping only as many fowls as I can care for myself. I will not catch any for a clamorous customer, and if then I find hard or dead yolks I shall believe I have not found the reason thereof.

Make a Frame House Look Like Stone

By far the most durable, most sightly outside finish for any house—makes it warmer winters, cooler summers—weather-proofs it—helps make it fire-proof too—that's

PEDLAR ART STEEL SIDING

Hundreds of patterns, to suit any idea you have,—perfect imitation of brick, cut stone, rough stone, etc. Cost less than you'd think for such value. Send for the book about modern metal finish, for all kinds of structures. It's FREE. Address 212

The PEDLAR People Est'd 1861

Oshawa Montreal Ottawa Toronto London Winnipeg

MANITOBA'S DAILY PRODUCTS.

The shortness of the grain harvest is due to the late and cold spring. Dairy products show good results, although under those of 1906, due to the unfavorable conditions under which the season opened. Comparing the output of the last four months of this season with that of former years, more cheese and butter was manufactured during July, August, September and October of 1907 than during the same time of any year since the inception of dairying in the province. There is a greater falling off in the output of butter than in cheese. The average selling price of butter has ruled higher this year than in previous years. This is due to an improvement in quality and consequently a greater demand for Manitoba-made products this year. Dealers who store cheese for winter trade, and who have been in the habit of storing Ontario cheese, have this year shown a preference for Manitoba cheese. Eighty percent of the creameries and cheese factories report an increase in the number of cows patronizing them.

Miller's Canadian Farmers' Almanac For 1908.

This Old and Reliable Almanac is now published for the 64th year.

Price—Single Copies, 5c.
" Per Doz..... 35c.
" " 100..... $2.50.

Send order to

ROBERT MILLER, 4 Lorne Crescent, MONTREAL

FAVORABLY KNOWN SINCE 1826. HAVE FURNISHED 50,000 CHURCH, SCHOOL & OTHER BELLS. MENEELY & CO. WATERVLIET, N.Y. PUREST, BEST, GENUINE BELL-METAL CHIMES, Etc. CATALOGUE & PRICES FREE.

RURAL INQUIRIES

A STRAIGHT LINE FENCE.

Workman.—I am about to build a piece of line fence; as I have not a well trained or practised eye at sighting by stakes, to get a straight line, please inform me if there is any rule or mode that I could go by in order to get the fence on a true line, which would prove itself to be right and straight. Ans.—There is no rule so simple or so correct for laying out the track of a straight line fence as by setting up a row of pickets. If both of the ends are within sight of each other it is very easy to set up a straight row of pickets between them; it requires no practice, if your sight is good.

BITTER CREAM.

R.E.L.—I have a Jersey cow, which I feed with marigolds, apples, chop shorts and bran, one part each, and hay. Her cream and butter have been excellent up till a month or so ago. Now both have a bitter taste, and are slow to churn. A remedy will oblige. Ans.—Bitter cream is very common in cold weather, and is caused by the cream having been kept too long at an irregular temperature. Part of the time it is colder than at other times, changing backwards and forwards, sometimes colder and sometimes warmer. The cream ought to be churned at least twice in the week. Have the new milk heated to a temperature of 110 degrees, then set in a cool place for twenty-four hours until the cream rises to the surface; then remove the cream, and keep it at the same temperature until twenty-four hours before it is to be churned. When any fresh cream is added to it, stir it all up. Twenty-four hours before the time for churning, warm the cream to about seventy degrees, and keep it at this temperature, and do not add any fresh cream to it during this time. Now cool it down to about sixty degrees, more or less, according to the thickness of the cream, and the temperature of the room where the churning is done. Thick cream churned in a warm room ought to be five or six degrees colder than when cream is thin and the room is cool.

MIXING STABLE MANURE AND POTASH.

A.D.C. asks for information concerning the mixing of equal parts of pulverized phosphate rock and 'kainit,' or crude potash salts with stable manure—thus making, according to some people, a better fertilizer. Our correspondent also desires information as to where to procure Swift's digester tankage, and inquires for a substitute for skim milk for pigs. Ans.—It is seldom considered advisable to mix potash in any form with stable manure, as the latter contains a liberal enough supply for most crops. The fertilizer may be procured from the German Kali Co., of Toronto. 'Floats,' a farm of phosphatic rock, can be procured from the Hon. Peter MacLaren, of Perth, Ont. The digester tankage can be bought from Swift's Packing Co., Chicago. Shorts are an excellent substitute for skim milk.

EXPIRING SUBSCRIPTIONS

The date has arrived when subscribers to the 'Weekly Witness' whose subscriptions terminate December 31st, should send their remittance.

For new introductions the main dependence of the 'Witness' is upon the kind efforts of its friends who have given their hearty co-operation in the past. We will look for your renewal in good time this year, so as to avoid any interruption in the regular receipt of your paper.

We would greatly appreciate the addition of at least one or two new subscriptions at the same time.

As a subscriber to the 'Weekly Witness,' you have the privilege of the following advantageous clubbing offers :—

Three Subscriptions to the 'Weekly Witness,' two of which must be new	worth	$ 3.00	for only **$1.80**
Four " " " " renewals or new	worth	4.00	for only **3.00**
Ten " " " " " (with a Bible or Fountain Pen to the sender)	worth	10.00	for only **7.00**
One " each " 'Weekly Witness' and 'World Wide'	worth	2.50	for only **2.00**
One " " " 'Weekly Witness' and 'Northern Messenger'	worth	1.40	for only **1.20**
One " " " 'Weekly Witness,' 'World Wide' and 'Northern Messenger'	worth	2.90	for only **2.20**

Our BEST PREMIUM **THE CANADIAN PICTORIAL**

may be added to any of the above offers at half price namely fifty cents for each subscription.

One Subscription each to 'Weekly Witness and 'Canadian Pictorial'	Worth $2.00 for only	**$1.35**
One subscription each to the 'Daily Witness' and the 'Canadian Pictorial'	Worth 4.00 for only	**3.35**

SPECIAL FAMILY CLUB—'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead,' 'World Wide,' 'Northern Messenger' and 'Canadian Pictorial'—four papers, worth $ **3.90** for only **$2.70**, covering ALL the periodical literature essential to the average home.

Sample Copies of the 'Witness,' 'World Wide' and 'Messenger' Free on application. Sample Copies of the 'Canadian Pictorial' may be had at the rate of three copies for twenty cents.

Subscribers getting up Clubs are entitled to charge full rates and to retain the difference between these and the club rates to cover their expenses.

New Subscribers are people who have not been readers of this publication or who have not for at least two years lived in homes where it has been taken.

Nearly all British countries (Montreal city and suburbs always excepted) are included in above offers without extra postage. For the United States and her dependencies extra postage is needed. See Page 8. Further particulars on application.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Publishers, 'Witness' Building, Montreal.

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.

THE BELLS.

Walpole Ieland.—Please give the poem on the bells, a line of which goes something like this:

'Oh the tintinabulation of the bells,' etc.

Ans.—'The Bells' is, next to 'The Raven,' the best known of Edgar Allen Poe's poems.

Hear the sledges with the bells—silver bells!
What a world of merriment their melody foretells,
How they tinkle, tinkle, tinkle,
In the icy air of night!
While the stars that oversprinkle
All the heavens seem to twinkle
With a crystalline delight,
Keeping time, time, time,
In a sort of Runic rhyme,
To the tintinnabulation that so musically wells,
From the bells, bells, bells, bells, bells, bells,
From the jingling and the tingling of the bells.

Hear the mellow wedding bells,
Golden bells!
What a world of happiness their harmony foretells!
Through the balmy air of night
How they ring out their delight!
From the molten golden notes,
And all in tune,
What a liquid ditty floats
To the turtle dove that listens while she gloats
On the moon!
Oh, from out the sounding cells,
What a gush of euphony voluminously wells!
How it swells!
How it dwells
On the Future! how it tells
Of the rapture that impels
To the swinging and the ringing
Of the bells, bells, bells,
Of the bells, bells, bells, bells,
Bells, bells, bells,—
To the rhyming and the chiming of the bells!

Hear the loud alarum bells—
Brazen bells!
What a tale of terror, now, their turbulency tells!
In the startled ear of night
How they scream out their affright!
Too much horrified to speak,
They can only shriek, shriek,
Out of tune,
In a clamorous appealing to the mercy of the fire
In a mad expostulation with the deaf and frantic fire
Leaping higher, higher, higher,
With a desperate desire,
And a resolute endeavor
Now—now to sit, or never,
By the side of the pale faced moon.
Oh, the bells, bells, bells!
What a tale their terror tells
Of Despair!
How they clang, and clash and roar!
What a horror they outpour
On the bosom of the palpitating air!
Yet the ear it fully knows,
By the twanging and the clanging,
How the danger ebbs and flows;
Yet the ear distinctly tells,
In the jangling
And the wrangling
How the danger sinks and swells,
By the sinking or the swelling in the anger of the bells—
Of the bells—
Of the bells, bells, bells,
Bells, bells, bells—
In the clamour and the clangour of the bells!

Hear the tolling of the bells—
Iron bells!
What a world of solemn thought their monody compels!
In the silence of the night
How we shiver with affright
At the melancholy menace of their tone
For every sound that floats
From the rust within their throats
Is a groan.
And the people—ah, the people—
They that dwell up in the steeple,
All alone,
And who tolling, tolling, tolling,
In that muffled monotone
Feel a glory in so rolling
On the human heart a stone—
They are neither man nor woman—
They are neither brute nor human—
They are Ghouls:
And their king it is who tolls
And he rolls, rolls, rolls,
Rolls,
A paean from the bells!
And his merry bosom swells
With the paean of the bells!
And he dances and he yells.
Keeping time, time, time,
In a sort of Runic rhyme,
To the paean of the bells—
To the throbbing of the bells
Of the bells, bells, bells,
To the sobbing of the bells;
Keeping time, time, time
As he knells, knells, knells,
In a happy Runic rhyme,
To the rolling of the bells—
Of the bells, bells, bells,
To the tolling of the bells,
Of the bells, bells, bells, bells,
Bells, bells, bells—
To the moaning and the groaning of the bells.

POEMS WANTED.

F. D. asks for the verses beginning 'I'll hang my harp on the willow-tree.'

L.P. asks for the words of the song, 'The old home down on the farm.'

A WHITTIER POEM.

Miss G. E. Haight, Ontario, kindly calls attention to the fact that the lines quoted by A. E. H., Michigan, are from Whittier's poem, 'Among the Hills.' There are eighty-six four-line stanzas, too long a poem to re-publish here.

PIANO VARNISH.

O.C.—Will you kindly give a recipe for a simple piano varnish: also, if there is anything that will remove scratches on a piano? Ans.—If the varnish on the piano case is checked and rough, it would require to be scraped off before re-varnishing, and it would take an expert to make a satisfactory job of it. A simple mixture, which can be applied at home, is made of equal proportions of turpentine and sweet oil. Polish with a dry, soft cloth. This will partially conceal the scratches; they cannot be entirely removed without re-varnishing. A piano dealer says that there is a liquid preparation, called liquid veneer, which is satisfactory.

WORLD ATLAS.

H. M. J., Guysboro.—Could you kindly inform me where to obtain the best and latest published atlas of the world? Ans.—The 20th Century Atlas of the World is one of the latest and most complete. It contains 158 pages of maps and plans, also an index and gazeteer. It can be obtained from Messrs. F. E. Grafton & Sons, 249 St. James street, Montreal, at a cost of eight dollars, carriage paid. It is published in London.

ADDRESSES.

Old Subscriber, Ontario.—Please give the address of Lord Strathcona and of Baroness Macdonald. Ans.—Lord Strathcona is at present in London. Address, No. 28 Grosvenor square, London, W., England, or the Canadian High Commissioner's Office, 17 Victoria street, London, S.W. Letters to the Baroness Macdonald may be addressed in care of the Canadian High Commissioner's Office.

DOUBLE SURNAMES.

W.M.S.—Kindly explain the reason for many Frenchmen having two names; for example, Rochon dit Laurier. Ans.—'Dit' means 'commonly called.' In the French-Canadian settlements where families are very large the same name comes to be repeated very often. There may be half a dozen branches of the Rochon family and a Francois and a Joseph and a Jean Baptiste in each. A nickname is therefore very common and some of these 'dits' are possibly nicknames. But for serious purposes it is a usual practice, for distinction's sake, to add the mother's surname. In such a case as Rochon dit Laurier, this is the probable explanation.

GRAMMATICAL.

A Reader, Montreal.—Please say which is the correct form of expression. 'If John and Mary do,' or, 'if John and Mary does.' It has been argued that the latter form is grammatically correct. Ans.—We fail to see any argument for the latter form. 'John' and 'Mary' denote two individuals, hence the plural form of the verb 'do' is required, whatever the mood of the verb. 'If' does not always indicate the subjunctive mood, and one might say either 'If John do,' or 'if John does,' according as the action referred to is future or present; but when the subject is plural there is no question as to which form of the verb to use.

EDUCATIONAL.

Student, Nova Scotia—1. Please give me the names of any agricultural colleges in Nova Scotia. 2. Is the Macdonald College at St. Anne de Bellevue for men also, or only for women? What is the cost per year, and how long does it take to complete a course? To whom can I apply for full information? 3. What authority in the University of Toronto and in McGill University, respectively, will furnish information about departments of dentistry? How many years does it take to complete a dental course in McGill? 4. Is there a college of dentistry in Dalhousie University? Ans.—1. The Provincial College of Agriculture, Truro, N.S.; the principal is Prof. Melville Cumming, B.A., B.S.A., Truro. 2. For both men and women students. The courses are arranged to meet the practical needs of students, and are of different lengths, from short courses of three months or less, to a two-year course leading to a diploma, and a four-year course leading to a Bachelor's degree. Write to Principal Robertson, Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., for particulars. 3. Write to the secretary, Royal College of Dental Surgeons, Toronto, Ont. The course in dentistry at McGill University extends over four sessions of nine months each, and leads to the degrees of M.D.S. and D.D.S. Write to the registrar, McGill University, Montreal, Que., for annual calendar. 4. We are not sure. Write to the secretary of the university for its curriculum.

LEGAL.

(ONTARIO.) IN LIQUIDATION.

Old Subscriber, Ont.—A woman has a $100 share at 5 percent in the 'York County Loan, also savings beside to amount to perhaps $70. Is there anything she can do—anyone she can write to—to help herself to get a portion of her money? Ans.—She should write the liquidator of the company at Toronto.

UNSOUND HORSE.

—— Ont.—A sells a horse to B, through an auctioneer, who guarantees it sound. B buys the animal at A's price, but finds, after taking it home, that the horse is wind-broken. B returns the animal to A, who refuses to accept it or refund the money. The question thus stands: 'Can B compel A to refund the price, pay damages for misrepresentation, and also pay for horse's keep while in his possession, B never having worked him? Ans.—B cannot compel A to make the proposed refund; his right of action, if any, is for damages for breach of guaranty and in the hearing of such action the expense of the keeping of the animal would be taken into account.

CHANGING EXECUTORS.

M.B., Toronto, Ont.—I am a widow; my two sons are executors; I am executrix. Can I legally ask my sons to withdraw, and ask other executors to take their place? Ans.—There is nothing, legally, to prevent your asking your co-executors to withdraw and others to take their places in respect of the trust; but whether you are in a position to compel the removal of such executors and procure from the court the appointment of administrators in their stead is a question that can only be answered after the fullest consideration of all the facts and circumstances of the case. As we have not such requisite information before us we can only suggest that you see and consult a solicitor, personally, and be advised by him in the matter.

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.'

'We are friends who have journeyed together
Some time—you and I
Through sunshine and stormiest weather
Now the old year must die.
But he leaves us the friendships whose growing
In our lives have had birth,
There is nought that life's tide gives in flowing
Can equal their worth.'

When the Christmas candles have burned out, and the toys are broken—when the sawdust has betrayed the frailty of the dolls, and the flowers have faded—we take up the book of Life again and with some introspection await the New Year's Eve. It is like any other night except for our memories and reflections, for there is no pause in the march of the universe, the giddy world does not take a breathing spell, and yet there are many serious moments even in the gayest heart, when the midnight bells tell us another year has dawned, and with the turn of the year comes a gleam of hope, a looking forward to future days less stormy and dark than the present.

For so far December has had many moods, but chiefly of gloom and grey dreariness, the leaden skies hiding the sun, and one's mood taking on the color of the weather.

Yet if we would only rise above these outward influences there is something of restful charm in such days—and they prepare us for the sharp clearness of January for the enjoyment of lengthening sunrays after the gloom.

A Hebrew philosopher discovered long ago that to everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under the sun.

So there is a time for us all to cast off the dark shadows that may have beset us in the old year, and look forward with hope and courage.

DECORATIVE PLANTS.

A correspondent writes: 'We all recognize the effect which flowering plants and foliage have in our homes, but seldom consider what the influence might be if carried further, but lately I had an object lesson. Travelling in a New England town I found in a large china store were two large palms, fine specimens of Washingtonia Filifera. A large clothing store had fine Oleanders that reached high above one's head, and a window full of Geraniums in bloom. In boarding houses and offices in this town the windows were filled with well-kept blooming plants, and the workmen seemed active and cheerful as if influenced by their surroundings to take a hopeful view of life.'

This writer, after practical experience, goes to prove the value of plants towards giving to those who live among them lessons in cheerfulness and leading towards added refinement.

ABOUT PROPAGATING.

Several questions have been asked about propagating hard wooded plants, and there are several plans adopted by amateurs. Roses, Honeysuckles, Hibiscus and all those that will form a callus before they root by putting them into water in a bottle or jar and placing in a sunny situation will do as well as if given bottom heat. Hard stems of plants, cut so as to leave one or two joints on each piece, if set into a damp sponge or moss and kept moist in a cool place for five or six days will be ready to send out fresh roots and can very soon be potted.

If cuttings are put into thumb pots, and they are set into a box of earth or sand, and kept moist they will start roots readily. Hollow stemmed plants root well in water, such as Fuchsias, Coleus, Petunias and Oleanders, and a good many plants can be propagated by small roots an inch long being severed from the parent plant taking care not to disturb it.

Leaf cuttings of Begonias, Gloxinias and other succulent plants root quite easily by inserting about an inch of the stem and leaf in damp sandy soil or pure sand. Of course if one can command bottom heat it is preferable, but not essential. Layering is a common mode of increasing plants the proper season being early spring before the new sap begins to rise.

SEVERAL QUESTIONS.

Ignorant.—You can keep Oleanders in a frost-proof cellar by watering once a week for it will not grow a great deal until the warm days of spring. Bring it up early, however, for cellar kept plants suffer more in March after the temperature becomes unequal than during the very cold weather. Geraniums are really the easiest thing to grow, and there is no reason why the leaves should turn yellow unless the plants have been disturbed by re-potting, or the air is filled with coal gas, without any ventilation. The little green insects can be dislodged by washing well with water in which tobacco has been steeped until it is about the strength of good tea. Then rinse and keep the leaves and stems clean by washing, and allow some of the water to saturate the soil. Cleanliness is a virtue that must be attended to in plants or they will not thrive.

HYACINTHS THAT FAIL.

Merry.—The flowering of bulbs in fancy glasses is always interesting, and hyacinths are generally successful. But during these five or six weeks of darkness to form root growth they must be kept where they can get some fresh air, and not put away in a close warm closet. I know a woman who put her hyacinth glasses in a bedroom in the drawer of her bureau, and then wondered that they refused to sprout. Bye and bye she took them into a cool room, in a northern window, and they slowly recovered.

It is best to use early flowering single varieties.

The so-called Chinese Sacred Lily is a variety of Polyanthus Narcissus, but it sometimes fails to open buds in the dry air of a furnace heated room. A lump of charcoal in the water helps to keep it sweet, but is not absolutely necessary.

Quite a number of Narcissi bloom well in water provided large healthy bulbs are chosen, and the mammoth yellow crocus will make a beautiful cluster of blossoms planted in a shallow dish of moss and water.

UNTHRIFTY PLANTS.

M. MacC.—The disease near the roots is a gall, and should be taken off, or it will sap the strength from the plant. From your description of your plants in a sunny window, they are either water logged, or have not enough fresh air. And remember that the air may be cold and yet not fresh, but plants require to be able to breathe pure air, as we do, and will not thrive without it.

INDIAN FIG.

E.L.—The common prickly pear is named properly Opuntia Ficus-Indica, and your friend is quite right in asserting that it is edible, for it has long been naturalized thoughout the Mediterranean region, and its pulpy fruit is eaten under the name you mention, 'Indian Fig.'

It is a wonderful family, that of the Cacti, and its peculiar habit seems to be the result of perennial drought conditions, and makes it all the more interesting.

SOME INSECT PESTS.

H.E.J.—You can destroy the ants by pouring hot alum water into the hills, or they can be trapped, as often described, by placing bones near their haunts, and when the enemy has congregated there, dipping them into scalding water.

A gardener who was troubled by cabbage worms scattered them by a frequent application of hot water, but a safe remedy is Persian insect powder.

The method used for its application is to take one part of the powder to forty of hardwood ashes, mix thoroughly, and allow to remain in an airtight vessel for two days, when it will be found much more effective than by any other method.

Ashes are valuable on land where this vegetable is grown.

AN AMARYLLIS.

Mrs. N. B. D.—There is no difficulty in growing the Amaryllis, and if given proper treatment it seldom fails to blossom yearly.

By proper treatment is meant encouraging the plant to grow by liberal watering, good soil and a little fertilizer.

When the plant is out of bloom, and the formation of foliage ceases, gradually withhold water until the soil becomes quite dry, keeping it in this condition till there is sign of renewed growth.

It is when the flower stalk appears that it requires nourishing, and a place in a light, sunny window.

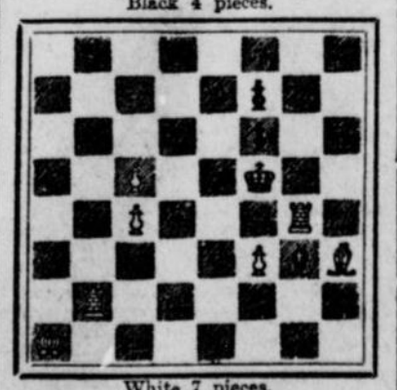
The production of flowers depends largely upon how the bulb is fed when it is making its season's growth.

If it has been stained it will take all the longer to recuperate, and the plant will not be vigorous unless, as stated before, it has good treatment.

CHESS

Saturday, Dec. 28, 1907.

PROBLEM NO. 1216.
(By E. G. Martin.)
Black 4 pieces.



White 7 pieces.
White mates in TWO moves.

PROBLEM NO .1217.
(By M. Kotrec.)
White 6 pieces.

Black 9 pieces.
White mates in THREE moves.

SOLUTIONS.

From 'Report' to No. 1208...1. B B 6; to No. 1209... 1. Kt Kt 7; the author's key to No. 1209 is R B 6, but it is cooked as above; also by Kt (Q 4) to K 6 or Kt 3, and by Q Kt 5 as shown by Mr. George K. Lanigan, Montreal.

In moving from K 1 to K 8 on an ordinary chess board the number of different minimal King's routes is 393.—'Eng. Mechanic.'

Jacques Mieses, of Leipsic, the well-known German master and winner of the tournament held in Vienna this year, is a passenger on board the steamship 'President Grant,' of the Hamburg-American Line, due here this week.

The burning question of the hour, it seems, is whether or not it is good to play P to K R 3 early in a game of chess. Precisely the same question might be asked for any other move, early or late, in a game, for it depends entirely upon what has gone before, or what your opponent may be threatening. Dr. Lasker put the matter in a nutshell when he laid it down that P to K R 3 is seldom a strong move unless the requirements of the position compel you to make it. It is very often bad play for your opponent to 'pin' your King's Knight, and therefore, when such is the case, it is obviously a mistake for you to prevent him. But to attempt to lay down any hard and fast rule on the subject would be as absurd as is the practice of so many untaught and inexperienced players who make it a point to advance both the K R. and Q. R. Pawns early in every game, regardless of whether these moves are necessary or not.

A correspondence game and brilliancy prize winner.

(The From Gambit.)

White. C. S. Howell.	Black. N. Hald.
1 P—K B 4	1 P—K 4
2 P x P	2 P—Q 3
3 P x P	3 B x P
4 Kt—K B 3	4 Kt—K R 3
5 P—Q 4	5 Kt—Kt 5
6 B—Kt 5	6 P—K B 3
7 B—R 4	7 P—K Kt 4
8 B—B 2	8 Kt x B
9 K x Kt	9 P—Kt 5
10 Kt—K 1	10 P—K B 4
11 Q—Q 3	11 Castles.
12 Kt—Q 2	12 B—K 3
13 Kt—B 4	13 B x Kt
14 Q x B ch	14 K—R 1
15 P—K 3	15 Kt—Q 2
16 P—K Kt 3	16 Kt—B 3
17 Kt—Q 3	17 Kt—K 5 ch
18 K—Kt 2	18 Q—K 2
19 Kt—B 4	19 Kt x P !
20 Kt—Kt 6 ch	20 P x Kt
21 P x Kt ch	21 K—Kt 2
22 Q—Q 3	22 R—R 1
23 R—K 2	23 R—R 6
24 R x R	24 P x R ch
25 K x P	25 R—R 1 ch
26 K—Kt 2	26 Q—Kt 4
27 R—K Kt 1	27 B x P
28 Resigns.	

An Evans Gambit from the Charousek collection.

White, C. Broaztel.	Black, Charousek.
1 P—K 4	1 P—K 4
2 Kt—K B 3	2 Kt—Q B 3
3 B—B 4	3 B—B 4
4 P—Q Kt 4	4 B x P
5 P—B 3	5 B—R 4
6 Castles.	6 Kt—B 3
7 P—Q 4	7 Castles.
8 P x P	8 K Kt x P
9 Q—ß 2	9 P—Q 4
10 B—R 3	10 R—K 1
11 R—Q 1	11 B—K 3
12 B—Q 3	12 Kt—K Kt 4
13 Kt x Kt	13 Q x Kt
14 B x P ch	14 K—R 1
15 B—Q 3	15 B—Kt 3
16 K—R 1	16 Kt x P
17 B—Q B 1	17 Kt x B
18 B x Q	18 Kt x P ch
19 K—Kt 1	19 Kt x R dis ch
20 K—B 1	20 B—Kt 5
Resigns.	

(The Philidor Defence.)

Dr. Carreras, White.	Mascara Black.
1 P—K 4	1 P—K 4
2 Kt—K B 3	2 P—Q 3
3 P—Q 4	3 P—K B 4?
4 B—Q B 4 (1)	4 P x K P
5 Kt x P (2)	5 P—Q 4
6 Q R 5 ch	6 K—K 2 (3)

And white mates in five moves.
(1) Or P x K P may be played here
(2) Stronger than Kt—Kt 5
(3) Here P—K Kt 3 it leaves bla

"OLDBURY"

— BY —

ANNIE KEARY.

(BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PUBLISHERS, MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED.)

CHAPTER XXXIX.

NEWS.

The younger Mrs. Adams did not forget the promise she had made to Elsie on the occasion of their chance meeting at the Museum, to call on her occasionally and bring her news of Miss Berry and of Oldbury. Whether it was curiosity, originally excited by the gossip about the Blakes she had been used to hear in Oldbury, or simple kindness of heart that drew the busy, self-important lady from her home at Clapton all the way to the sombre lodgings in Bloomsbury street, where old Mr. Blake and Margaret had fixed their abode, mattered very little to Elsie. She had the satisfaction, not once only, but again and again during the ensuing summer, of seeing in their own sitting-room, a face that she had previously seen in Oldbury, of hearing familiar names—Oldbury names—spoken with an approach to adequate interest and circumstantiality; and of putting questions which her visitor could answer satisfactorily without drawing all the conclusions from her asking them that a native of Oldbury would undoubtedly have drawn.

Mrs. Adams had all the right of a born and bred Londoner, whose husband's relations lived in a country town, to smile at Oldbury peculiarities, and profess contempt for Oldbury gossip; but if Elsie's tender feelings were a little wounded sometimes by slighting remarks on old friends, there was compensation in the belief that her own history was not as constantly in her companion's mind as she would have known it must inevitably be if one of her old fellow-townswomen had been seated opposite to her. She could gratify herself by ascertaining that the mulberry tree in the Rectory garden had withstood the severe gales of the last winter, and even venture a timid question respecting Mr. Pierrepoint's health and spirits; and Mrs. Adams could answer indifferently without relaxing her stealthy watch from the window for the return of the hired brougham that had taken her daughter on to pay another visit while she sat with Elsie.

Such absorption in one's neighbors' concerns as comes naturally enough in Oldbury, is not easily reconciled with the necessity of getting over a great deal of ground, and crowding a number of visits into one afternoon, which regulates intercourse between acquaintances in London.

Still, there was a sufficient degree of interest aroused to prevent the intercourse languishing; and in the hot August days, when everybody was leaving London, Mrs. Adams and her daughter came together to tell Elsie that they were about to take their departure for Oldbury, where they were to spend the autumn, and to offer to convey any message or token of remembrance she might wish to send to her friend, Miss Berry.

Elsie collected some of the prettiest of the illuminations she had copied at the Museum, hoping they would be allowed to fill up vacant places in the map on Miss Berry's wall, wrote a hasty note to her friend, and saw the parcel containing them carried out by her departing visitors with almost as much trepidation and with as many doubts and qualms of conscience and self-questionings, when the first excitement was over, as if she had been sending a token to Stephen Pierrepoint himself.

All through the dusty, scorching August weeks, while the square gardens got daily browner and drearier, and the wide, handsome streets looked sleepy and deserted like the streets of some enchanted, dead city in an Eastern tale, and the crowded courts behind them bred sickness and fever that sent Margaret home from her ministrations among their inhabitants with a sadder face each day, Elsie's thoughts found refreshment in flying off from the objects round her to follow her present, and imagine the exact positions occupied now by the little drawings, over which she had pored on many past winter days.

How would the sunshine slanting through the flowering plants on the dear old window-sill make patches of light and shade over them on the wall? Who would stand under them and glance up, and perhaps ask a question, causing her name to be spoken again in the place where she longed to be remembered always! Years and years hence, when the bright colors on the illuminations had begun to fade, would not some one, looking round the room to note the changes time had made, with quick glancing eyes that always saw everything, remark the little pictures, and walk straight up to examine them closely, and then turn round to Miss Berry with the sudden illumination of eager interest all over his face that Elsie could picture so perfectly—eager interest—nay, perhaps only a vague curiosity after so long—a hesitating question, perhaps—and after the answer another look; yes, surely another long look, for the sake of old recollections that however deeply buried and put away, must be stirred to fain life again by all that he would see there?

There was danger in such speculations as these, agitation and unrest. When her reverie reached this point, Elsie would forcibly bring herself back into the little stifling room in Bloomsbury street, where the afternoon sun beat in mercilessly, unimpeded by any screen of flowers, and seek some engrossing occupation; or, if her thoughts would insist on another excursion to them to the [illegible] with no more interesting visitor than Miss Tomkinson or old Mrs. Adams in it.

November had come; the streets and squares had wakened into a dull sort of half-life. Margaret's patients were sickening with cold instead of fever, and the little Bloomsbury street sitting-room had accepted heavy yellow mist instead of dusty golden sunshine for its habitual atmosphere before Elsie heard from the Adams's again. Then, on one specially gloomy day, when old Mr. Blake was indisposed, and would do nothing but sit cowering over the fire, and Elsie, worn out with efforts to amuse him, had been driven for change of employment to slow pacing up and down the little room, and listless watchings from the window of the passers-by in the wet street, they came, bringing in with them a bustle and movement, and cheery clatter of voices such as had not been heard in the house since their last visit. They would have been dearly welcome to Elsie just then, even if they had not come a few days before from Oldbury, and had been less redolent than they were of the atmosphere of the place.

Three months in Oldbury, three months of seeing the same people every day, and hearing their concerns perpetually talked over, had not passed without giving a color to their thoughts which was still predominant. Mrs. Adams quite forgot to calculate how long they were keeping the brougham, and drew her chair close to Elsie's, and talked with almost as much animation as her mother-in-law might have done, of how old Dr. Medlock had taken a partner, a tall, fresh-looking young man, who was well received by the principal families in the place; of how there had been a talk of her father and mother-in-law taking Laurel Lodge, which had been empty ever since the Lutridges left it, but Miss Berry had dissuaded them out of the idea, for fear Mrs. Lutridge should feel hurt, and suspect Mrs. Adams of wishing to instal herself as leading lady of the town; of how very broken down and elderly Mr. Lutridge looked now, how shabbily the daughters were dressed, and how little likelihood there seemed to be of that engagement between Miss Ursula (who was not the least bit pretty now) and young Mr. Neale, of Connington, ever coming to anything.

Elsie sat listening with a soft pink glow deepening minute by minute on her fair face, and a lovely light shining in her eyes, half of gratitude for the treasures of information she was gaining, half wistfully expectant of some word, some hint, some stray scrap of coveted intelligence that might be expected to be spoken soon. It was all very interesting, for it was all about Oldbury people; but as the time slipped by, she wished that Miss Adams would not turn the conversation back to the new doctor so perseveringly, and expatiate so lengthily on his being such an acquisition to the society of the place. It was not of acquisitions or of newcomers she wanted to hear; and the color faded out of her face, and her eyes clouded over when Mrs. Adams looked at her watch at last and rose to go, before the name which had been hovering on Elsie's lips all the afternoon had been spoken by any one.

'But, O mamma!' Miss Adams exclaimed, turning back just as she had reached the door, 'I suppose Miss Blake will have heard the sad news from China. She will guess the terrible trouble there is at the Rectory. The telegram had not arrived when we left, or I suppose we should be thinking more about it ourselves. Grandmamma said in her letter yesterday that no one in Oldbury could talk or think of anything but of poor Stephen Pierrepoint. It is dreadful for his father, is it not? Have you seen the newspaper account?'

'No,' Elsie just managed to say; and as she had risen from her seat, and was standing with her back to the light, no one perceived how white all of a sudden the lips had become through which the low monosyllable came.

'Dear me! but it is pasted up before all the newspaper shops. I wonder it has not attracted your eye. "Six Englishmen, and eighteen privates belonging to one of our Sepoy regiments, treacherously attacked and taken prisoners by a detachment of the Tartar army."'

'But how do you know that——?'

Miss Adams's impatience supplied the words Elsie could not speak.

'How do I know that Stephen Pierrepoint is one of those that have been taken? Unfortunately there can be no doubt about it. Mr. Pierrepoint has had official intelligence. His son had volunteered to go up the country with the army in Lord Elgin's suite as interpreter, or aide-de-camp, or something. That is why we have all of us in Oldbury been taking so much interest in the Chinese expedition this summer. One does not, you know, in a general way, care much what happens in those out-of-the-way countries—at least the Oldbury people don't; but this year it was felt to be a proper compliment to Mr. Pierrepoint to be interested in what our army and Lord Elgin were doing. The news has been most satisfactory, except for this one mischance. We have taken the forts about which all the dispute has been, and a truce had been proclaimed. The small party of which poor Stephen Pierrepoint was unhappily one were on their way to the Chinese camp, to carry an answer to some negotiations the Chinese General had begun about Lord Elgin's going to Pekin, when they were treacherously set upon by a whole body of the enemy's troops, and either killed or carried off somewhere. Very little seems to be known about it at present. Papa says we ought to hope that they were killed on the spot, for the Chinese are such dreadfully cruel people, and treat their prisoners so horribly, that if they were spared it would only be to reserve them for worse tortures. Nothing more can be heard till the next mail comes in, and perhaps we shall never know exactly what their fate has been. It is dreadful, is it not? to think of such a thing happening to a person one has known and heard of all one's life. There will be great anxiety felt about Stephen Pierrepoint in Oldbury; but perhaps——' A sudden recollection of something she had heard long ago, or the sound of a painful gasping breath which Elsie was struggling to keep from rising into a sob, stopped her in her glib narration of horrors; and she added, 'Perhaps I ought not to have told all this so suddenly to you.'

'Why not?' Elsie answered after a minute's silence, in a forced voice that sounded to herself strange and unlike her own.

'Why not? Why should not I know what all the Oldbury people know and are sorry for? I was an Oldbury person once; I have as much right to hear and be sorry as most of them.'

'Of course we are all very sorry. Even people who do not know any of the parties concerned personally are shocked and indignant at the thought of such a fate befalling Englishmen. You may depend upon it that the Chinese will be made to pay dearly for their treachery,' said Mrs. Adams, in a tone that was meant to be consolatory and triumphant.

'But that won't bring the poor captives to life again when they have been killed by ill usage, or do much good to their friends, Mamma,' observed Miss Adams, intent on seeing things in the gloomiest light.

'Well, I don't know. The general sympathy will be very soothing, and I should not wonder if the Queen herself were to write letters of condolence to the near relatives of the sufferers. If Mr. Pierrepoint gets such a letter, it will be a great interest to every one in Oldbury; and no doubt all the principal families in the place will subscribe and put up a marble monument to poor young Pierrepoint's memory in the old church. Mrs. Lutridge would have set such a scheme on foot immediately, if she had been what she once was; and now I should not wonder if it falls to your grandmother, or to one of us to propose and carry it out. Things have changed so these last few years in Oldbury. But now we positively must go. It is a great deal later than I had any idea of. Really it is so pleasant chatting over Oldbury news, one quite forgets oneself.'

When the door had closed behind her visitors, Elsie sank down on the chair from which she had risen, and remained quite still for a long time. 'As much right to hear and to be sorry as any of the Oldbury people!' Those were the words that went on repeating themselves stupidly over and over again in her mind. She would not let her thoughts get beyond them, and understand distinctly what the terrible thing was which they might all grieve over together. Yes, she had as much right as any of them to be stunned and bewildered, and to feel as if her heart were turning into stone under the horror of the picture that had been presented to her, and which she would not look at again just yet.

She was roused by her grandfather's querulous voice complaining that he was cold, and that she had nearly let the fire go out; and she rose and went up to him and began patiently putting the coals together, and then knelt down to fan the dull embers into a flame.

The exertion brought back the power of understanding and feeling; all the words she had heard rushed upon her in their full meaning, and she was a prey to the pain she had been mechanically warding off.

She comprehended what had happened; saw it all vividly, just as if it were passing now. Dark, fierce, angry faces gathering round a solitary band of riders; a short, fierce struggle, and then solitude again, in some far off, distant, strange scene—solitude broken only by a little heap of prostrate, still figures, one of them lying a little apart from the others. But no, his would not look like a dead face. Do what she would, the eyes, full of pain and yearning, would always open and look across the long distance at her. She saw all this distinctly as if she must see it always, yet she went on kneeling before the fire, diligently flapping a sheet of paper to and fro; and she was aware of the little, swift, darting tongues of flame as they flickered up and fell in the current of the air, for they seemed to sting and pain her, as if they were actually eating into her flesh.

By and by the fire burned brightly again, and her grandfather lay back in his chair and dropped asleep, not needing any more attention from her. She sat on the hearth-rug with her hands clasped round her knees. New thoughts began to creep in, fresh painful aspects of the subject she was contemplating:—a whole month before anything further could be known by those who had the best right to hear of him soon; and for her, the chance of hearing the worst confirmed or denied, months hence perhaps, in some carelessly spoken, ill authenticated words, or of never knowing anything more, of never learning the few scant particulars that would be written or told to others. Never, never!

Yet, as this thought stung her with a still sharper pang than she had yet felt, she did not throw herself down on the hearth-rug or cry aloud with pain. Yes, she had as much right, just as much right to be sorry as any one in Oldbury; but people do not cry out with pain when they hear that an acquaintance, or even a friend with whom they have had no communication for years, is dead in over such a terrible way.

A sharp postman's knock came just then, and Elsie heard it through the tumult of her thoughts. It was not an unusual sound, for there were other lodgers in the house who often had letters; but it made Elsie start up with sudden nervous energy, as if it must necessarily announce some news for her. The next minute her heart sank again lower than ever. Oh, it would be always so! from this time forth she should be always hoping for news, and always sickening with disappointment when it failed to come. A fever of restlessness seized her now. She ran half-way downstairs, and met the servant coming up with lights, and —yes—Elsie's eyes fastened on it at once—a letter, a large letter, directed in a cramped, shaky handwriting to her.

'I brought it up at once, Miss,' the servant said, with an inquisitive glance into Elsie's face; 'it is not often as letters come for any of you.'

Elsie snatched it from her, ran back into the room, and had read her letter half through by firelight before the servant and the candles reached the top of the stairs.

It was from Miss Berry, and her breathless perusal of the first page brought nothing but bewilderment. She hurried on, hoping that the meaning would dawn on her as she read.

'My Dearest Elsie,—Miss Ursula Lutridge is sitting with me now, and she has been so kind as to find out all about the trains, which I could not possibly have done myself; so I hope you will be able to travel here without any difficulty. She says you will not get my letter in time to come by an afternoon train. I wish it had been possible for you to start at once, that dearest Mrs. Lutridge's mind might sooner have been set at rest; but I will be content to expect you to-morrow, at the time she has written down on the piece of paper I enclose. Your little room will be ready; for, making certain that you would not refuse to come, I told Caroline to light a fire there directly after dearest Mrs. Lutridge opened her heart to me about her wish to see you. I am afraid it will be a trial to you to come here under these sad circumstances; for when I went up into the little attic just now, and saw all the pretty things they sent in that year, it all came back to me so vividly—just how handsome and merry he looked the day the new furniture arrived, and what odd excuses he kept inventing for each new present as it was brought in. But, my love, we will not believe the worst yet. Mr. Pierrepoint is resolved to cling to hope as long as possible; it is only dearest Mrs. Lutridge who seems quite unable to take any but the darkest view of what has happened. She accuses herself on account of some letter which she ought to have given to you, and which she destroyed instead. She thinks that if you had had it you might have written something to Stephen Pierrepoint in reply that would have prevented his going out to China, and that he might have been alive and well in Oldbury now. She sent to Mr. Pierrepoint this morning and confessed her misgivings to him; and I am afraid, in his agitation, he spoke rather strongly. She has been in hysterics since, and nothing will serve her but to see you, and judge by what you say yourself whether or not she need have this terrible responsibility on her conscience. Of course she thought she was acting for the best in keeping back the letter; and, my love, don't you feel that the more unhappy we are the more ready we ought to be to forgive those who seem to have had a hand in bringing the trial upon us?

'Your affectionate friend,

'MARY ANNE BERRY.

'P. S.—A message has just come across the road from the Lutridges' house. Miss Tomkinson has, injudiciously I fear, been showing dearest Mrs. Lutridge some pictures in the monthly 'Missionary Magazine' of Chinese prisons and modes of execution. Another fit of hysterics has been the result. Do not fail to come as early as possible to-morrow.'

Elsie was still reading her letter when Margaret entered the room. She had returned home later than usual that evening, and had mounted the stairs lingeringly, with a very heavy heart, wondering how she should break to Elsie the news she had accidentally heard that day.

It was a relief to her when she discovered, by the first glance at Elsie's agitated face, that she had already heard all she was dreading to impart to her—heard, and was somehow differently affected from what Margaret had feared. As Elsie came forward to meet her, and put the letter she had been reading into her hand, there was an eagerness almost of hope in her manner that quite took Margaret by surprise. The worst part of her pain had gone out of Elsie's heart as she read. Her thoughts had fastened on the sentence in Miss Berry's letter which implied that Mrs. Lutridge had kept back some message from Steenie to her, and she was drawing comfort and courage from that idea. There were words of his to her which she might hear yet—which she might hear, perhaps, to-morrow—that was, his being alive to her, alive and nearer to her than he had been for a long time. She could not despair with such a prospect before her. The warmth it brought to her heart forced her to hope. He had not gone away thoughtless of her; he had been as true to her as she had sometimes ventured to dream. He could not be dead then, just as she had found out she might rightly love him as much as she wished. This conclusion seemed perfectly logical to Elsie.

Margaret read Miss Berry's letter through slowly.

'What do you feel about it yourself?' she said hesitatingly, when she had come to the end. 'Miss Berry has always been a good friend to you, but it is asking a great deal. You may go to Oldbury if you like now; but I do not see that you are called upon to make the effort if it will cost you too much pain.'

'Pain!' cried Elsie; and then, suddenly reading the expression on Margaret's face, she added quickly: 'I understand what you mean. You said now; you would not let me go to Oldbury if you thought there was the least hope.'

'Nay, I do not say that,' Margaret interrupted. 'I think there will be pain—pain and embarrassment for you in going back to Oldbury, whatever news from China may be heard while you are there; and I think Mrs. Lutridge ought to bear her own share of the anxiety she has brought on herself, without aggravating yours. However, dearest, you are old enough now to decide for yourself. If you think it right to go to Oldbury, and wish to hear what Mrs. Lutridge has to say to you, I will not say a word to dissuade you.'

'Then I will go,' Elsie said. 'Till you came in, I never thought it even possible to do anything else after I had read this letter.'

Going back to Oldbury alone! For the rest of the evening Elsie moved about, making preparations for the next day's journey in a dream. Moments of deep depression and shuddering realization of the circumstances under which it was undertaken came over her; but, for the most part, she had a bewildered feeling as if it were Stephen Pierrepoint himself, instead of only the hearing of some words of his to her, written long ago, that awaited her there.

CHAPTER XL.

BACK IN OLDBURY.

It was a dim, still November morning when Elsie began her journey to Oldbury. She had hardly been able to see Margaret's face for the thick clinging mist when they parted at the station; but in a minute or two, when the train had left the smoke of London behind, she looked out on nothing more gloomy than a sky covered with a thin veil of lilac grey clouds, and on sodden dark-green fields spread out beneath it. There had been a night of tempest, but the storm-clouds had wept themselves away now, and the trees were sullenly rocking their bare branches to rest, wearied out after all their wild sobbing and raving for the last remnant of leaf-clothing, which the night wind had torn from them.

Elsie felt as if she were already back in Oldbury; at 'home!' she called it, when she was quite clear of tokens of the town neighborhood, and could look over solitary fields once more. She was glad it was not a bright morning. Sunshine on the green grass would have seemed to mock her—the quiet sadness was a sort of welcome.

She had not seen country trees and hedgerows since she had travelled this same road with her grandfather and Margaret, when they were leaving Oldbury. How vividly all she saw recalled her feelings of that time!

So very few events had occurred in her life during the three years she had spent in London, that their history could have been given in a sentence or two; yet, looking back to her feelings of that time, it seemed a lifetime ago.

She felt as if the storm of sorrow had wept itself out in her heart too; she could only be still and wait, not altogether hopelessly.

As she neared the end of her journey, and one well known object after another met her eyes, she felt something like a shock of surprise. She had thought of them all so much, brought them before her so often by efforts of fancy, that she could hardly believe in the possibility of their being really near—just the same as she had seen them in her dreams—not the least changed: the distant purple hills rising in the same perfect curves against the silver grey sky; the sudden dip down where, if one were nearer, the sea-line might be descried in the distance; the soft velvety sides of the downs; the fir woods in the hollows; the path by the river, where she and Margaret had oftenest walked when she was a child; the three very tall elms, in a field near the station, that Cecil had sketched one day. Then in a minute more the train had stopped, and Miss Berry's face, an odd mixture of welcoming smiles and tear stains, was peering in at the carriage window to look for her.

'My dear, I quite knew you would come,' Miss Berry said, after the first greetings and inquiries were spoken. 'Shall we walk up to the house and leave the luggage to come after us? It is not far. I looked in on Mrs. Lutridge as I was coming down to the station, and told her that I felt pretty confident of bringing you back; and, my love, I ventured—fearing that the unexpected sight of you at church to-morrow morning might be a shock—to call at the Rectory and tell Mr. Pierrepoint about my having written to invite you. You would have been very much gratified, I think, my dear, if you had seen how he looked when your name was mentioned. He has this morning received a letter from poor Stephen, written before he had left Sir Cecil Russel's house to go on this unfortunate expedition, and sent by the longest route. It must have been like getting a letter from a dead person. Poor Mr. Pierrepoint had only just finished reading it when I came in, and I could see that he had been very much moved. He quite started when I told him you were coming, for it seems Steenie had mentioned you in this letter for the first time since he went away. I don't know exactly what he wrote; poor Mr. Pierrepoint could not command his voice to read the passage out loud, but at all events it is what has made him feel very kindly towards you, my dear. He said something about never losing sight of you again after this; and when I told him how pleased you were to see me a year ago, and how you loved every stick and stone belonging to Oldbury, the tears actually started into his eyes. He began to talk to me—yes, really to me—about his loneliness in the Rectory, and how, since his son left him, he has sometimes on winter evenings looked across at the lights in my room and had a sort of jealous feeling towards it, because Stephen used to prefer so much to be there with me when he was a boy, and has, since he has been so far away, written more affectionately about my little house than about anything in his own home. It was well that the train was nearly due, and that I had to hurry away as quickly as I could, for I was so surprised I did not know what answer to make. Ah, there are Mrs. Adams and Miss James of the wool shop beckoning to you from across the road; but I will not let you speak to them, my dear, till you have been in and had some refreshment. I see you are tired, and that recognizing so many faces of old friends is almost too much for you.'

By the time Elsie had partaken of the refreshment Miss Berry had prepared for her, and rested on the sofa for half an hour, as her kind hostess insisted she should, the short November day was closing in, and Miss Berry was anxious to set out on the visit to Mrs. Lutridge she had promised Elsie should pay that evening.

'I am afraid it is a little inconsiderate in me to drag you out again so soon after your journey,' she said apologetically; 'but you see, dearest Mrs. Lutridge has never in her life been used to be kept waiting, and now that her circumstances and health are so sadly changed, anything at all like neglect strikes her in such a very painful light. I assure you—not that I mean to complain, for it is very gratifying to me that she should value my attention so highly, but I am obliged to be very circumspect. Ah! there is Mr. Lutridge himself coming across the road to fetch us. I am sadly afraid she has already thought it long. You will not be a minute putting on your bonnet, will you, my dear?'

'You will find Mr. Lutridge much aged and bowed down,' Miss Berry whispered to Elsie as they re-entered the sitting-room, where he was awaiting them, ready for their walk.

'Bowed down' were hardly the right words to use, Elsie thought, when the tall, thin, upright old gentleman came forward and welcomed her cordially. His face was more deeply wrinkled, and his hair more snowy white than formerly, but there was a nervous briskness and fussy alacrity in his manner now, that rather took off from the signs of age. He moved and talked like a person who had been under constraint all his life, and could not get over his surprise at being able to speak and act for himself. 'Yes, it was quite his own idea to call in on his way home from the bank, and hurry their movements a little. He knew how anxious Mrs. Lutridge was, and so he had taken it upon himself. It was quite necessary, he was sorry to assure Miss Blake, for him to take these little arrangements upon himself now. Mrs. Lutridge used to think of everything, but she was no longer the active, independent person she had once been; there was a great change—a sad change—a very sad change,' he kept repeating to himself smilingly, as he stood rubbing one hand over the other before Miss Berry's fire.

'But had they not better be moving?'

The Lutridges lived now in a little house in the lower part of the town, beyond the river; and as Elsie passed down the High Street she could not help noticing how, even in the deepening twilight, passers-by lingered and turned round, and how the shop-men and women came and stood out at their doors to look curiously after her. Before she reached the Lutridge's door, at least a dozen people, with some of whom she had never exchanged word before, stopped her to claim acquaintance, and congratulated themselves and her on her return to the town.

Busy, gossiping, kind-hearted, fickle Oldbury had adopted her as a central object of interest now. There was hardly anybody in the place who had not heard of her coming, and who was not busy making up stories about her, investing her with a reflected halo of interest from the uncertain fate of one whom just then they were all resolved to make a hero of. It was a great sensation for Oldbury to have one of its own townsmen concerned in a public event, about which all the newspapers in the kingdom were writing; and this inkling of an unhappy love story, in which their hero was involved, added not a little to the general excitement.

(To be continued.)

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A PROBLEM FOR THE EDITOR.

It has been asked whether stepping on a man's corns gives provocation for swearing. Answer: Keep the toes clear of corns by using Putnam's Corn Extractor.

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A MESSAGE OF HOPE FOR THE NEW YEAR.

BY THE REV. J. G. GREENHOUGH, M.A. (ENGLAND).

(New York Weekly Witness.')

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost.—Rom. xv., 13.

The new year comes to us on the wings of hope. It comes, alas! weighted with the cares and burdens of the past year. But for a time it bears them lightly, because there is young, strong hope in its limbs. All our greetings and good wishes have been toned with the quality of that grace—hope; and if you have ears to hear, and hearts to understand, you will take it and repeat it with a glad amen.

St. Paul gives us here a text suitable for the occasion. St. Paul was an optimist. An optimist is a man who takes on the whole a cheery view of things. St. Paul was an optimist, otherwise he would not have been a great Christian leader, for all the greatest and best men in the world have belonged to that class. All the makers of history, all the shapers of human thought, all the men who have pushed the world forward have been optimists. The world marches forward to the music of hope, and the croakers are always a drag on the wheels, and do nothing but put the world back.

Abraham was an optimist, and therefore he has become the father of the faithful. David was an optimist, and therefore his Psalms live forever. Isaiah was an optimist, and therefore is the best known and best loved of the prophets. Luther was an optimist, and therefore he stirred into life the dry dead bones of a decayed Christianity. John Wesley was an optimist, and therefore he brought light and sweetness and belief in themselves to the lost, degraded masses of England. All these men battled against darkness and iniquity with the light of hope shining in their eyes.

I think that most of the great thinkers and writers of the Victorian era were men of this type, with a hopeful outlook. Robert Browning was an optimist, and so was Tennyson until he grew old and weary; and John Ruskin, and even Herbert Spencer, the last of them, was an optimist, so far as a Christless man can be. The children of men gather round those whose eyes look up and whose signs are of a better time, and therefore St. Paul has become the foremost of the apostles, the greatest of the apostles, the apostle of progress and of advancement, the apostle of the sunrise and the morning.

All Paul's epistles are cheery. This Epistle to the Romans is more breezy with hope than the rest. I should like you to run through it and count the number of times that this word occurs; it would surprise you. It is the epistle of great expectations, of glorious outlooks. It tells us we are saved by hope; it says that all the experience of a trustful heart worketh hope; hope that cannot make ashamed; sings of a heavenly dawn that is about to break upon the earth; declares that the sufferings of this present time are not to be compared with the glory which shall follow. Splendid optimism all that! The voice of one who sees the first streaks of a golden and happy morn. His face is radiant with the early beams of it, and he is confident that the darkness is passing away because the true light now shineth.

Well, now, it was written to the Romans. Remember that, because it gives point and emphasis to the words. St. Paul shaped his message to his audience. Writing to the Ephesians and Galatians, living in the bad moral atmosphere of their law and cities, he sings of purity, spiritual quickening, spiritual elevation and separation, and ascension with Christ. Writing to the Thessalonians and the Philippians, he sings of joy and rejoicing for evermore. Writing to the contentious Corinthians, he sings the praise of charity, and to the Romans the predominant note of the song is hope.

The Romans needed a message of that kind. The language of hope had ceased to be spoken in that great pagan city; well-nigh ceased to be heard in the vast empire of which Rome was the head. A reign of pessimism had set in. Poets were singing songs of the twilight; thinkers were filling their thoughts with melancholy forebodings; statesmen could see nothing but threatening clouds on the horizon; all the talk was about the good old days when the world was young, and the weak, sickly effete day that had followed. There was a general confession at the time that the brave hearts and the great hearts were gone, and religion and romance and genius and faith were all gone; the world was old and tired, without God and without hope. Men hid their faces from the future, they dared not think of it; they only wished that the terrible things which were coming might be delayed until they had played their part in life's business.

Now, think of Paul's message coming to a world suffering from that malady, sick with fear, jaded with sin. It was like a tonic, it was a shaft of light from the newly-opened heavens, it was a sign which heralded a new-born earth; it bade them in one cheery sentence after another to look up and look on to the hills of God where the light was breaking—the sweet, clear, strong light, which would sweep all the shadows away. 'Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope.'

Now, my friends, after all these centuries we read the words again and we feel their tonic qualities almost as much as those Roman Christians must have done. The world is always sighing for a message of this kind, and the human heart is always better for hearing it. The human heart has its low fevers, the human crowd has its moods and sometimes its panics. A nation, even a fairly healthy nation, gets touched with that old Roman malady. A faithless philosophy is always telling us that things are going to the bad, or at least that they are moving in a circle and coming back to the same cheerless spot, and that there is nothing new under the sun. Wars arise, and threatenings of war mar our dreams of a thousand years of peace, and the brotherhood of man doesn't seem to get much nearer in spite of all our grand poems about it.

Progress has its stationary moments, its ebb-tide after every high flood; prosperity is checked by adverse seasons. The pendulum swings back after its blithe forward movement; commerce languishes a little; trade returns show a falling off. There are times when religion seems to have a set-back also, and the Church seems to be barely holding its own, and even when the promises tarry, and faith seeing these things asks sadly, 'Watchman, what of the night?' and the faint heart and the feeble mind say, 'Where is the promise of his coming?' and the careless people think that God is asleep. We are all more or less affected when this lowering, dull atmosphere is about. We breathe it; our healthier and braver thoughts are choked by it, and we begin to think drearily. And so I give you this New Year's call—I invite you to drink again of those wells from which St. Paul drank a copious draught when he wrote this epistle so full of a splendid optimism.

Here sounds the keynote of our religion in the first words of the text, 'The God of hope,' and I think that is the best name by which God is called. He is called the God of patience, of longsuffering, the God of justice and of mercy, and of comforts, the God of grace, the God of light, and the God of love, but surely the best name of all for timid, overweighted mortals is this—the God of hope.

He is the God of patience and the God of hope, and the two are always intertwined. At his feet we are raised as on the wings of the morning, and in his leading the dark curtains of the future swing back and disclose the radiant features of the perfect hope. He is the God of hope; his Bible is the curtain of hope; his redemption was the sign of hope; his incarnation was the incarnation of hope—it was the God of hope coming down to dwell among men.

You call the Lord Jesus rightly the Man of Sorrows, but he was still the Man of Hope. He felt that the whole world belonged to him; that he was master of the whole world just when the world was crucifying him, and he saw all men coming to him when he had not a single follower left. He was the incarnation of hope, and he breathes that spirit into all who believe in him.

That is what the apostle means by the power of the Holy Ghost making us to abound in hope—the Spirit of the hopeful God coming into us; the Spirit of the hopeful Christ coming into our hearts, expelling our fears, shaping our thoughts after the fashion of his thoughts; making us feel about ourselves and the world what he felt; sending the music of promises ringing through all the chambers of life. So we abound in hope. Our religion is always saying to us, amidst the conflicts and temptations and depressing events of life, 'Believe on the divine things which are coming; believe on the God who keeps watch over his own; believe on that throne of righteousness which stands firm behind the rolling vapors and the passing storms.' It says, 'Look up, you have a Father there who cares for you, and pities you, and pities all men, and is seeking the good of all. Look up, you have a Divine Brother there who pleads and works for you and for the whole guilty world which is a burden on his brotherly heart.'

'Look up,' it says, 'for you have an Eternal Spirit there who joins himself to your human feebleness and moves about among the wild riot of human passion to change the chaos into order,' and it says, 'Look again and see the unfulfilled promises for you and all men which will satisfy the best longings of every nation and every human soul.'

It is where faith fails that fears come in. The eyes that see nothing but coming evil are the eyes which look in every direction except one—they forget to look up to the hills from whence cometh our help; they see the doings of rulers and statesmen, they see the wild passions of contending nations, they see the sin which is done in the city, they see men's works and they see the Devil's works, but they do not see that almighty power which is over them all, restraining them, and getting his own sweet will done in the midst of them all.

That is our confidence, that is what we see who walk with the King in his beauty, and in the great faith which he has given us we catch the vision of that land which is very far off, but which is coming nearer in spite of sin and folly and human madness, in spite of the fears of the godless and the croonings of the pessimist. Yes, it is coming nearer, and we, by God's help, will begin the new year with hearts beating to the tune and promise of it.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

Mount Clemens, Mcihigan. — Mount Clemens is famous throughout America as an all-the-year-round health resort, and thousands of people bear testimony to the benefits derived from its mineral waters in cases of rheumatism and kindred diseases. For bilious and liver troubles, digestive troubles, nervous disorders, general debility, etc., the efficacy of its waters is wonderful. Seventy-five percent of rheumatics are cured, and ninety percent benefited. Write J. Quinlan, District Passenger Agent, Grand Trunk Railway System, Montreal, for handsome descriptive booklet telling you all about it.

'WITNESS' PROCLAMATION EDITION.

Is Attracting Great Attention All Over the United Kingdom.

Probably no single issue of any Canadian paper ever had such a widespread oversea's circulation as the recent 'Proclamation Edition' of the Montreal Daily 'Witness.' In addition to the foreign subscribers and exchanges of the 'Witness,' who received the issue in the regular course, an amazing number was bought for posting abroad to friends. Even now it is not at all uncommon for people to call at the 'Witness' office, and remark, 'Have you any of that Proclamation Edition' left? I want to send a couple of copies to friends in England.' Meanwhile appreciations of the copies already received by friends over the water are being received—and most flattering appreciations they are. Many were frankly surprised to know that Canada possessed such a great and progressive city as the Montreal described by the 'Witness,' and there can be no doubt that the new conception of the Metropolis of the Dominion which the edition has given to so many will do both the city and the Dominion much good. The following clipped from the editorial page of the 'Evening Times,' of Glasgow, Scotland will serve as a sample of how the 'Proclamation Edition' is being viewed in the Old Country:—

"PROGRESSIVE MONTREAL."

'In view of the great flow of emigration to the Dominion of Canada in recent years, the effort which is at present being made by the business and professional men of Montreal to bring under general notice the commercial progress of that city, and the possibilities of its future expansion, should arrest the attention of all interested in the well-being of one of the greatest communities of the Empire. The method adopted for this purpose is quite up-to-date. The commercial men of Montreal have secured the co-operation of one of the local newspapers, the Montreal "Daily Witness." In a recent number of that journal they publish what they call "Montreal's Business Proclamation." This document is signed by the leading men of the city, including Dr. Carmichael, the Bishop, who, it may be noted in passing, signs "James Montreal." The signatures are reproduced in fac-simile, and make a brave show as well as a curious study in penmanship. First come representatives of the Montreal Board of Trade and La Chambre de Commerce du District de Montreal. Then follow the great banking companies of the Dominion, and all the leading firms engaged in commerce and manufactures, many of them of world-wide reputation. After the "Proclamation" are printed brief accounts of the city's marvellous expansion, and of the leading industries carried on within its bounds, or which use Montreal as a stepping-off place in their dealings with the world at large. It is a wonderful story of commercial progress and of the conquest of difficulties that is thus unfolded. Montreal, it is true, has many natural advantages, but credit is none the less due to the enterprise and the indomitable energy that have been devoted to seizing these advantages and making the most of them. The city is a thousand miles from the sea, with its waterway closed by ice during five months of the year, yet it has grown to be one of the Empire's greatest seaports, and its possibilities in that department of business are to all appearance practically limitless. There has been continuous growth of population, and in the past half-dozen years the increase has been about 100,000, bringing up the total, including the suburbs, to close upon half-a-million. Though so far from the ocean, Montreal, unlike Glasgow, which has made its own sea-going outlet, has been provided on the east by nature with one of the finest waterways in the world, while on the west the city has the great lakes and the network of water navigation formed by the junction of the Ottawa and the St. Lawrence. The city has thus from its unique geographical position become the natural link between east and west, the meeting place of ocean and inland navigation. In addition, Montreal has become a great railway centre, the Grand Trunk, the Canadian Pacific, and other lines having their headquarters there. The vast agricultural and mining developments in the west and in other parts of the Dominion must inevitably pay toll to the prosperity of the city founded over two centuries and a half ago by the French adventurer, Maisonneuve, on the little island at the mouth of the Ottawa River. That its citizens will prove equal to the occasion there can be no doubt.'

TRAVELS OF A PICTURE FILM.

The life of a picture film is limited. They constantly are wound and unwound on the machines and this in time wears them so full of holes and scratches that they become valueless. Only by the best of care can a string of films be made to last through one season. When the films are rented from the Paris manufacturers it costs the managers in this country all the way from $10 to $50 a week to get them. The rental price depends on the quality of the films and the scenes which they portray. In the five cent theatres, where there is a change of pictures every day, the same films can be used only two or three times at most. After that they are sent to the next vaudeville or five cent theatre in the circuit, thus going the rounds much after the manner of the actors and actresses themselves.—Chicago 'Tribune.'

BIBLE TRUTHS.

WHAT MEN SAY ABOUT THE BIBLE.

It is far more important to learn what the Bible says about itself than to know what men say about it. Some affirm that the moral teachings of the Old Testament are inferior to the ethics of Jesus. Why then did our Lord teach the divine authority of the book, and say that it testified of Him? Men say that the Old Testament is a gradual unfolding of man's expanding religious consciousness. It reveals, not God's mind, but man's. Then we ask, Why has not that religious consciousness gone on in its expansion? Apart from the Bible there is not a religion which has not become dead. Even the Jewish came to an end when Jesus declared that its Temple was left empty by the departure of God. (Matt. xxiii., 38.) The word 'empty' means a desert, a wilderness. Such is man without God. Then man becomes the dwelling of demons. There is no development in the religions of men, all become dead forms, having no spiritual or moral influence. Even those forms of Christianity which have little to do with the Bible become powerless for good. Spiritual power and ethical religion grow out of the Book and not out of human consciousness. If a revival of spiritual religion is needed, it must grow out of the Book, not out of man's thought. Christianity in its basal principles is the religious truth of the Old Testament. The Old and the New form one book, neither is complete by itself. The New contains hundreds of quotations from the Old. (Heb. i., 4.) Hebrews must have about eighty quotations from the Old. Bible truths are the only truths which are able to make wise unto salvation. Don't mind what men say, believe what God says in the Book.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON

Jan. 12, 1908.

JESUS AND JOHN THE BAPTIST.

First Quarter. Lesson ii.

Golden Text.—'Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.—Jno. i., 29.

The current average notion of the Forerunner, as, indeed, of the other prophets, is probably too mechanical; to-wit, that at an exact period and fixed place he appeared, and having spoken certain prescribed words, moved off the stage again. That reduces to an automaton one of the freest being who ever drew breath, and to a piece of acting one of the most genuine and fateful contests of history. John was intensely human. He had like passions with others. The glory of it is that with these he yet acted divinely in a great national crisis. And that not because irresistibly impelled by a power external to himself. His ascetic life was a rational protest to the voluptuousness of his age. His solitariness rebuked the self-interested combinations in Church and State. He sought the desert that he might think to a finish a patriotic course of conduct, and might fortify his soul with those matured convictions of truth which would inure him even to martyrdom. When at length he felt that he was ready to speak and some at least ready to hear him, he went to the place where the most people would naturally congregate.

He was granted an immediate and astonishingly large auditory. It had been five hundred years since a prophet's voice had fallen upon Israel's ear, and the reading of the ancient prophets in the synagogue was perfunctory. It was uninterpreted by sympathetic accent, and so was spiritless and without effect. The conjunction of man and message in John was recognized instantly. The Jews, with their social instincts, hated the desert, but they recognized it as the birthplace of their deliverers. And John had come from the desert. That predisposed them in his favor. Again, he was of priestly parentage, but of a parentage untainted with the vice incident to the hierarchy. Finally, matters had come to such a pass through the haughty intolerance of the Roman governors and the low and cunning fawning of puppet priests that revolution was in the air. To some it seemed that darkest hour which presages dawn. However, the Baptist avoided all political entanglements. He affiliated with no party. He was found to be solely a preacher of righteousness. He sought the regeneration of his nation. He made himself a father confessor. He called for words of repentance and deeds to match them.

The ecclesiastical rulers at Jerusalem could no longer maintain their complacency. They could not ignore the incident. All Jerusalem and Judea, and later Perea, Samaria, and Galilee were going out to John's preaching and baptism. Who could tell what the end would be? The Sanhedrim suddenly asserts itself. It sits in Moses's seat to determine who are true and who false teachers. No one can teach without its authority. John is already in their view a usurper. At least they will now test his doctrine and demand his credentials. This is the meaning and intent of the sending of the delegation.

It is a psychological moment. Humanly speaking it is John's opportunity. He already has a vast and ever-increasing clientele. He has the sense of power. The acute condition of the national life would seem to justify an assertion of himself. If not tempted at this moment, he was more than human. On the dark background of that thought the whiteness of his pure soul stands in clear-cut outline. He brushes aside a scepter and diadem. He will serve God and man unselfishly. He is not the Messiah, not Elijah; no, not even a prophet. He is only a herald's voice, announcing the King's approach, and demanding that a highway be built for him. When challenged concerning his baptism, he sets no meritorious sacramental value upon it. The fluid element of nature is a paltry thing compared with the Holy Ghost. Water is a mere sign. Spirit is the energizing life of God. The Forerunner baptizes with water. The Messiah with Spirit.

This unfavorable reception to John's testimony, this querulous and rasping catechism of the great preacher in the presence of his audience, by the highest authority of the church, is the beginning of that inveterate and deadly opposition referred to in the prologue of this gospel. Darkness not only fails to comprehend the light; it resists it.

THE TEACHER'S LANTERN.

'Who art thou?' The challenge is not to one, but to all. The call is to self-identification, the assertion of selfhood. Who are you? What do you stand for? Your ideal of life? One question answers another.

The marked tendency of the day, especially in organized industry, and social, and even church life, is to the destruction of individuality. Men become machines. The social organization becomes a mechanism—almost automatic. The conservation of individualism is the persistent problem of current life.

'I am not worthy.' That presents the rugged prophet from a new angle. The rabbis taught that the one thing too servile for the son of a prophet, to do for his master was to unloose his sandals. He must leave that for some scullion. But John declares himself not worthy to perform even that menial office for the Messiah. This blending of modesty with conscious power is a fascinating trait in many historic characters.

Nazaritism was the antipode to extreme self-indulgence. It was no golden mean. By its extreme austerity it was designed to accentuate the wanton luxury of the day. It was not an ideal of life obligatory on all.

There is no evidence that the Baptist ever went near the temple. He makes no allusion to existing forms except to reveal their emptiness. He asserts the impossibility of a religious life apart from an ethical one. The repentance which will not share its abundance of coats with a naked brother is of no account in John's eye.

ANALYSIS AND KEY.

I. Notion of Office and Person of Prophet.
  Too mechanical.
  No automaton.
II. John Baptist in Particular.
  Human. But acted divinely.
  Not propelled by external power.
  Asceticism protest to voluptuousness.
  Solitariness rebuke self interested combinations.
  In desert to think problems out.
  When prepared, sought hearing.
III. Conjunction of Man and Message.
  Political entanglements avoided.
  A preacher of righteousness.
IV. Examined by Sanhedrim.
V. John's Negation of Self.

HOME READINGS.

Monday, Jan. 6.—John i., 19-34.
Tuesday, Jan. 7.—Luke i., 5-20.
Wednesday, Jan. 8.—Luke i., 59-80.
Thursday, Jan. 9.—Matt. iii., 1-17.
Friday, Jan. 10.—Matt. xi., 1-19.
Saturday, Jan. 11.—Isa. xl., 1-17.
Sunday, Jan. 12.—Mal. iv., 1-16.

ROYAL INFANTS.

Royal infants are attracting a great share of the public attention just now. Mothers and babies are most alluring to the average sightseer, and a royal baby appears to them in the light of something specially important. In a sense a royal child is not like any other. From its birth it is surrounded by an atmosphere of publicity; it is taught to regulate its emotions, its actions, and its speech within the iron bounds of etiquette. From its very cradle it is the focus of all eyes, the centre of attraction. Such an unhealthy condition of things one would think likely to be fatal to modesty and simplicity, and yet the royal child is, as a rule, brought up more strictly and more simply than any other. Queen Victoria's humble toys, her homely and unadorned bedroom, and the quiet black dress displayed at Kensington Palace show how plainly the future ruler of our kingdom was educated, and in her memoirs and letters we may read sundry allusions to the drastic and domestic discipline in which her children were brought up. They were taught to do most things for themselves, to be polite to their inferiors and courteous to their servants, and to speak all due dignity and grace. Queen Victoria's curtsey was the admiration of her contemporaries, as was also the elegance of her dancing, and what old-fashioned people call deportment. The laisser aller of our present manners would have been abhorrent to the trainer of a royal child, who was taught to suppress its emotions, to stand when it was tired, to speak agreeably when it was bored, and sit still when it was fidgety.—Lady Violet Greville, in 'The Graphic.'

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The Boys' Page.

The End of the Year.

(From the German of Gerok.)

Once more a year's last night is stealing
Softly, serenely o'er the earth,
And far away a bell is pealing
Across a world of wintry dearth.
And as I listen to the music
That stirs the air with joyous swell
There comes to me the soothing message:
'Behold! the Lord does all things well.'

The old year, with its gift of sorrow,
Of pleasure, toil, has passed away,
God's stars still herald each to-morrow
From out the night with gentle ray.
The evening star in golden splendor
Shines down from high above the fell;
Years come and go—but this remaineth:
'Behold! the Lord does all things well.'

Gratefully, as the year is going,
Would I lift up my eyes, my heart,
The source of joy has still been flowing
And troubles come but to depart.
Rest, rest in peace, dear ones who left me,
Grief's pang with this one thought I quell,
That for us all, in tender mercy,
'Behold! the Lord does all things well.'

Sheltered and tended in His keeping
Who is both Day and Evening Star,
I sleep till the New Year is sweeping
Down to the earth from Heaven afar.
Tho Love which hitherto has guided
My steps, will still abound, excel;
And the New Year bears the old message:
'Behold! the Lord does all things well.'
—H. F., in the 'Westminster Gazette.'

How Harry Sowerby Earned Promotion

(By William Hemmingway.)

'May I go out to Blairstown on your special, Mr. Gannon?' asked Harry Sowerby, the telegraph operator at Hammonds.

'What do you want to go for, bub?' replied the superintendent of the Lexington and Danville Railway. 'It's a nasty night for travelling, and—'

'I haven't been home in two months, said the boy, eagerly. 'I may not have another chance for a long time, and it's near Christmas. I can report the departure of your train to 'X' office, and then there's nothing more to be done here till 6.45 to-morrow morning.'

'Come on, then,' answered the superintendent. He knew that Harry Sowerby, the youngest telegraph operator on the road, was anxious to see his mother and sisters, and he knew what a lonely place Hammonds Station was.

The sounder clicked rapidly for a few moments as Harry notified the night train-despatches at 'X' office that the superintendent's special was passing westward. Then he quickly cut out the telegraph instruments, quenched the office lamp, and jumped aboard the car as it slowly rolled past the glare of the bright platform light and out into the black rain. He could not remember having ever heard such a heavy downpour. The snow that had hidden the earth for weeks was fast melting under it.

Harry Sowerby was only sixteen years old. He had been at Hammonds one year, and he was heartily tired of it. The nearest house to the station was a quarter of a mile away. He was anxious to be promoted to the train despatcher's staff at 'X' office, that mysterious place whence the orders came that governed all the trains on the road. But Mr. Gannon had put him off, telling him that he was too young.

'When you've had more experience, bub,' said the big, good-natured superintendant, 'maybe the despatcher will need you. You're young yet, you know.'

This was a tender point with Harry. He knew he really looked as old as most fellows of eighteen, and he felt that he had more experience at railroading than many fellows of twenty-five. Besides, if he were sent to 'X,' his pay would be increased to sixty-five dollars a month, and he could send his sisters to a better school.

Suddenly steam was shut off. Harry knew it by the silence with which the light train plunged forward, without a sound from the exhaust or the cylinders. Then came the sharp hissing of the air-brakes, but the train ran on unchecked. One blast of the whistle called the brakeman to the platform, where he whirled the brake-wheel swiftly, and set it up as hard as if his life depended on that one act. A grinding noise forward and a snarling from the driving-wheels told Harry's experienced ears that the engineer had 'thrown her over and given her sand'—that is, he had reversed the lever and opened the sand-box, so that the driving-wheels, now turning backward, might grip the wet rails firmly.

Mr. Gannon, in his hip boots and mackintosh, was out in the snow and mud and up ahead in less than half a minute. The front of the locomotive was within thirty feet of the beginning of Williston cut. Tom Jackson had not stopped her a moment too soon. The heavy rain had washed down tons of earth and boulders from the banks on to the track. The cut was blocked for fully thirty yards. What it was that whispered danger to the engineer he himself could not tell, but he had felt a sudden premonition that it was not safe to run through the cut.

Harry Sowerby saw the brakeman go back with a red lantern to protect the superintendent's special train from No. 576, the way freight that was due thirty minutes later. Suddenly the light flickered out. The wind and rain were too much for it. Harry knew that the same thing might happen just as the heavy freight train came along. It sickened him to think of what would follow. He thought of the train crew scattered on the snowy ground, bruised, perhaps killed.

The boy's head throbbed with excitement. If he only could do something to save the train! He had heard Ryan, the rear brakeman, say that there was not a danger torpedo on the car. He ran hopelessly up to the locomotive tender, knowing that there was none there either, but thinking that perhaps he might find something. And as he searched in the grimy tool-box he saw a long piece of heavy copper wire. There flashed across his mind the recollection of how Kline, the lineman, had once said it was possible for a 'good man' to telegraph from any point on the line. Here was worth trying.

'I'll try it,' he said to the engineer, and he climbed down from the cab and ran back along the track, the coil of wire in one hand and a pair of pliers in his pocket. Harry began to climb the nearest telegraph pole, while Phil helped him all he could with his free hand.

The young telegrapher soon threw his leg over the cross-arm, and braced himself securely. Fireman Phil held the flaring torch as high as he could, so that the light was only fifteen feet below the wire. The torch was so liberally soaked with petroleum that the wind could not blow it out.

Harry felt thankful when he saw, on the opposite end of the cross-arm from which he held the single telegraph line, a new glass insulator that had been placed for another line, which was soon to be strung. That made his work easier. Using his pliers dexterously, he quickly spliced one end of the coil of copper wire around the wire of the telegraph line about six inches away from the cross-arm. He twined the copper wire around and around the live wire so that it clung like a wild-grape vine tendril to a tree bough.

Then he took three turns of the copper wire around the empty insulator. Now was the trying moment. If he cut the line, would its sagging weight break the splice of copper wire? Yet, if he was to carry out his plan he must separate the telegraph line into two parts, so that by bringing the ends together he could make the Morse signals. With a few nips of the pliers he cut the telegraph line, and although it fell away with a sharp snap, the copper wire splice held it safely hung to the new insulator.

Now he was in possession of a rude but effective telegraph key. By touching the west end of the broken line, which was the jagged bit of wire that stuck up from the old insulator, against the east end of the line, which was the end of the copper wire leading back from the new insulator he could complete the electric circuit. He tapped the end of the copper wire upon the line wire that stuck up. A tiny blue spark flashed out, and he felt sharp pains in his wet right hand as the current shot through it. But what mattered the pain? Because the current shocked him so, he felt sure that the line was 'O K.' Now he began tapping again. He let the wires barely touch to make dots, and held them together an instant to make dashes. He began to call up the station at Woodside, where No. 576 was due to pass within the next ten minutes. Then he held the wire ends together to receive an answer. He soon could feel the stinging burning current bite the dots and dashes into his hand like this:

'. . . . — — — . .'

Now he telegraphed this order:

'Operator, Woodside,—Flag and hold all west-bound trains. Williston cut blockaded, and a special is stuck at east end.'

He signed Mr. Gannon's name to this. Then he held the wires together while the operator telegraphed back the order, according to the railway rules, to show that he understood. The man at Woodside was surprised at the message, but he quickly understood its importance.

Harry twisted the loose end of the copper wire that stuck up, so that the telegraph line should not be broken, and then he slid down the pole.

'They're holding all west-bound trains at Woodside!' he shouted to Phil as his feet touched the ground.

Phil gave him a congratulatory slap on the back that nearly upset him. Then Phil ran to where the superintendent and the train crew were standing, two hundred yards back of the train, trying to shield a red light and keep it burning. He yelled the good news to them, and as Harry came slowly up to the little group the crew cheered him and hugged him, and told him he had saved the six lives on No. 576.

'Bub,' said Mr. Gannon, as he gravely shook Harry's right hand, 'I guess you've had enough experience to go to "X" office. We need men as quick-witted and plucky as you in this business. I'm going to report your conduct to the directors of the road at their next meeting.—'Harper's Round Table.'

TAKING ACCOUNT OF STOCK.

(By Sidney Dayre in the Presbyterian 'Banner.')

'Hugh,' said his father, 'if you want some work to-day I can give it to you, with a little pay.'

'I do, father. What is it?'

'I am taking account of stock. I always do at the end of the year. I shall need a little extra help at the store and you will do if you really mean work.'

'I'll be there.'

So Hugh was missed from the coasting hill that Saturday and took his first lesson in business.

'What is it to take account of stock?' asked his younger brother in the evening.

'Oh,' said Hugh, 'why—it's just that and nothing else.

'Yes,' said Will, 'it's just that I want to know about.'

'You tell, mother,' said Hugh. 'I've been so busy all day counting up things and setting them down that I haven't had time to think much of what it's all for. Father does the head part of it, you know.'

'Yes,' said mother, 'and as I am not the business head of the family I am afraid I cannot give you an exactly clear idea of what it is. I only know it is a general counting up of all that has been done during the past year. I believe that to a storekeeper like your father, the most laborious part of this is to go over all the goods he has left on hand and see what the valuation is.'

'Yes, that's what we're at down there now,' said Hugh.

'When they know just what the left-over stock is worth, that is one part of it. Then, I believe, they count up all they have received and all they had paid out on expenses. Then they make a calculation as to what they may have accomplished during the year. It may have been a bad year, full of losses. Or it may have been a prosperous year and the business man who has toiled all through it feels cheered with his outlook.'

'That's the way I hope father will feel,' observed Hugh.

'I wonder,' said his mother, 'if it wouldn't be a good plan for all of us to take account of stock once in a while.'

'Oh, mother, it would be such a small business for us.' Hugh laughed. 'We haven't any of us enough to amount to much. This is about the way my account would run: School books, so many, more or less worn, cover off arithmetic, blots on reader. Clothes, best suit, pretty good yet, school suit frayed at the wrists and elbows getting thin. Scroll saw, broken: bicycle, skates—it wouldn't take much to buy me out.'

'I don't mean that kind of an account,' said mother, with a smile. 'I was thinking to myself it might be a good exercise to try to count up what the year has done for us, or rather what we have done for ourselves during the year. How much better are we? In what respect are we better, or, are we better at all? If not, we must be worse, for people never keep still—they always grow one way or the other. If worse, how are we worse, and why? And if so, hadn't we better pull ourselves up and try for better things?'

There was a little silence among the young ones who had listened, then Edith said:

'Talk a little more, mother.'

'It would be a sad thing to have to feel that we were coming out at the end of the year poorer in all the graces that go to build up character, wouldn't it? We have been doing business every day as we went along. In school and in the home. What is it all for?'

'I never thought of it before,' said Hugh. 'You mean, are some of us coming out with any better tempers than we had last year. Are we any less snarly, snappish, growly, grumbly, scowly, frowny, whiny.'

'That's right, Hugh,' said his sister, 'you're piling it up well. Now, let's take it on another line. Are we any less slovenly, untidy, slouchy, lazy, careless in our ways? Any quicker to try whether we can be good to somebody? Any more faithful in school?'

'There's so much, so much to it,' said Emily with a sigh. 'So much that we can't get rid of thinking of, now that it's been put into our heads.'

'So much that we don't want to get rid of thinking of,' said mother. 'So much consideration of days past, weighing good and bad against each other, then calculation on methods which will insure better returns in the future. Oh, I think it will be good for us all to take account of stock.'—Presbyterian 'Banner.'

NEW YEAR'S PRACTICES AND THEIR ORIGIN.

(Jane A. Stewart, in 'Leslie's Weekly.')

It would be interesting to know just what was the origin of the New Year's customs which are in vogue in many parts of the world to-day. For the introduction of some of them we may hark back to the Romans, who, after the reformation of the calendar, specially dedicated the first day of the month, as well as the whole month, to the worship of the god Janus, after whom the month was named. This god was represented as having two faces and looking two ways—into the past and into the future. To the Romans we may trace the custom of making the New Year's resolutions, which, though perhaps frequently forgotten, often mark the milestone to a higher plane of living, and are more potent when made on New Year's Day than on any other day of the year. The old Romans offered sacrifices on New Year's Day to the deity Janus. On the first day of January, they were exemplary in speech and conduct, thinking it a good augury for the new year. It is to the Romans, too, that we owe New Year's cards and gifts. The early cards were in the form of bonbons and cakes, bearing poetic greetings. Crackers were not then invented. But we still have the mottoes—those quaint, heart-shaped candies, which were the delight of our school days.

The custom of making New Year's calls came originally from China, where such calls are one of the main features of the brilliant and lengthy New Year's celebration. Every Chinaman pays a visit to each of his superiors and receives one from each of his inferiors. Images of gods are carried in procession to the beating of a deafening gong, and mandarins go by hundreds to the Emperor and that apparently much-maligned sovereign, the Dowager Empress, with congratulatory addresses. Their robes are gorgeously embroidered and are heavy with gold. The younger people call upon the elder. Children call upon their parents, pupils pay their respects to their teachers. A light collation is offered every visitor, but it is to be noted, no wine is served. Tea takes the place of any stronger drink. In China gentlemen never call upon the ladies, but upon each other, and the women also make social visits among themselves. Nor is one obliged, happily, to make all his calls on one day, for all calls made before the fifteenth of the month are considered correct. These calling customs have obtained in China from earliest ages.

The New Year's practices in China had their origin far back in the night of time. The supreme importance of the festival, which eclipses that of any other in the Celestial empire, seems to inhere in the fact that New Year's Day is regarded as the birthday of the whole community. When a child is born he is considered to be a year old, and he remains a year old until the annual birthday of the Mongolian race, when another year is credited to him. Every Chinese boy looks eagerly forward to New Year's, and would be much disappointed and severely punished if he were deprived of any of the celebrations and feastings, which last a full month. Every one is supposed to have new clothes for the occasion; and in both China and Japan the gentle custom prevails that all debts must be paid and all grudges settled before the opening of the new year. Processions and illuminations and fireworks make the streets spectacular by day and by night, and all the theatres are in full swing.

The refreshments are of the light order—usually peanuts, watermelon seeds, sweetmeats, oranges, teas, and cakes. Presents of food are given to the poor, and 'brilliant cakes, supposed to help children in their studies, are kindly distributed from the temples. The profuse use of red in decorations and costumes is peculiar to China on joyous occasions, and it is especially noticeable at New Years' tide. In Japan the conventional New Year's costume is light blue cotton; calls, cards, and gifts, all are features of the Japanese festivities at New Year's.

The custom of gift-giving at New Year's has long been in vogue in sunny France, where Christmas is a purely religious festival unmarked by the social delights of other lands. But New Year's Day is a great popular festival among the French, children and adults alike joining in its pleasures. It is a great family day. Paris is noisy all day long; nothing more brilliant could be imagined than the shop windows of Paris at New Year's. In Scotland, too, the practice of making presents is more prevalent at New Year's time, and the first of January is much more of a holiday than with us. Many quaint New Year's practices originated with the Scotch and are still kept up. A custom which began in the earliest times is that called 'first footing.'

At all hours of the early morning on New Year's Day an effort is made by everybody to be first to call on friends at their homes. Very often, as may be imagined, the 'first footers' are disappointed in not finding those whom they seek, because the latter have themselves been out on a similar mission. Much importance attaches to the personality of the first footer, who must not be empty-handed, and is preferably of dark complexion. Each young woman naturally hopes for the 'first foot' from her sweetheart; and there is much strategem displayed in outwitting him occasionally, by having grandmother or the maid open the door to the eager lover. The birth of the new year is announced in Scottish towns and cities by the striking of the local town call clock on the hour of twelve, and followed by the ringing of the church bells. It is immediately after this that 'first footing' begins.

That is a unique and probably original custom of the children of Belgium, who spend the day trying to capture some member of the household, whose ransom is the provision of sweetmeats for all. The ancient idea of feasting prevails among the hospitable Norwegians and Swedes, who spread bountiful tables for New Year's guests. At Stockholm there is a grand public banquet in the Exchange, the central figure being the King, who feasts with his people in truly democratic fashion.

New Year's does not go unobserved by the great masses of population in the Indian Empire. The day is called 'Hooly,' and is a feast in honor of Krishna. Caste is temporarily laid aside and everybody joins in the carnival. The prevailing hue is red, as in China. Red powder is thrown as if it were confetti. Streams of red water are squirted upon passers-by. And this novel form of new year greeting, it is said, is all taken in as good part as snowballing is by people in America.

Up in Esquimaux land, as the year approaches its close, the New Year's committee, as it might be called, starts out on its novel mission, which is to visit every igloo and put out every light and fire in the village. This accomplished, they silently return in the dense darkness to the centre of the village and build a big bonfire, from which all the lights are rekindled, heralding renewed life and activity for the new year.

PUZZLES.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

The initials spell a small quantity; the finals, one of the rows of things placed one above another, and the initials and finals together, the name of an American poet.

1. One of the most nutritious grains.
2. One of the islands of the West Indies.
3. A pendant formation of ice.
4. A kind of male voice.

—New York 'Tribune.'

CHARADES.

1.

My first is liquid. My second a utensil. My whole you will find useful.

2.

I am a word of letters nine—
I name a sacred place;
In it historic scenes, I'm sure,
All Christians true can trace.
My first four letters indicate
A something very light;
You'll see it in the morning grey,
And in the Moon at night.
My next five letters when transposed,
By dropping out an 'I,'
What birds sit in to hatch their eggs,
I'm sure that you will spy.
The two combined, as I have said,
Will name a sacred place;
And now, dear reader, I will ask,
Can you the answer trace?

—'Christian Globe.'

Answers to Last Week's Puzzles.

Peacock. Rook. Owl. Tit. Dove. Hawk. Swan. Raven. Crane. Thrush. Kite. Canary. Eagle. Bittern, Flamingo. Robin. Falcon, Grouse. Lark. Wren. Teal. Goose. Snipe.

Correct answers to the puzzles of last week have been received from Gladys Cooke, Arundel, Que.; Phyllis M. Coles, Montreal. George O. Reid and Fred B. Hayden had a few errors, each, in their answers.

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR DEPARTMENT.

The Swans of Norwich

THIS A SAD SEASON FOR THEM.

As far back as A. D. 1487 the records of the ancient city of Norwich tell of a 'pit' for fatting swans, situated in St. Helen's meadow. The meadow forms part of the lands of that beautiful old institution now known as the Great Hospital, a noble and picturesque relic of monastic charity, which was founded A. D. 1289 for the relief of poor clergy. In 1547 the lands, buildings, rights and emoluments of what was then known as St. Giles's Hospital were granted to the Mayor and corporation of the city 'to be henceforward a place and house for the relief of poor people.' Now about two hundred old men and women (mostly broken tradesfolk) are tenderly cared for in the comfortable dormitories and halls, and it is for the benefit of these unfortunates, says the London 'Daily Express,' that the unique industry of the Norwich swan fatting is carried on.

The swans themselves breed about the waters in a state of freedom. They are purely monogamic, and when once they mate they mate for life. About March each pair begins to busy himself about the nest, both male and female assisting to build a stout structure of marsh grass or sedge near the waters they mostly favor by their majestic presence. The male then depresses a space in the nest by placing himself in the middle, and when an adequate hollow has been made his mate takes up her position in the hole and commences to lay. The number of eggs varies from six to a dozen, and they hatch off in five weeks.

Male and female take it in turn to 'sit,' and the percentage of fertility is very high, almost ninety out of every hundred eggs bringing forth cygnets. These are at first pretty little fluffy things, brownish or dun in color, and Andersen's story of the ugly duckling does them great injustice. The mother will often carry them on her back as she sails along with outstretched wings, and the father is a very efficient guard for his family. Even man has been known to come off second best in an encounter with a male swan in charge of his wife and little ones, for so powerful are the mighty wings that a blow from their full strength is sufficient to break a man's leg.

From the time the little ones are hatched to the second Monday in August the old and young feed about together. Then, on that fatal day, comes the swan 'upping,' or 'hopping,' when the swan herds of the Great Hospital and the corporation meet the herds of the other owners of swan rights at the little angling station of Buckenham Ferry, on the River Yare, about ten miles below Norwich. After a breakfast a procession of boats starts in pursuit of the swans.

Of course, it would be almost impossible to capture the birds in open water, so they are driven to the side of the river, or ashore, or into the dikes that intersect the marshes by the riverside, where they are caught by an instrument like a shepherd's crook, which is hooked round a leg. The old ones must be caught as well as the young, so that the markings on their beaks may be examined, as it is by these that the respective ownerships of the brood are discovered. If male and female belong to different owners, the young are shared, and in cases where the number is uneven, the herds of the owners of the parents settle the proprietorship of the odd young one by the time-honored system of 'heads or tails.'

The old ones, having had their marks examined, and renewed, if necessary, are released, and the young ones taken. When these have been hauled aboard a boat, those intended for fatting have their feet turned on their backs and tied with pieces of soft list. Those which are to be released to grow up and breed have the marks of their owner cut on their bills and a piece of their carpal joint removed, so as to prevent them from flying. If this were not done they would soon fall a victim to the marksmen's guns, or would fly away when their wild kith and kin come to the waters in winter time.

When the day's work is over the cygnets intended for fattening are taken up to the great hospital swan pit.

The present pit dates from 1793. It is 74 feet in length, 32 in width, and six feet deep. The water in it is connected with the River Wensum by means of a dike and sluice, and rises and falls with the tide. In this the cygnets (which may number from fifty to a hundred, according to the year) are set free. Their pinions are not harmed, as they will be killed before they can fly, and the operation on the carpal joint puts the birds back in growing and fattening.

They are fed on barley, maize, and cut grass, and such cabbage leaves as may remain over from the kitchens of the hospital after providing for the inmates. The grain is thrown into troughs, which are submerged, floating just beneath the surface of the water so that the birds can dip for the grain. Anyone who has seen a swan feeding knows that it loves to seek its food under water. The troughs are wooden, and are fastened in such a manner that they rise and fall with the water in the pit.

By Christmas each bird is at its best. Four bushels of grain, or something under that, go to fatten a swan, so that it is no light task to provide for a large number of the species. After Christmas the flesh begins to coarsen, and before the birds are a year old they are scarcely edible; but when they are at their prime they are a great delicacy. Their flavor resembles a mixture of hare, wild duck, pheasant and goose, and if properly cooked they are as tender as a spring chicken.

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

The Winter King was laughing,
And his laugh rang bold and gay,
'What shall we bring the children,
To make glad their New Year's Day?'

'I'll give,' said the Storm Cloud, tossing
A rainbow up in the sky,
'I'll give them lovely snowdrifts
For snowballs by and by.'

'And I,' said Jack Frost, sparkling,
'Will bind the rivers tight,
And give them all some skating;
'Twill fill them with delight.'

'I,' said the North Wind, blowing,
'Will help freeze up the snow,
So they can all go sledding;
That's what they like, I know.

'And so we all will help them—
The Storm, the Snow, the Frost—
And give them such a New Year's Day,
It's joy cannot be lost.'
—Selected.

That sparrows are not the pest they have been painted has just been proved by a well-known naturalist, who observed that a pair of sparrows brought to the nests of their youngsters no fewer than 3,200 insects during a single week. In the course of one summer, he states, a pair of sparrows destroy at least 50,000 insects.—'Scraps.'

NO MATCH FOR A FLY.

I am informed by 'Discens' that if you hold a house-fly tenderly by the back and let it grip an ordinary wooden match in its feet, it will hold it for some time obliquely. Now, I have not tried the experiment, but, with all respect to a correspondent to whom I owe many interesting notes, I do not see anything particularly marvellous in the feat. If anyone with a chemical balance (going to milligrams) will take the trouble to weigh an average fly and an average match, he will not, I think, find the fly's performance exceed that of an elephant dragging timber, weight for weight, or of a cart-horse pulling its best load. Moreover, we must remember that in its efforts to escape, like a drowning man clutching at a straw, the fly is probably putting forth something more than its ordinary strength. I would advise those who want to give the thing a fair trial to wait till next summer. Flies are in a state of collapse now with the cold, and they might possibly disappoint our expectations.—London 'Leader.'

RECEIVED FOR THE KOMATIK.

Two friends, Richmond, P.Q....$	1 00
Archie Knox, Alma...	50
Previously acknowledged..	153 55
Total received up to Dec. 24..$	155 05

Address all subscriptions for this work to Labrador Fund, John Dougall & Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal, stating that the gift is for the komatik.

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GORDON BROWN.

(The pin—a pretty Maple Leaf Scarf Pin—is our 'extra' when watch and chain are earned in one month, and sent together.).

See contents of New Year's number elsewhere in this issue.

A Victor of Salamis

BY WILLIAM STEARNS DAVIS,

AUTHOR OF "A FRIEND OF CÆSAR," "GOD WILLS IT," "BELSHAZZAR," ETC.

". . . On the Ægean shore a city stands,
Built nobly, pure the air and light the soil,
Athens, the eye of Greece."

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SUMMARY OF THE PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

The story opens in the tense excitement of the Isthmian games of Greece, in which the great favorite is Glaucon, the beautiful son of Conon. His principal rival is Lycon, of Sparta. The threatened Persian invasion under Xerxes is gravely discussed by Leonidas, King of Sparta, and Themistocles, the Athenian statesman, and it is this common fear that puts into peril as a fancied spy a young foreign page, whom Glaucon is able to rescue from the mob. Cimon, the son of Miltiades, and Democrates, the rising young orator, are Glaucon's devoted supporters, and are with him when a messenger summons Democrates to a secret meeting with Lycon. The Spartan inveigles him into a promise of silence with regard to the presence in Greece of a Persian Prince of note before they return to the games, in which Glaucon proves victor. During the rejoicings which follow Themistocles learns of the presence in Greece of Prince Mardonius, brother-in-law of Xerxes, and entrusts Democrates with his capture should he venture into Athens.

CHAPTER VI.

ATHENS.

In Athens! Shall one mount the Acropolis or enter the market place? Worship in the temple of the Virgin Athena, or descend to the Agora and the roar of its getters and spenders? For Athens has two faces—toward the ideal, toward the commonplace. Who can regard both at once? Let the Acropolis, its sculptures, its landscape, wait. It has waited for men three thousand years. And so to the Agora.

'Full market time.' The Agora was a beehive. From the round Tholus at the south to the long portico at the north all was babel and traffic. Donkeys raised their wheezing protest against too heavy loads of farm produce. Megarian swine squealed and tugged at their leg-cords. An Asiatic sailor clamored at the money-changer's stall for another obol in change for a Persian daric. 'Buy my oil!' bawled the huckster from his wicker booth beside the line of Hermess-busts in the midst of the square. 'Buy my charcoal!' roared back a companion, whilst past both was haled a grinning negro with a crier who bade every gentleman to 'mark his chance' for a fashionable servant. Phocian the quack was hawking his toothache salve from the steps of the Temple of Apollo. Deira, the comely flower girl, held out crowns of rose, violet, and narcissus to the dozen young dandies who pressed about her. Around the Hermes-busts idle crowds were reading the legal notices plastered on the base of each statue. A long file of mules and waggons was ploughing through the multitude with marble for some new building. Every instant the noise grew. Pandora's box had opened, and every clamor had flitted out.

At the northern end, where the porticos and the long Dromos street ran off toward the Dipylon gate, stood the shop of Clearchus the potter. A low counter was covered with the owner's wares,—tall amphorae for wine, flat beakers, waterpots, and basins. Behind, two apprentices whirled the wheel, another glazed on the black varnish and painted the jars with little red loves and dancing girls. Clearchus sat on the counter with three friends,—come not to trade but to barter the latest gossip from the barber-shops: Agis the sharp, knavish cockpit and gaming-house keeper, Crito the fat mine-contractor, and finally Polus, gray and pursy, who 'devoted his talents to the public weal,' in other words was a perpetual juryman and likewise busybody.

The latest rumor about Xerxes having been duly chewed, conversation began to lag.

'An idle day for you, my Polus,' threw out Clearchus.

'Idle indeed! No jury sits to-day in the King Archon's Porch or the "Red Court"; I can't vote to condemn that Heraclius who's exported wheat contrary to the law.'

'Condemn?' cried Agis; 'wasn't the evidence very weak?'

'Ay,' snorted Polus, 'very weak, and the wretch pleaded piteously, setting his wife and four little ones weeping on the stand. But we are resolved. "You are a rolling stone—your plea's no profit," thought we. Our hearts vote "guilty," if our heads say "innocent." One mustn't discourage honest informers. What's a patriot on a jury for if only to acquit? Holy Father Zeus, but there's a pleasure in dropping into the voting-urn the black bean which condemns!'

'Athena keep us then from litigation,' murmured Clearchus; while Crito opened his fat lips to ask, 'And what adjourns the courts?'

'A meeting of the assembly, to be sure. The embassy's come back from Delphi with the oracle we sought about the prospects of the war.'

'Then Themistocles will speak,' observed the potter; 'a very important meeting.'

'Very important,' choked the juror, fishing a long piece of garlic from his wallet and cramming it into his mouth with both hands. 'What a noble statesman Themistocles is! Only young Democrates will ever be like him.'

'Democrates?' squeaked out Crito.

'Why, yes. Almost as eloquent as Themistocles. What zeal for democracy! What courage against Persia! A Nestor, I say, in wisdom—'

Agis gave a whistle.

'A Nestor, perhaps. Yet if you knew, as I do, how some of his nights pass,—dice, Rhodian fighting-cocks, dancing girls, and worse things,—'

'I'll scarce believe it,' grunted the juror; yet then confessed somewhat ruefully, 'however, he is unfortunate in his bosom friend.'

'What do you mean?' demanded the potter.

'Glaucon the Alcmaeonid, to be sure. I cried "Io, paean!" as loud as the others when he came back; still I weary of having a man always so fortunate.'

'Even as you voted to banish Aristeides, Themistocles's rival, because you were tired of hearing him called "the Just."'

'There's much in that. Besides, he's an Alcmaeonid, and since their old murder of Cylon the house has been under a blood curse. He has married the daughter of Hermippus, who is too highly born to be faithful to the democracy. He carries a Laconian cane—sure sign of Spartanizing tendencies. He may conspire any day to become tyrant.'

'Hush,' warned Clearchus, 'there he passes now, arm in arm with Democrates, as always, and on his way to the assembly.'

'The men are much alike in build,' spoke Crito, slowly, 'only Glaucon is infinitely handsomer.'

'And infinitely less honest. I distrust your too beautiful and too lucky men,' snapped Polus.

'Envious dog,' commented Agis; and bitter personalities might have followed had not a bell jangled from an adjacent portico.

'Phormio, my brother-in-law, with fresh fish from Phaleron,' announced Polus, drawing a coin from his wonted purse—his cheek; 'quick, friends, we must buy our dinners.'

Between the columns of the portico stood Phormio, the fishmonger, behind a table heaped with his scaly wares. He was a thick, florid man with blue eyes lit by a humorous twinkle. His arms were crusted with brine. To his waist he was naked. As the friends neared he held up a turbot, calling for a bid. A clamor answered him. The throng pressed up the steps, elbowing and scrambling. The competition was keen but good-natured. Phormio's broad jests and witticisms—he called all his customers by name—aided in forcing up the price. The turbot was knocked down to a rich gentleman's cook marketing for his master. The pile of fish decreased, the bidding sharpened. The 'Market Wardens' seemed needed to check the jostling. But as the last eel was held up, came a cry—

'Look out for the rope!'

Phormio's customers scattered. Scythian constables were stretching cords dusted with red chalk across all exits from the Agora, save that to the south. Soon the band began contracting its net and driving a swarm of citizens toward the remaining exit, for a red chalk-mark on a mantle meant a fine. Traffic ceased instantly. Thousands crowded the lane betwixt the temples and porches, seeking the assembly place—through a narrow, ill-built way, but the great area of the Pnyx opened before them like the slopes of some noble theatre.

No seats; rich and poor sat down upon the rocky ground. Under the open azure, at the focus of the semicircle, with clear view before of the city, and to right of the red cliffs of the Acropolis, rose a low platform hewn in the rock—the 'Bema,' the orator's pulpit. A few chairs for the magistrates and a small altar were its sole furnishings. The multitudes entered the Pnyx through two narrow entrances pierced in the massy engirdling wall and took seats at pleasure; all were equals—the Alcmaeonid, the charcoal-seller from Acharnae. Amid silence the chairman of the Council arose and put on the myrtle crown—sign that the sitting was opened. A herald besought blessings on the Athenians and the Plataeans, their allies. A wrinkled seer carefully slaughtered a goose, proclaimed that its entrails gave good omen, and cast the carcass on the altar. The herald assured the people there was no rain, thunder, or other unlucky sign from heaven. The pious accordingly breathed easier, and awaited the order of the day.

The decree of the Council convening the assembly was read; then the herald's formal proclamation:—

'Who wishes to speak?'

The answer was a groan from nigh every soul present. Three men ascended the Bema. They bore the olive branches and laurel garlands, suppliants at Delphi; but their cloaks were black. 'The oracle is unfavorable! The gods deliver us to Xerxes!' The thrill of horror went around the Pnyx.

The three stood an instant in gloomy silence. Then Callias the Rich, solemn and impressive, their spokesman, told their eventful story.

'Athenians, by your orders we have been to Delphi to inquire of the surest oracle in Greece your destinies in the coming war. Hardly had we completed the accustomed sacrifices in the Temple of Apollo, when the Pythoness Aristonice, sitting above the sacred cleft whence comes the inspiring vapour, thus prophesied.' And Callias repeated the hexameters which warned the Athenians that resistance to Xerxes would be worse than futile; that Athens was doomed; concluding with the fearful line, 'Get from this temple afar, and breed on the ills that await ye.'

In the pause, as Callias's voice fell, the agony of the people became nigh indescribable. Sturdy veterans who had met the Persian spears at Marathon blinked fast. Many groaned, some cursed. Here and there a bold spirit dared to open his heart to doubt, and to mutter, 'Persian gold, the Pythoness was corrupted,' but quickly hushed even such whispers as rank impiety. Then a voice close to the Bema rang out loudly.

'And is this all the message, Callias?'

'The voice of Glaucon the Fortunate,' cried many, finding relief in words, 'He is a friend to the ambassador. There is a further prophecy.'

The envoy, who had made his theatrical pause too long, continued:

'Such, men of Athens, was the answer; and we went forth in dire tribulation. Then a certain noble Delphian, Timon by name, bade us take the olive branches and return to the Pythoness, saying, "O King Apollo, reverence these boughs of supplication, and deliver a more comfortable answer concerning our dear country. Else we will not leave thy sanctuary, but stay here until we die." Whereat the priestess gave us a second answer, gloomy and riddling, yet not so evil as the first.'

Again Callias recited his lines of doom, 'that Athena had vainly prayed to Zeus in behalf of her city, and that it was fated the foe should overrun all Attica, yet

'"Safe shall the wooden wall continue
for thee and thy children;
Wait not the tramp of the horse, nor the
footmen mightily moving
Over the land, but turn your back to the
foe, and retire ye.
Yet a day shall arrive when ye shall
meet him in battle.
Oh, holy Salamis, thou shalt destroy the
offspring of women
When men scatter the seed, or when
they gather the harvest."'

'And that is all?' demanded fifty voices.

'That is all,' and Callias quitted the Bema. Whereupon if agony had held the Pnyx before, perplexity held it now. 'The wooden wall?' 'Holy Salamis?' 'A great battle, who is to conquer?' The feverish anxiety of the people at length found its vent in a general shout.

'The seers! Call the seers! Explain the oracle!'

The demand had clearly been anticipated by the president of the council. 'Xenagoras the Cenycid is present. He is the oldest seer. Let us hearken to his opinion.'

The head of the greatest priestly family in Athens arose. He was a venerable man, wearing his ribbon-decked robes of office. The president passed him the myrtle crown, as token that he had the Bema. In the tense hush his voice sounded clearly.

'I was informed of the oracles before the assembly met. The meaning is plain. By the "wooden wall" is meant our ships. But if we risk a battle, we are told slaughter and defeat will follow. The god commands, therefore, that without resistance we quit Attica, gathering our wives, our children, and our goods, and sail away to some far country.'

Xenagoras paused with the smile of him who performs a sad but necessary duty, removed the wreath, and descended the Bema.

'Quit Attica without a blow! Our fathers' fathers' sepulchres, the shrines of our gods, the pleasant farmsteads, the land where our Attic race have dwelt from dimmest time!'

The thought shot chill through the thousands. Men sat in helpless silence, while many a soul, as the gaze wandered up to the temple-crowned Acropolis, asked once, yes, twice, 'Is not the yoke of Persia preferable to that?' Then after the silence broke the clamor of voices.

'The other seers! Do all agree with Xenagoras? Stand forth! Stand forth!'

Hegias, the 'King Archon,' chief of the state religion, took the Bema. His speech was brief and to the point.

'All the priests and seers of Attica have consulted. Xenagoras speaks for them all save Hermippus of the house of Eumolpus, who denies the others' interpretation.'

Confusion followed. Men rose, swung their arms, harangued madly from where they stood. The chairman in vain ordered 'Silence!' and was afraid to bid the Scythian constables restore order. An elderly farmer thrust himself forward, took the wreath, and poured out his rustic wisdom from the Bema. His advice was simple. The oracle said 'the wooden wall' would be a bulwark, and by the wooden wall was surely meant the Acropolis which had once been protected by a palisade. Let all Attica shut itself in the citadel and endure a siege.

So far he had proceeded garrulously, but the high-strung multitude could endure no more. 'Kataba! Kataba!' 'Go down! go down!' pealed the yell, emphasized by a shower of pebbles. The elder tore the wreath from his head and fled the Bema. Then out of the confusion came a general cry.

'Cimon, son of Miltiades, speak to us!'

But that young nobleman preserved a discreet silence, and the multitude turned to another favorite.

'Democrates, son of Mysceles, speak to us!'

The popular orator only wrapped his cloak about him, as he sat near the chairman's stand, never answering the call he rejoiced of wont to hear.

There were cries for Hermippus, cries even for Glaucon, as if prowess in the pentathlon gave ability to unravel oracles. The athlete sitting besides Democrates merely blushed and drew closer to his friend. Then at last the despairing people turned to their last resource.

'Themistocles, son of Neocles, speak to us!'

Thrice the call in vain; but at the fourth time a wave of silence swept across the Pnyx. A figure well beloved was taking the wreath and mounting the Bema.

The words of Themistocles that day were to ring in his hearer's ears till life's end. The careless, almost sybaritic, man of the Isthmus and Eleusis seemed transfigured. For one moment he stood silent, lofty, awe-inspiring. He had a mighty task; to calm the superstitious fears of thirty thousand, to silence the prophets of evil, to infuse those myriads with his own high courage. He began with a voice so low it would have seemed a whisper if not audible to all the Pnyx. Quickly he warmed. His gestures become dramatic. His voice rose to a trumpet-call. He swept his hearers with him as dry leaves before the blast. When he began to weave his words, one might have deemed him churlish, nay a fool, but when from his chest came his deep voice, and words like unto flakes of winter snow, then who could with him contend?' Thus Homer of Odysseus the Guileful, thus as truly of Themistocles, saviour of Hellas.

First he told the old, but never wearisome story of the past of Athens. How from the days of Codrus long ago, Athens had never bowed the knee to an invader, how she had wrested Salamis from greedy Megara, how she had hounded out the tyrannizing sons of Peisistratus, how she had braved all the wrath of Persian Darius and dashed his huge armament back at Marathon. With such a past, only a madman as well as traitor would dream of submitting to Xerxes now. But as for the admonition of Xenagoras to quit Attica and never strike a blow, Themistocles would have none of it. With a clearness that appealed to every home-loving Hellene he pictured the fate of wanderers as only one step better than that of slaves. What, then, was left? The orator had a decisive answer. Was not the 'wooden wall' which should endure for the Athenians the great fleet they were just completing? And as for the fate of the battle the speaker had an unexpected solution. 'Holy Salamis,' spoke the Pythoness. And would she have said 'holy,' if the issue had been only woe to the sons of Athens? 'Luckless Salamis' were then more reasonably the word; yet the prophetess so far from predicting defeat had assured them victory.

Thus ran the substance of the speech on which many a soul knew hung the mending or ending of Hellas, but lit all through with gleams of wit, shades of pathos, outbursts of eloquence which burned into the hearers' hearts as though the speaker were a god. Then at the end, Themistocles, knowing his audience was with him, delivered his peroration:—

'Let him who trusts in oracles trust then in this, and in the old prophecy of Epimenides that when the Persian comes it is to his hurt. But I will say with Hector of Troy, "One oracle is best—to fight for one's native country." Others may vote as they will. My vote is that if the foe by land be too great, we retire before him to our ships, ay, forsake even well-loved Attica, but only that we may trust to the "wooden wall," and fight the Great King by sea at Salamis. We contend not with gods but with men. Let others fear. I will trust to Athena Polias,—the goddess terrible in battle. Hearken then to Solon the Wise (the orator pointed toward the temple upon the soaring Acropolis):—

'"Our Athens need fear no hurt
Though gods may conspire her ill.
The hand that hath borne us up.
It guides us and guards us still.
Athena, the child of Zeus,
She watches and knows no fear.
The city rests safe from harm
Beneath her protecting spear."

Thus trusting in Athena, we will meet the foe at Salamis and will destroy him.'

'Who wishes to speak?' called the herald. The Pnyx answered together.

The vote to retire from Attica if needs be, to strengthen the fleet, to risk all in a great battle, was carried with a shout. Men ran to Themistocles, calling him. 'Peitho.—Queen Persuasion.' He made light of their praises, and walked with his handsome head tossed back toward the general's office by the Agora, to attend to some routine business. Glaucon, Cimon, and Democrates went westward to calm their exhilaration with a ball-game at the gymnasium of Cynosarges. On the way Glaucon called attention to a foreigner that passed them.

'Look, Democrates, that fellow is wonderfully like the honest barbarian who applauded me at the Isthmus.'

Democrates glanced twice.

'Dear Glaucon,' said he, 'that fellow had a long blond beard, while the man's is black as a crow.' And he spoke the truth; yet despite the disguise he clearly recognized the 'Cyprian.'

CHAPTER VII.

DEMOCRATES AND THE TEMPTER.

In the northern quarter of Athens the suburb of Alopece thrust itself under the slopes of Mt. Lycabettus, that pyramid of tawny rock which formed the rear bulwark, as it were, of every landscape of Athens. The dwellings in the suburb were poor, though few even in the richer quarters were at all handsome; the streets barely sixteen feet wide, ill-paved, filthy, dingy. A line of dirty gray stucco house-fronts was broken only by the small doors and the smaller windows in the second story. Occasionally a two-faced bust of Hermes stood before a portal, or a marble lion's head spouted into a corner water trough. All Athenia streets resembled these. The citizen had his Pnyx, his Jury-Court, his gossiping Agora for his day. These dingy streets sufficed for the dogs, the slaves, and the women, whom wise Zeus ordered to remain at home.

Phormio the fishmonger had returned from his traffic, and sat in his house-door meditating over a pot of sour wine and watching the last light flickering on the great bulk of the mountain. He had his sorrows,—good man,—for Lampaxo, his worthy wife, long of tongue, short of temper, thrifty and very watchful, was reminding him for the seventh time that he had sold a carp half an obol too cheap. His patience indeed that evening was so near to exhaustion that after cursing inwardly the 'match-maker' who had saddled this Amazon upon him, he actually found courage for an outbreak. He threw up his arms after the manner of a tragic actor:

'True, true is the word of Hesiod!'

'True is what?' flew back none too gently.

'"The fool first suffers and is after wise." Woman, I am resolved.'

'On what?' Lampaxo's voice was soft as broken glass.

'Years increase. I shan't live long. We are childless. I will provide for you in my will by giving you in marrriage to Hyperphon.'*

'Hyperphon!' screamed the virago, 'Hyperphon the beggarly hunchback, the laughing-stock of Athens! O Mother Hera!—but I see the villain's aim. You are weary of me. Then divorce me like an honorable man. Send me back to Polus, my dear brother. Ah, you sheep, you are silent! You think of the two-minae dowry you must then refund. Woe is me! I'll go to the King Archon. I'll charge you with gross abuse. The jury will condemn you. There'll be fines, fetters, stocks, prison—'

'Peace,' groaned Phormio, terrified at the Gorgon, 'I only thought—'

'How dared you think? What permitted—'

'Good evening, sweet sister and Phormio!' The salutation came from Polus, who with Clearchus had approached unheralded. Lampaxo smoothed her ruffled feathers. Phormio stifled his sorrows. Dromo, the half-starved slave-boy, brought a pot of thin wine to his betters. The short southern twilight was swiftly passing into night. Groups of young men wandered past, bound homeward from the Cynosarges, the Academy, or some other well-loved gymnasium. In an hour the streets would be dark and still, except for a belated guest going to his banquet, a Scythian constable, or perhaps a cloak thief. For your Athenian, when he had no supper invitation, went to bed early and rose early, loving the sunlight far better than the flicker of his uncertain lamps.

'And did the jury vote "guilty"?' was Phormio's first question of his brother-in-law.

'We were patriotically united. There were barely any white beans for acquittal in the urn. The scoundreelly grain-dealer is stripped of all he possesses and sent away to beg in exile. A noble service to Athens!'

'Despite the evidence,' murmured Clearchus; but Lampaxo's shrill voice answered her brother:

'It's my opinion you jurors should look into a case directly opposite this house. Spies, I say, Persian spies.'

'Spies!' cried Polus, leaping up as from a coal; 'why, Phormio, haven't you denounced them? It's compounding with treason even to fail to report—'

'Peace, brother,' chuckled the fishmonger, 'your sister smells for treason as a dog for salt fish. There is a barbarian carpet merchant—a Babylonian, I presume—who has taken the empty chambers above Demas's shield factory opposite. He seems a quiet, inoffensive man, there are a hundred other foreign merchants in the city. One can't cry "Traitor!" just because the poor wight was not born to speak Greek.'

'I do not like Babylonish merchants,' propounded Polus, dogmatically; 'to the jury with him, I say.'

'At least he has a visitor,' asserted Clearchus, who had long been silent. 'See, a gentleman wrapped in a long himation is going up to the door and standing up his walking stick.'

'And if I have eyes,' vowed the juror, squinting through his hands in the half light, 'that closely wrapped man is Glaucon the Alcmaeonid.'

'Or Democrates,' remarked Clearchus; 'they look much alike from behind. It's getting dark.'

'Well,' decided Phormio, 'we can easily tell. He has left his stick below by the door. Steal across, Polus, and fetch it. It must be carved with the owner's name.'

The juror readily obeyed; but to read the few characters on the crooked handle was beyond the learning of any save Clearchus, whose art demanded the mystery of writing.

'I was wrong,' he confessed, after long scrutiny, '"Glaucon, son of Conon." It is very plain. Put the cane back, Polus.'

The cane was returned, but the juror pulled a very long face.

'Dear friends, here is a man I've already suspected of undemocratic sentiments conferring with a Barbarian. Good patriots cannot be too vigilant. A plot, I assert. Treason to Athens and Hellas! Freedom's in danger. Henceforth I shall look on Glaucon the Alcmaeonid as an enemy of liberty.'

'Phui!' almost shouted Phormio, whose sense of humor was keen, 'a noble conspiracy! Glaucon the Fortunate calls on a Babylonish merchant by night. You say to plot against Athens. I say to buy his pretty wife a carpet.'

'The gods will some day explain,' said Clearchus, winding up the argument—and so for a little while the four forgot all about Glaucon.

. . . . .

Despite the cane, Clearchus was right. The visitor was Democrates. The orator mounted the dark stair above the shield-factory and knocked against a door, calling, 'Pai! Pai!' 'Boy! boy!' a summons answered by none other than the ever smiling Hiram. The Athenian, however, was little prepared for the luxury, nay splendor, which greeted him, once the Phoenician had opened the door. The bare chamber had been transformed. The foot sank into the glowing carpets of Kerman and Bactria. The gold-embroidered wall tapestries were of Sidonian purple. The divans were covered with wondrous stuff which Democrates could not name—another age would call it silk. A tripod smoked with fragrant Arabian frankincense. Silver lamps, swinging from silver chains, gave brilliant light. The Athenian stood wonder-bound, until a voice, not Hiram's, greeted him.

'Welcome, Athenian,' spoke the Cyprian, in his quaint, eastern accent. It was the strange guest in the tavern by Corinth. The Prince—prince surely, whatever his other title—was in the same rich dress as at the Isthmus, only his flowing beard had been dyed raven black. Yet Democrates's eyes were diverted instantly to the peculiarly handsome slave-boy on the divan beside his master. The boy's dress, of a rare blue stuff, enveloped him closely. His hair was as golden as the gold thread on the round cap. In the shadows the face almost escaped the orator—he thought he saw clear blue eyes and a marvellously brilliant, almost girlish, bloom and freshness. The presence of this slave caused the Athenian to hesitate, but the Cyprian bade him be seated, with one commanding wave of the hand.

'This is Smerdis, my constant companion. He is a mute. Yet if otherwise, I would trust him as myself.'

Democrates, putting by surprise, began to look on his host fixedly.

'My dear Barbarian, for that you are a Hellene you will not pretend, you realize, I trust, you incur considerable danger in visiting Athens.'

'I am not anxious,' observed the Prince, composedly, 'Hiram is watchful.' and skilful. You see I have dyed my hair and beard black and pass for a Babylonish merchant.'

'With all except me, philotate,—"dearest friend," as we say in Athens.' Democrates's smile was not wholly agreeable.

'With all except you,' assented the Prince, fingering the scarlet tassel of the cushion whereon he sat. 'I reckoned confidently that you would come to visit me when I sent Hiram to you. Yes—I have heard the story that is on your tongue: one of Themistocles's busybodies has brought a rumor that a certain great man of the Persian court is missing from the side of his master, and you have been requested to greet that nobleman heartily if he should come to Athens.'

'You know a great deal!' cried the orator, feeling his forehead grow hot.

'It is pleasant to know a great deal,' smiled back the Prince, carelessly, while Hiram entered with a tray and silver goblets brimming with violet-flavored sherbet; 'I have innumerable "Eyes-and-ears." You have heard the name? One of the chief officers of His Majesty is "The Royal Eye." You Athenians are a valiant and in many things a wise people, yet you could grow in wisdom by looking well to the East.'

'I am confident,' exclaimed Democrates, thrusting back the goblet, 'if Your Excellency requires a noble game of wits, you can have one. I need only step to the window, and cry "Spies!"—after which Your Excellency can exercise your wisdom and eloquence defending your life before one of our Attic juries.'

'Which is a polite and patriotic manner of saying, dearest Athenian, you are not prepared to push matters to such unfortunate extremity. I omit what His Majesty might do in the way of taking vengeance; sufficient that if aught unfortunate befalls me, or Hiram, or this my slave Smerdis, while we are in Athens, a letter comes to your noble chief Themistocles from the banker Pittacus of Argos.'

Democrates, who had risen to his feet, had been flushed before. He became pale now. The hand that clutched the purple tapestry was trembling. The words rose to his lips, the lips refused to utter them. The Prince, who had delivered his threat most quietly, went on. 'In short, good Democrates, I was aware before I came to Athens of our necessities, and I came because I was certain I could relieve them.

'Never!' The orator shot the word out desperately.

'You are a Hellene.'

'Am I ashamed of it?'

'Do not, however, affect to be more virtuous than your race. Persians make their boast of truth-telling and fidelity. You Hellenes, I hear, have even a god—Hermes Dolios,—who teaches you lying and thieving. The customs of nations differ. Mazda the Almighty alone knoweth which is best. Follow then the customs of Hellenes.'

'You speak in riddles.'

'Plainer, then. You know the master I serve. You guess who I am, though you shall not name me. For what sum will you serve Xerxes the Great King?'

The orator's breath came deep. His hands clasped and unclasped, then were pressed behind his head.

'I told Lycon, and I tell you, I am no traitor to Hellas.'

'Which means, of course, you demand a fair price. I am not angry. You will find a Persian pays like the lord he is, and that his darics always ring true metal.'

'I'll hear no more. I was a fool to meet Lycon at Corinth, doubly a fool to meet you to-night. Farewell.'

Democrates seized the latch. The door was locked. He turned furiously on the Barbarian. 'Do you keep me by force? Have a care! I can be terrible if driven to bay. . . . window is open. One shout . . .

*Attic law allowed a husband to will his wife to a friend.

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Home Department.

Thoughts for the New Year.

(Lillian Gray, in the 'North-Western Christian Advocate.'

Let us walk softly, friend;
For strange paths lie before us, all untrod;
The New Year, spotless from the hand of God,
Is thine and mine, O friend!

Let us walk straightly, friend:
Forget the crooked paths behind us now,
Press on with steadier purpose on our brow,
To better deeds, O friend.

Let us walk gladly, friend:
Perchance some greater good than we have known
Is waiting for us, or some fair hope flown
Shall yet return, O friend!

Let us walk humbly, friend:
Slight not the heart's ease blooming round our feet;
The laurel blossoms are not half so sweet,
Or lightly gathered, friend.

Let us walk kindly, friend:
We can not tell how long this life shall last,
How soon these precious years be overpast;
Let love walk with us, friend.

Let us walk quickly, friend:
Work our mite while lasts our little stay,
And help some halting comrade on the way:
And may God guide us, friend!

A New Year's Visit.

(Alice May Douglas, in the Michigan 'Christian Advocate.')

'Is there any mail for Lorinda Biglow?' inquired an anxious looking little girl of the postmaster at Glenwood.

'No mail to-day,' replied the man, and Lorinda went away, feeling disappointed again.

'Too bad,' exclaimed Miss Cram, who was also waiting for her mail, and had overheard the conversation.

'Yes,' said the postmaster, leaning on his elbow. 'I'm always sorry for the little girl. She comes regularly Saturday, and always goes away empty-handed.'

'Do you think she expects a letter which never comes?' inquired Miss Cram, becoming interested in the child.

'Possibly,' he replied, 'and it may be that she likes the fun of coming to the post-office.'

'Do you really mean that she has never received any mail?'

'Never,' he replied. 'Sometimes I've had a good mind to write her a letter myself.

'Give me her address,' implored the lady. After receiving it she turned to leave the office.

'I believe I'll write Lorinda a letter; then for once she won't be disappointed,' said Miss Cram to herself, as she walked along the street.

And sure enough, after reaching her home, she took her writing materials and began the letter to Lorinda.

'I'll invite her to spend New Year's with me,' said the lady to herself, as she dipped the pen into the ink.

So it happened that Lorinda went, as usual, to the post-office, and after inquiring for mail, received Miss Cram's letter.

'O, sir!' Lorinda exclaimed, hesitatingly, 'is it really mine?'

'Well,' replied the postmaster, 'I think it must be yours, for I don't know of any other Lorinda Biglow. Do you?'

'No, sir,' she replied, as she hurried down the store steps.

'Mother! mother!' exclaimed Lorinda, as she entered her home, 'I've got it at last. It's surely come.'

'What?' inquired Mrs. Bigelow, anxiously.

'Why, the letter I've been looking for so long,' she answered. 'Just read it, mother, and see where I'm going on New Year's day.'

'To Miss Cram's!' exclaimed the mother. 'Why, she's one of the wealthiest ladies in town.'

'May I go, mother?' began Lorinda.

'Yes,' answered Mrs. Bigelow, 'but you must answer Miss Cram's invitation.'

Lorinda could hardly wait for New Year's day to come, but when it did come, she dressed in the best clothes which her widowed mother could afford, and went to pay her visit to Miss Cram.

'I've had such a lovely time, mother,' said Lorinda, after she had returned home from her visit.

'You must tell me all about it, Lorinda,' implored her mother.

'I had such a nice time hearing Miss Cram tell all about her travels in Europe,' explained the girl. 'I knew where Europe was, for I studied about it in school.'

'What did she tell you about it?' queried the mother.

'She told me all about the big cities and the queer people she saw there. They don't dress as we do, mother.'

'Did she bring anything home from these cities?'

'Lots and lots of things, replied Lorinda. 'See, she has given me a New Year's card. It is a picture of a little French girl. Isn't it pretty?' After showing the card to her mother the little girl wrapped the gift carefully in paper and placed it among the few treasures of her humble home.

'How happy that little girl seemed,' remarked Miss Cram to her mother, after Lorinda had gone from her home.

'Yes,' replied Mrs. Cram, 'it does not take much to make one of those poor children happy.'

'I presume she has been watching for weeks for a letter,' said Miss Cram, meditatively. 'If that one letter brought such pleasure to one child, what a great deal of good we might do by sending more of them.'

'It would be a grand work for your society,' suggested her mother.

'So it would,' replied the daughter, 'and I will speak of it at our next meeting.'

And why can't others also make a New Year's resolution to send letters to any lonely bodies they may know of?

Home Thoughts.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU.

New mercies, new blessings, new light on thy way,
New courage, new hope, and new strength for each day;
New notes of thanksgiving, new chords of delight;
New praise in the morning, new songs in the night;
New wine in thy chalice, new altars to raise;
New fruits for thy Master, new garments of praise;
New gifts from his treasures, new smiles from his face;
New streams from the fountains of infinite grace
New stars for the crown, and new tokens of love;
New gleams of the glory that awaits thee above;
New light of his countenance, full and unpriced—
All these be the joy of the new life in Christ.

—Frances Ridley Havergal.

THE NEW YEAR.

St. James asks, 'What is your life?' and his own answer to the question is 'For ye are a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. The brevity of life has been the subject of deep thought and of anxious solicitude in all ages of the world.' The poet tells us, 'Our birth is nothing but our death begun.' The frantic words of the dying voluptuary novelist, Hoffman, were: 'Life, life, only life! I must then think of God.' Queen Elizabeth, as she lay dying, upon the floor, and forsaken by all her courtiers, cried: 'My kingdom for a moment's time.' Life is a dream, a shadow, a vapor, a swift flying cloud. How figure and smile exhaust [illegible] in describing brevity.

[illegible] the autumn leaf
That trembles in the morn's pale ray,
Its hold is frail, its date is brief,
Restless, and soon to pass away.'

Such is life! this life we are living away; this life that will so soon be over; this life on whose transient breath hangs everlasting destiny.

'How short is human life? the very breath,
Which frames my words, accelerates my death.'

And yet—

'Between two breaths, what crowded mysteries lie—
The first short gasp, the last and long drawn sigh!'

But we fail to appreciate life's meaning if we spend our time in sighing over its brevity. Life is not merely a vapor that presently vanisheth, it is a journey to a fixed destination. We are not only going, but we are going somewhere; not into the depths of a mystic solitude to be extinguished and forgotten. Our destiny is not annihilation and nothingness. That is the gloomy abode of the mind disordered by irreligion. To go forward aimlessly is the most inexcusable folly. To have around him all the evidences of God—and never to see them—to look upon a thousand church spires that point to an eternal life, and miss all their meanings, to be in a land of Bibles that reveal God's purposes for man's eternal destiny and be ignorant of his own end is indeed a criminal negligence which it is difficult to characterize.

It is not death but life that is before us, not earthly life alone but life a thread running interminably through the warp of eternity.

Life then must be used with a view to its eternal destiny. To abuse it, to detach it, to squander it in trifles is a crime against one's self that is as inexcusable as it is disastrous. But to use it to promote the highest good, to use it so as to make the most of it, that is to have before us the greatest hope for any event that can possibly follow—

'We live in deeds, not years, in thoughts, not breaths;
In feelings; not in figures on the dial.
We should count time by heart throbs, He most lives
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.'
—'Methodist Protestant.'

We live by days. They are the leaves folded back each night in the great volume that we write. They are our autobiography. Each day takes us not newly, but as a tale continued. It finds us what yesterday left us; and as we go on, every day is telling to every other day truths about us, showing the kind of being that is to be handed on to it, making of us something better or something worse, as we decide.—J. F. W. Ware.

THE BEST POSSIBLE.

We are not to try to take long views of life. We are to live one day at a time, and to fill that day with earnest and loving efforts to bless the world about us, and to do God's will. We are to try to make our lives each year the very best possible, whether or not we make them the best and most successful in our lives. Each year cannot be the best, but each year may be good. A gentleman once said: 'No, I do not expect to make this the most successful year in my life, but I do intend, by the grace of God, to make it the very best year possible.' Lyman Beecher advised one of his sons: 'Do not always be running races with yourself. Do not try to outstrip yourself each year. You will not always be able to do it. But fill each day with earnest effort, and do your very best each year:—'Herald and Presbyter.'

With the Children.

TWO GIRLS.

There was a girl who always said
Her fate was very hard;
From the one thing she wanted most
She always was debarred.
There always was a cloudy spot
Somewhere within her sky;
Nothing was ever quite just right,
She used to say, and sigh.

And yet her sister, strange to say,
Whose lot was quite the same,
Found something pleasant for herself
In every day that came
Of course, things tangled up sometimes,
For just a little while;
But nothing ever stayed all wrong,
She used to say, and smile.

So one girl sighed and one girl smiled,
Through all their lives together;
It didn't come from luck or fate,
From clear or cloudy weather.
The reason lay within their hearts,
And colored all outside;
One chose to hope and one to mope,
And so they smiled and sighed.
—Selected.

FOR THE MOTHERS.

Take the New Year a day at a time. That will be about all you can manage. It is too big a contract to give the whole year to the highest life before you have the year to give. Give it as it comes to you. To-day is ours; and that is what God asks. We make our New Year's resolutions so heavy that they break by their own great weight. Be determined to have a true heart and a sturdy faith now. 'Now' is yours, and you can manage it, with the help of God—and he is pledged to help you.

REUNION AT THE WALTONS.

The Waltons were having a reunion, says the 'Youth's Companion.' Grace, the youngest daughter, and the only one left at home, had arranged it for her mother's sixtieth birthday. The Waltons were a devoted family, and the fact that they had not all been together since Harvey's marriage, ten years before, was due to circumstances and not to indifference, as was proved by Harvey's bringing his family on from Colorado—a not inexpensive journey for five—and Eleanor's giving up the summer abroad that she had planned.

Every nook and corner of the old house was full. There were Harvey and his wife and three children, Gertrude and the baby from Ohio, Eleanor from Boston, Rodney from Pittsburg, besides Grace and the parents. The days passed in a round of neighborhood hospitalities, in walks and drives and picnics. One rainy evening, however, the family happened to be alone. Rodney had started a fire in the old fireplace and Grace brought out cookies and apples, and the oldtime setting started old memories.

'Nobody has mentioned Aunt Sarah,' Harvey said, suddenly. 'Shall you ever forget those visits at her house? Queer, wasn't it, her notion that sometimes something big would happen in her life, and she'd got to get ready for it by doing every little thing the best way possible? She had a great way of making you feel responsible for yourself. Years after, when I came to a tight place in business—I never told you folks about it—the thought of Aunt Sarah made me brace up, and helped me pull through.'

'Same way here,' Rodney agreed. 'I tried to shirk once or twice, but it was no good. I seemed to see Aunt Sarah at my elbow plain as day. Life was a grind to her if it ever was to anybody, but how she faced it! You remember how she used to rub it in, that you had to be honest in your work for your own sake?'

'I know that Aunt Sarah's theory has helped me in teaching many a time,' Eleanor said. 'You never know when a human soul may be at some crossroads; you don't dare shirk.'

'Yet,' Harvey mused, 'nothing ever happened to her after all—no opportunity. She lived and died in that little hillside farmhouse. She—what's up, Grace? You look as if you had discovered a continent.'

'I have!' Grace cried, exultantly. 'Oh, boys, how stupid we've all been—how stupid! Think of the men in your shops, Harvey, and the men Rodney has under him, and the children who pass through Eleanor's classes every year! Think of your own boys and what you are teaching them, and the people they will influence some day! All of them—everyone of them—influenced by the splendid ideals of a little frail woman up on a hill farm; and yet you say no opportunity came to her!'

'I believe you have it, Grace,' Harvey answered gravely.

The Secret of a Long and Happy Life.

You sometimes see a woman whose old age is as exquisite as was the perfect bloom of her youth. You wonder how this has come about. You wonder how it is her life has been a long and happy one. Here are some of the reasons:

She knew how to forget disagreeable things.

She kept her nerves well in hand and inflicted them on no one.

She mastered the art of saying pleasant things.

She did not expect too much from her friends.

She made whatever work came to her congenial.

She retained her illusions, and did not believe all the world wicked and unkind.

She relieved the miserable and sympathized with the sorrowful.

She never forgot that kind words and a smile cost nothing, but are priceless treasures to the discouraged.

She did unto others as she would be done by, and now that old age has come to her, and there is a halo of white about her head, she is loved and considered. This is the secret of a long life and a happy one.—The Michigan 'Christian Advocate.'

For the Housekeeper.

A GUEST CHAMBER.

I have in mind a guest chamber where I spent ten serene, happy days. The double windows on the south overlooked a stretch of lawn and in the distance one caught just a glimpse of the river. The room was sunny and homey and comfy, furnished in cream and old rose. Two single beds of wood, a bureau and a fascinating dressing table, consisting of a long mirror, hung against the wall with a small square table on each side and a chair in front of the glass; a wicker easy chair with cushion and a most inviting looking couch. The furniture and woodwork were painted a deep cream, the knobs of the drawers and bureau and dressing table being of glass, the beds having each a spread and roll covered with cream-colored stuff with quite large bunches of dull roses at intervals, the same on the couch and at the windows hanging straight with dainty frilled muslin curtains next the panes.

On the table by the beds were a brass bedroom candlestick, a pitcher and glass on a tray, matches and the current number of a magazine. The bureau and dressing table were as well equipped. A cushion filled with all sorts and colors of pins, hat brush, clothes brush, mirror, a complete manicure set.

In the closet I found a challis Kimono and a dainty pair of bed slippers. The pillows for the beds and two rose silk down comfortables were on the other end of the lower shelf.

In turning to the room again my eyes rested with delight on some Japanese prints and a water color of a rose garden. A low book shelf in one corner tempted me to draw up a chair and examine the contents. Surely here was a book for every mood. 'Pride and Prejudice' and 'Cranford,' with the dear little Hugh Thompson ladies tripping through the pages; quaint and delightful 'Alice in Wonderland,' and 'Through the Looking Glass'; two volumes of Kipling, one of verse and one of short stories; Browning's 'The Ring and the Book'; a book about trees; a set of Montaigne's Essays in small green leather volumes, and on a table near a Bible, a hymn book and a copy of 'Daily Strength for Daily Needs.' But here my hostess interrupted me by a knock on the door.

'Do come in,' I said to her. 'Tell me how you conceived such a guest room.'

'Well, you know, my dear, before I married my 'Man of Wrath' I visited all times of the year and consequently have been in all conditions of guest rooms. I used to lie in bed and plan my guest chamber, and this is the result. Do you like it?'

'Like it! I love it, and will very likely stay here the rest of my natural life and shall haunt it after my death. I perceive, however, that I am supposed not to soil my hands, for I do not see a drop of water.'

A hurt look came over her face and she said: 'To think that the joy and pride of my life in this room should have been overlooked!'

Turning quickly around, she opened a door which I had supposed led into another room, and there was a private bathroom. Really this was a luxury. Let me see: yes, cold cream, the kind which defies the finger of time if used assiduously; violet ammonia water; orris tooth powder; hot water bag with its flannel cover folded up in the little medicine chest, in which I found a bottle of Jamaica ginger, one of aromatic spirits of ammonia, camphor, listerine, soda mints and a medicine glass and spoon.

No stinting of towels here. Upon opening a drawer under the seat running along one side I found face cloths, bath towels and fine towels galore.

My thoughtful hostess added to my pleasure by not having planned something for every hour of the days I was a guest. My time was my own a good part of the day. A drive to market with the dainty lady or earlier to the station and post-office with the 'Man of Wrath,' reading, sewing, writing, calling, lunches and dinners came in naturally and not too arrangedly, if I may coin a word. I left regretfully, promising to come back as often as I was asked.—'Christian Intelligencer.'

Household Hints.

Stains on blankets and other woollen goods can be removed by using a mixture of equal parts of glycerine and yolk of an egg. Spread it on the stain, leave it for half an hour, and then wash.

When anything boils over on the stove, sprinkle a little salt over the place as quickly as possible. This will prevent the fumes from rising, and so the smell of burning will not spread over the house.

New walking shoes often blister the heels of their wearer by slipping a little with the movement of the foot. To prevent this, rub the inside of the shoes at the heel with soap just before putting them on.

Never throw away your celery tops except those that have turned yellow or that are decaying. Keep all the leaves to put in the soup or dry them and use as flavoring. A little soup stock and a left-over steak bone, together with the leaves of a head of celery, make excellent soup when boiled down.

When serving hot chocolate place several marshmallows on the saucer. These are delicious when dipped in the chocolate and allowed to melt. The chocolate must be sweetened when served, and one can let the marshmallows take the place of cream if preferred.

Much of the trouble with chimneys filling up with soot may be avoided by burning the potato parings. The chemical action is such that the soot is entirely cleaned out, so there is no danger of its becoming filled up, even when soft coal is used in the stove. Zinc cut in small pieces and put into the stove or furnace when the fire is burning brightly, also will have the same effect, and a handful used once in three or four weeks will keep the chimney clear and the draught good, no matter what fuel is used. Recently my kitchen range did not draw well, and the oven would not heat properly; so I placed a large handful of zinc scraps in the fire, and went outside to watch results. The smoke came out in clouds, and was very black, and in a short time the draught of the stove was perfect, and the oven soon became hot.

Selected Recipes.

Curried Rice.—A cheap and appetizing dish for luncheon is curried rice—an excellent substitute for a meat curry. To make it, wash thoroughly well, about 1-lb. rice and parboil it; mix a dessertspoonful of curry paste with three-quarters of a pint of good brown gravy (using only a little of the gravy at first, and gradually adding more, and boil them together, then add the rice and let the curry simmer at the side of the fire until the rice is quite cooked. Put it in a dish when ready, and serve it very hot, the gravy of the curry smothering the rice. The juice of half a lemon squeezed into the gravy is considered by some an improvement, while others prefer the addition of a sprinkling of celery salt.

Apple Flipjaps—Butter gem pans and half fill them with rich biscuit dough, made soft enough to drop from a spoon, but not a batter. Pare, core and slice tart, juicy apples, and fill the gem pans with apples placed on top of the dough. Cover with soft maple sugar, a heaping tablespoonful on each one, adding also a teaspoonful of butter, broken up in small bits, to each. Bake in quick oven until apples are done, and serve with rich cream and sugar.

Potato Biscuit—Heat half a cup of milk sufficiently to melt two tablespoonfuls of butter. Stir into it a pint of hot mashed potatoes, seasoned with salt and white pepper. Add two eggs beaten together, and enough flour to enable you to handle them. Place on a biscuit board and roll out lightly into thickness of an inch; cut out with cooky cutter, and bake in a moderate oven about twenty minutes. Can be baked in jelly cake tins, and cut in pie-shaped pieces if preferred. In this case split and butter them before sending it to table.

Sweet Potato a la Creole.—Scrape six large sweet potatoes and cut in halves the long way. Put them in a baking dish, cover with milk, add half a teaspoonful of salt and a tablespoonful of butter. Wet half a cup of bread crumbs with a beaten egg. Cover the potatoes with these and bake in a moderate oven for about an hour.

THE WORLD'S WELFARE.

BURNING THE PIPES OF 20,000 OPIUM SMOKERS.

(Church Missionary 'Gleaner.')

The great autumn festival which was kept all over China in the week ending September 28, was celebrated in Hangchow by a civic function—the burning on the City Hill, in view of the whole city of Hang-chow, of all the opium-pipes and wooden trays from the recently-closed opium-dens. Mr. H. B. Morgan writes of this occasion:—

Gorgeous red banners floated in the breeze. Each side of the pyramid of pipes was about six feet at the base and about seven feet in height. They were wrapped in bundles of thirty or forty, and the total number must have been five to seven thousand.

When I arrived there at nine o'clock, a considerable number of people had gathered, some on the balconies of tea-houses and other points of vantage, whilst a few hundreds were as close to the pipes as the police and soldiers would permit.

As time passed various squads of uniformed students with the banners of their schools drew up at different spots to witness the proceedings. At 9.30 dry straw was piled up round the stacks, and the whole plentifully deluged with paraffin oil. Then mandarin-chairs began to arrive, and large numbers of people poured up the various pathways leading to the hill.

At the hour appointed with some ceremony the torch was applied, and quickly the two piles of doomed instruments disappeared for ever.

The number of pipes destroyed by no means equals the number of people who used them, any more than the number of razors which might be collected from the hair-dressers in London would equal the number of people who shave. One serves for many patrons of the establishment—it would mean probably that the pipes of twenty thousand opium smokers were destroyed.

Pray for these people in China who are struggling against this power which holds them; and pray for these officials who are endeavoring to free their fellow-countrymen from this degrading vice. Heathen they all are, but surely it is not displeasing to their Heavenly Father—though they know Him not—to see them endeavoring to raise their fellow-countrymen from wretchedness and misery.

Mr. Morgan, who is a chemist, was subsequently asked by the officials to analyze samples of anti-opium medicine on the market, that the sale of it might be prohibited if it were found to contain morphine or opium. A native 'opium hospital' has been opened, and the C.M.S. Hospital is fuller than ever of opium patients.

A KACHIN CHRISTMAS STORY.

(By Rev. O. Hanson, Myitkyina, Burma, in the 'Baptist Missionary Magazine.')

Christmas in India or Burma can never be exactly what it is in northern climes. Santa Claus, with his frosty reindeer, well filled sled and generous fur coat, would not be appreciated by children who have never seen ice or snow, with never a chimney for him to come down and not a stocking to fill. Where people always go bare-footed and allow the smoke to find its way through any part of the house, old 'Father Christmas' has small chance to exhibit his peculiar feats. Yet with Christianity comes the most joyous of all its festivals, and even in tropical lands the Christmas spirit finds a way to express itself. Here in the hills of upper Burma, among the rude and uncivilized Kachins, Christmas joy and gladness is beginning to be known. Two years ago it was my privilege to spend the season amid particularly interesting surroundings that recalled a chapter of Burma history never written, as far as I know, but which, as a part of my Christmas story, may be worth the telling.

The location of the little Christian village Mauze is historically interesting—almost romantic. The village is situated on one of the highest mountains east of Bhamo. From its site we have a magnificent view of the majestic Irawadi and the fertile Bhamo basin. It is a grand sight, early in the morning just at sunrise, to look down upon the valley, 5,000 feet below, the white fogs lying heavy over the lowlands and the whole appearing like an extensive lake, with here and there a hilltop for an island, while the sun tints the crest of the waves with all the shades of the rainbow.

About 150 years ago this peaceful place presented a more formidable aspect. Around the hill are still seen the outlines of a large Chinese fort, and if tradition is true, stirring events have been witnessed by these rocks and valleys. This chapter will never be written with desirable accuracy unless some Chinese or Burmese chronicles should be discovered telling the tale, now apparently buried beyond the possibility of recovery. From some of the old chiefs of the neighborhood I have gathered a few traditions that bear the stamp of historicity, especially as the surrounding ruins, which I have quite carefully explored, seem to corrobate the story. A hundred and fifty years ago a great Chinese general named Hka Nung Gawn forced his way into the Kachin Hills, then regarded as Burmese territory. The Burmans had for a long time sent up annual expeditions to collect taxes from the Kachins, a work accomplished with characteristic oriental cruelty. The Kachins were poor and had no money to give, so the Burmans tore off bracelets, necklaces,—anything in the line of ornaments on which they could lay hands, sparing neither men, women or children. This in time became unbearable, and one of the strongest Kachin chiefs rose in rebellion. Supported by several tribes he succeeded in keeping the Burmans away from the hills, but they took revenge whenever a Kachin dared to show himself on the plains. At this juncture the Kachins welcomed the Chinese, who at Mauze built a great fort and maintained a respectable force within easy striking distance of Bhamo and Kawng Dung, then the two largest bazars in this part of Burma. The stronghold became a standing eyesore to the Burmans. The Chinese would mount their biggest guns in the most conspicuous places and fire away in defiance of the Burmese, twenty miles away. Of course nobody was hurt, but it had the desired effect, and the Burmans found it safest to keep their distance. The 'brave' Chinese now grew bolder, and a force of several hundred attacked and sacked several Burman and Shan villages, captured herds of cattle and buffaloes and had a glorious feast. They used their swords to cut up the flesh, and having regaled themselves, put their bloody and gory blades into their sheaths. Native liquor, and some say opium, soon lulled them to sleep, and this was their last. The Burmans were upon them by midnight. Every drunken soldier reached for his sword, only to find it impossible to detach it from the scabbard, and each contributed a head to the big pile at the place to this day called Kawng Dung, 'the place of heads.' Since then the stronghold has been desolate. The walls are standing only in parts, brick and hewn stone mark the sites, of the tumbled-down houses, large trees grow among the ruins, bats and wild animals live in the caves once occupied by Chinese soldiers, now serving as brick kilns. In time the Kachins began to dread this as a haunted place. Ghosts were to be seen almost any time of the day, demons were as numerous as bats and tigers, hobgoblins and all kinds of gnomes held high carnival with night-hawks and owls. Few cared to risk life and limb to explore the thick-wooded, ghost-infested Mauze hill.

Even though the Chinese returned to their ancestral homes, the Burmans did not regain mastery of the Kachin Hills. The tribes were now well supplied with arms, had learned how to make powder, and under Chinese protection had grown numerically strong. They were now masters of their own territory and did their best to repay the Burmans and make up for lost time. They taxed heavily all the caravans passing through, raided Burman and Shan villages and before long nearly all the settlements in the plains became tributary to the hill chiefs, who grew wealthy and correspondingly important and overbearing. One of the chiefs who especially profited by the new order of things was the ruler of Gitrawn, a village only two miles from the haunted Chinese hill.' He waxed strong and built a large frame house in Chinese style and had a considerable following. When the British annexed upper Burma he was quite unwilling to submit to foreign rule, so he consulted his soothsayers, offered a holocaust of buffaloes and was rewarded with the pleasant and comforting assurance that no foreigner would ever set foot within his jurisdiction. Consequently his eldest son, protected by a wonderful charm to make him invulnerable, led an expedition against a small British outpost at the foot of the hills. The leader, in spite of his charm, fell with a bullet through his body. This ended the glory of the Gitrawn chief, and here begins another and not yet finished story.

About three years after these villages were burned three missionaries camped one night in the partly rebuilt village of Gitrawn. From one point of view we were most warmly received, but it was evident that the people were not ready to listen to the gospel from those whom they regarded as party to their disaster and humiliation. The old chief was 'not at home,' and a fiery elder of his, one of the finest looking Kachins I ever saw, did the entertaining. That night we slept in our tent with lights burning, and though probably there was no danger we did not prolong our stay. I had no idea that the change we now see would take place so soon. Only ten years after this visit I went with a native teacher all through these villages asking the people to come and help build a chapel, and most of them responded willingly. That house has been replaced by a better building on the very site of the old Chinese fort, where a Christian village is growing up. The demons and ghosts are not feared by them, the bricks and hewn stone from the old ruins are used for peaceful purposes and before long they may be useful for a church and school-house. As I write, people from all the surrounding villages have come for a Christmas feast. The Christians have invited their heathen neighbors and will give all a generous fill, ending up with a genuine Christmas tree (cinnamon instead of evergreen), with some little toy for each child. Mrs. Hanson and Miss Eastman have sent out over 400 presents to the different Christian villages, this being their farewell to the Kachin children before going on furlough. It is Christmas eve! I shall have my Christmas dinner all by myself, but as I see these wild, unwashed children of the hills trying to realize in their crude way the Christmas message I feel amply repaid. Here, too, the Babe of Bethlehem is working the transformation that establishes true good will, peace and joy on earth.

REDUCED A HARD SWELLING

Mr. Gus E. Geroux, writing from Pembroke, tells how he was injured in a lumber camp. 'A heavy log rolled against my leg and I was laid up with stiffness and a hard swelling. When I applied Polsons Nerviline I got relief. A few rubbings with this good liniment cured me.' In the bush, Nerviline is indispensable; it cures neuralgia, colds, rheumatism and internal disorders, too. No person can really afford to be without Nerviline. Useful for all internal and external pain. Large bottles, 25c, at all dealers.

OUR WORK IN LABRADOR GROWS.

A LARGER LAUNCH NEEDED ALREADY, SO LET US ALL BUILD TOGETHER.

We have all been so intensely interested in the work done by Dr. Grenfell in Labrador, and more especially in the work at Harrington, which he has given us the pleasure of helping with, that we hardly require to be told of its needs. The boys are feeding and keeping the dogs that do the work in the winter, the cots which Miss Mayou has charge of are arranged for, and we have paid for the maintenance of our launch, the 'Northern Messenger,' which has all summer been Dr. Hare's only means of getting to his patients and the needy ones who must be helped up and down the coast from Harrington Harbor, where our hospital is.

Now we find that the work needs a larger and better launch. We want Dr. Hare to be able to go faster and farther, to those who need him, and not only that, but we want him to have a cabin in which he can put those who are too seriously ill to be left in their cheerless, poverty-stricken homes, and carry them safely to the hospital.

Now, don't think for an instant that our little launch has not done brave work. She certainly has, and Mr. Cushing, who from love of the work ran her last year and this summer, has no words strong enough to praise her behavior in the heavy seas, her reliable little engine, and her staunch timbers. She is, however, not fast enough and is too small for the work.

Last summer she took Dr. Hare, Mr. Cushing and the boy, on one trip of about four hundred and fifty miles, but it was a perilous voyage. All up and down that coast there are islands and rocky points, treacherous reefs and rushing currents in narrow passages. There are no good maps, no charts to show where the danger is, even in the few fine weeks of their summer, and in the long weeks of spring and fall the ice and fog and storms make it a terrible coast to navigate.

Our little launch, whether the weather is good or bad, has no choice but to creep along in behind the islands, or close to them, adding greatly to the danger of being wrecked. If we had a larger boat she could stand out from shore into clear, deep water until the fog or storm blew over. Then, in very heavy weather the great waves sweep right over our little boat's deck. Mr. Cushing has put up planking on the bow to keep her from being swamped, but even that does not make her dry.

When three are aboard her, two sleep on the narrow bunks in the low galley and the third on the floor between. When patients are brought on board the crew must remain outside, which is not without danger as well as real hardships in that cold air with the water washing over the deck.

Now, the question is, what can we do?

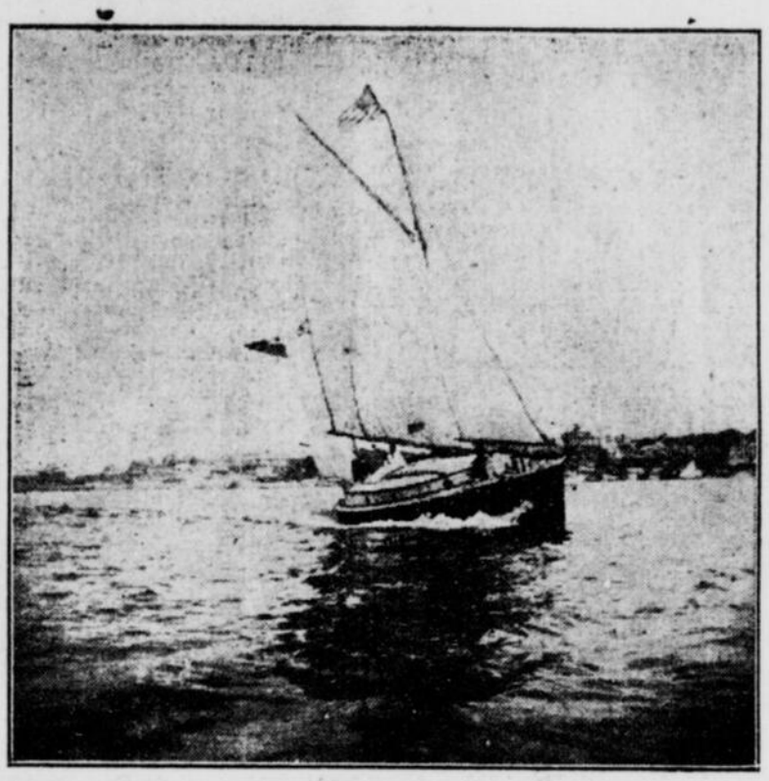
We have even with this little launch enabled Dr. Hare to carry healing and food to many who would have suffered unaided but for our efforts. Let us stand by to enable him to do still more.

The Deep Sea Mission have need of just such a launch as our little 'Northern Messenger' for one of their more sheltered stations, and they will credit us with the thousand dollars we spent on building her. Then we have gathered during this year not only the $300 necessary for the expenses of the launch, but $800 in addition. So we have $1,800 to start with if we buy or build a large launch. We can keep our name of 'Northern Messenger,' transferring it to the new launch.

Why not do it at once? Why not have it ready for next summer's work?

Regularly for some time past you have been reading of Dr. Grenfell's work with the 'Strathcona.' It is just such work Dr. Hare is doing, and would do more of with the larger boat.

Here is a picture of the type of boat we want, if possible, to build, and we can do it if we each buy a share in her.



'Plant trees; they will grow while you sleep,' the writer was told by the old folk, and the impression on the childish mind was so strong that the first thought in the early morning was often, 'Oh, dear, all that long night lost, for I had nothing growing.' Will we not wake with sweeter thoughts and go about our daily task and daily pleasures with fresh zest and a new interest in life if, while we do so, our 'Messenger' is carrying help to the helpless, and our share in Christ's work is growing and blossoming and bearing good fruit in the far north land?

Let us keep the Christmas spirit and begin our new year by generous self-denial that will enable us to send our new 'Northern Messenger' up to the north in the coming spring laden with good will and healing for the people to whom her coming will bring the knowledge of the love of Christ through their appreciation of our gift to them.

'WITNESS' LABRADOR FUND.

Received for the maintenance of the launch:

Mrs. T. S. Chaster, Gebsais Landing, B.C. ..$	1 00
Mrs. E. Making, Hamilton, Ont. ..	1 00
Mrs. L. Evans, Nutana, Sask. .	1 50
Received for the cots:—	
A. M. Boosey, Embro, Ont. ..	1 25
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Address all subscriptions for Dr. Grenfell's work to 'Witness' Labrador Fund, John Dougall & Son, 'Witness' Office, Montreal, indicating with the gift whether it is for launch or cots.

AN UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY TO HELP CHINA.

In a letter to Miss Lunn, of 4 Park avenue, Montreal, Canada, Mr. John R Mott writes:—In accordance with my promise I shall now put as concisely as possible the main facts about that unprecedented opportunity to which God has called us among the Chinese students in Tokio. As I said to you, if I live to become a very old man I cannot imagine myself standing before a greater opportunity.

When I was in Japan six years ago there were less than a score of Chinese students there. When our national secretary for China, Mr. Brockman, came home on furlough three years ago he reported to us that there were then 3,000 Chinese students in Tokio. When Mr. Gailey, of Princeton football fame, who is our secretary in Pekin, returned on his furlough a few months later, he brought word that the number had increased to 5,000. On my return from South America about a year ago I received a letter signed by the missionaries of Shanghai, urging us to inaugurate a special campaign on behalf of the Chinese students in Tokio, calling attention to the fact that there were then 8,600 Chinese students in Tokio. On my return from Mexico last autumn I received a report giving the affirmation of the Chinese ambassador in Tokio to the effect that the number had increased to nearly 10,000. When I was in Tokio in April of the present year I was told that there were 16,000 Chinese students gathered in that capital city of Japan.

These students have been sent by the provincial and municipal governments of China, by corporations and guilds, by wealthy Chinese families, and even by some of the poorest families, who are ambitious to have their sons in on the ground floor for preferment. This emigration of Chinese students is the most remarkable phenomenon of this kind in the history of the student world. When Japan woke up there were at the highest mark at one time some 1,700 Japanese students in America, and a few scores in Europe, but here are 16,000 strong young men who have come from the proudest nation under heaven, and the most secluded nation, which has been well termed 'The Walled Kingdom,' to progress and power.

To realize further the significance of this movement we need to understand that these Chinese students are broken away from their old setting, they are away from their homes and usual environment, and out from under the spell of their traditions and customs, thrown into the midst of the mighty currents of life in the principal city of possibly the most brilliant and progressive nation. These Chinese students are living in Tokio amidst the most dangerous conditions, tending both to extreme radicalism and immorality. The good influences which might come from Japan are practically shut off from them because the Chinese students have but little knowledge of the Japanese language or English, while the Japanese do not speak Chinese. Moreover, the Japanese were not ready to receive so many visitors into Tokio, and not only were dormitory accommodations not provided, but even decent boarding houses could not be obtained in which to house students.

One thousand missionaries of all denominations working in China, at the great Centenary Conference in Shanghai, a few months ago, united in an appeal to the Young Men's Christian Association to organize and carry through a comprehensive and efficient campaign on behalf of these 16,000 students. They are much impressed by the importance of the opportunity that they have agreed to release such of their number as we may designate to go over to Tokio and work under our direction. We have placed at the head of the campaign one of our strongest foreign secretaries from China. We are relating to him several missionaries chosen with reference to their ability to deal with the literati. We are adding to their number several efficient native Chinese and Japanese helpers, making in all a staff of about twenty men. Pending the erection of suitable dormitories of our own, we have rented two large buildings, the best quarters we could find, in connection with which we have class rooms, reading rooms, libraries, social rooms and halls for Bible and other classes. We have experimented with these methods sufficiently during the past few months to test their efficacy. At the first meeting of these students which I had the pleasure of conducting, the hall was crowded and 158 of them publicly indicated their decision to become Christians, of whom over 40 have already been baptized.

This special campaign for Chinese students in Tokio has the endorsement of the present Premier and Imperial Minister of Education of Japan, as well as of Count Okuma, the leading Japanese educator.

The tremendous importance of this campaign is seen when we remember that this first generation of Chinese students to receive the modern education will furnish, just as did the first generation of modern Japanese students, the men to hold the important positions in the new reform governments throughout China and also the professorships in the hundreds of new modern colleges being planted all over China. When one understands the strategic importance of these men it does not seem strange that a man like Dr. Arthur Smith, of China, one of the foremost missionaries of the world, should have said recently, in a public address before a large body of missionaries in Kuling, that it was possible for the Young Men's Christian Association, in connection with this particular enterprise in Tokio, to do more during the coming year than all the missionaries in China put together.

I find that it is going to require $20,000 to carry on this campaign up to the end of the student year, July 1, 1908. This will cover the salaries and expenses of from fifteen to twenty foreign and Chinese leaders, the renting of the two large buildings to which I have referred, and other necessary expenses involved in bringing the pure Gospel of Christ to bear on these future leaders of a nation of 400,000,000 people. Toward this sum I have $8,000 in sight. I crave your prayers and co-operation that the balance may be forthcoming before Dec. 31, 1907. Should you find later that you can wisely add to your already generous gift, or should you be able to interest one or two of your friends it would mean much indeed for Christ's kingdom.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed). JOHN R. MOTT.

P.S.—Six hundred and fifty of these 16,000 students have come from the most western province, which is eight weeks' journey from the coast; 300 have come from the very doors of Tibet, and 1,250—the largest number from any one province—have come from the province of Hunan, which was the last one to admit the missionaries, and which was the province that was fighting against the introduction of the telegraph as recently as the time of my second visit to China. This is remarkable.

Contributions to this work may be sent to Miss Emma H. Lunn, 4 Park ave., Montreal.

MISSION SHIP ON THE INLAND SEA IN JAPAN.

'Tightening our grip.' These words essentially answer any question as to the doings during the past year of those who sail in the good ship 'Fukuin Maru.' Still, simply to assert is not to prove. What proof then have we of the success of our efforts in this all important and long sought tightening of our grip on the minds and hearts of the island people?

'Be prepared to deal with small meetings, a handful at a time, and do not lose heart,' kindly and wisely warned a missionary of long standing, when we first started out. We, most fearsome of those who fear, readily conjured up visions of empty houses. When God's mercy dealt differently with us, so that in estimating attendance we, after ten meetings had been held, simply said: 'Ten times two hundred are two thousand,' and we knew we were below the mark in our count. Some one again kindly warned, 'It is curiosity. It will not last. Do not be disappointed when they fall away.' Again we feared, yet by God's mercy we still count as before, 'ten times two hundred are two thousand.' Not so only, but better still, after the formal address of an hour or more has been given, instead of a mere handful being reluctantly persuaded to listen to an informal after-talk, they now in increasing numbers sometimes so large that we have to drive the children out, remain. They remain not only, but listen with earnestness for an hour and a half or even two, despite the weariness of the day and the lateness of the hour. Moreover, we can speak, with a directness hitherto impossible, words concerning God and man and human woe, which, strange indeed though they sound, are regarded already by many as full of promise, if once they could fully grasp their import and believe them true.

'We have all tried the different teachings that have come here and have not been helped by them. My two children have just died and my heart was full of hopeless sorrow until I heard your words. Come again,' begged with tears a poor woman in the same place.

'Captain, you have just come in time,' said the principal of one of the four Navigation Schools in the Inland Sea, as we dropped anchor. 'Five of my students have behaved badly. I am a severe man, as you know, yet I want to be just and kind. I shall send them on board. As the Japanese evangelist and you decide after talking with them, so shall it be, they shall be either expelled or kept. The conduct of the students has been completely changed since the coming of the ship. Though it is an unusual thing, I believe I do wisely in putting this care entirely into your hands.'

These are a few of the many evidences that slowly yet most surely we have been permitted to tighten our grip on the minds, not only, but also on the hearts, of these island folk.

Long had we prayed and hoped for an additional evangelist to take the waiting western field. We thought we had at last found him. He was a young man of ability, deep faith and fine character. He was not strong, it is true, yet we hoped for the best, despite our fears. But the scourge of the land, consumption, laid its hand with relentless hold upon him and he died, nay rather ought we to say, passed in triumph to a better land. The western field is still waiting; yet, though it waits and the tens of thousands there have no one to warn, to teach, to comfort, still for our brother Nagai Minoru we rejoice, in his having been privileged to lay aside the weariness of earth for the rest and joyful service of the homeland—not only, but in so doing to bear emphatic witness to the power of God to uphold in suffering and death. 'No power of man can make one meet suffering and death like this,' said the sorrowing yet wondering mother and sister, who watched beside him in the little island cottage. To-day comes word from a far-off mainland city, whither they had gone, that they both have come to share the faith of the loved one gone before, and are to be baptized.

A fighting boatswain would sound natural enough. Ours was a jiujitsu expert not only, but an expert in all the ways of the evil one. His rumored change of life, we, being of nautical mind, took with considerable salt. His later confession we doubted. But when will we learn the lesson? Our ways are not God's ways. The boatswain is now a child of God not only, but God has put words of life into his mouth, and during this year certain villages have been entirely set aside that he might carry on mission work in them, while we ourselves acknowledge gratefully to have learned many a lesson from this brother.

Our predilection for the extensive use of literature in the island work may be the outcome of heredity. Be that as it may, we certainly feel deeply the value of the printed page and rejoice to find that our little ship's paper and printed letters sent by mail to hundreds of island homes or distributed at the meetings, as well as the ship's scripture calendar and loan libraries, are proving a great help in the work.

The wife of the schoolmaster, a student now in the seminary, who refused to cook her husband's food when he became a Christian, held out long, but she has turned and was baptized with two others at the eastern centre this year. Two others, a graduate of a law school and his wife, baptized at the middle centre, though long in deciding are proving strong and useful Christians. 'Become a Christian by all means, if you can live up to the heavy demands this teaching makes,' said an elder brother, not a Christian, head of his family, to his brother of twenty, 'but do not disgrace yourself and our house by a merely nominal adherence to Christianity.' That the turning from the beliefs and superstitions of ages will be largely in our time we dare not hope. In view of the strong evidences of advance, however, we believe that to say that the turning is now ten years nearer than it was when we began our work seven years ago is no mere play of words, and we thank God who has prepared the way before us as we have gone.—Luke W. Bickel, in 'Japan Evangelist.'

A writer in the London 'Daily News,' giving some experiences during dense fogs, says he was once in a 'bus which stopped suddenly on Waterloo Bridge in a fog. The driver urged the horses to move, but they would not, and when the conductor went to investigate he found them looking over the parapet!

CANADIAN PICTORIAL.

NEW YEAR'S NUMBER.

Nearly 2,000 square inches of beautiful pictures are crowded into the January issue of the 'Canadian Pictorial'—everyone of them of interest to Canadians. The cover in a deep blue is a fine reproduction of an oil painting showing 'New Year's Morning' dawning over a lonely Canadian farm house. Canadian winter scenes are well represented, such as chopping in the Ontario bush, splitting the home firewood, the first snow along the rivulet, sunlight in the snow-clad woods. The recent opening of the Canadian Parliament supplies some capital pictures—the entrance of the Governor-General, and a page of charming debutantes at the drawing-room. Another couple of pages show the adventures of the men, truly 'soldiers of the camera,' who brave unknown perils to secure news pictures. The centenary of Joseph Brant, the great chief of the Six Nations, is also represented in this delightful number. Eight sovereigns in one group, taken at the recent unique gathering at Windsor Castle as well as the picture of twenty-five Royal personages, including the King and Queen and their guests, will be of special interest. This issue contains also some particularly fine animal pictures, including a magnificent leopard shot by a missionary in the forest of West Africa, and photographed by his wife.

The Women's Department contains a splendid picture of Lady Evelyn Grey; articles on 'Queen Victoria's Letters,' 'Household Management,' 'The Toilet,' and 'The Baby.'

The news of the month in picture and comments, wit and humor, etc., etc., make up a very full and interesting issue, a pleasure for one's own table, and just the thing to send as a New Year's greeting to friends at a distance. No nicer New Year's card than this.

Only ten cents a copy. One dollar a year. The 'Pictorial' Publishing Co., St. Peter street, Montreal.

Place your

LETTERS FROM READERS.

[The correspondence department is valued by some as the most interesting part of the paper. The bane of it, however, is the length to which letters are liable to grow. There is not only the fact that readers avoid what is long, but the great difficulty of finding the space necessary. We do not like to refuse a good letter on the ground of length, but it often has to be done. Some newspapers put a limit on correspondents of a hundred or two hundred words. We recognize that there are subjects occasionally that cannot be well handled in so brief a manner, but we must keep before our readers the fact that brevity is always a primary recommendation.]

PROF. MacBRIDE AND THE BIBLE.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Please permit me a few remarks on the communication of E. W. MacBride. In it he gives us the following information: 'Every well-read person knows that the whole story of Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden is a Babylonian Myth, with no historical foundation whatever.'

Now, Mr. Editor, the question with some poor ignorant readers is, where does the knowledge of the Babylonian myth come from. The first thing we ever read of it is in your issue of the 'Witness' of Dec. 7, 1907. Of course, in sixty thousand years from now it and the Montreal 'Witness' and E. W. MacBride and Dr. Workman will be all a Canadian myth, at which time we may have definite proof, such as E. W. MacBride gives us, that no such paper or men ever existed. And, of course, when the assertion of this fact is stated, there will be those of us who were living at the time, as E. W. MacBride was some sixty thousand years ago, who will be able to prove conclusively the whole thing. Then, if we are not then living, will it not be a serious thing for the 'Witness' and MacBride and Workman to be on the same plane as the Bible and Adam and Eve. The story of this article in the 'Witness,' re. Workman and MacBride and the 'Witness' itself, will be all a myth. Perhaps some one will say, No, the paper will be in existence to prove it was no myth. Then, Mr. Editor, let us have some of the books or papers written by those men who roamed all over Europe sixty thousand years before Adam was a boy, with authentic proof of the date of such writings, and then the Bible account of Adam will be all knocked into 'pi,' and the Bible itself proved a forgery of the meanest type. I wonder if E. W. MacBride has any of those. Of course he must have or he would not be so positive about the proof. Then he says those new views are coming into Canada through the secular press, hence the Methodist colleges, and I presume the Presbyterian and other colleges also, must be governed by the teaching of the secular press, or they are doomed to non-existence. Well, if these teachings are correct, and if the secular press will flood the country with this new unmythical teaching, what is the necessity for expensive colleges with costly buildings, immense libraries, and high-salaried professors to be all engaged in teaching the same when a few secular newspapers will do the whole work. Then tear them down; abolish the useless piles of brick and mortar, send their professors to what the mythology says Adam had to do, namely, earn their bread with the sweat of their face and by the labor of their hands. The secular press is all that is needed. It will bring in a stream, the whole of the new views taught by Dr. Workman, Steen and others. When these views come, there will be no more original sin to be transmitted. All born in lawful wedlock will not be born in sin. There will be no God-man born without sin. The purity of the Divine Christ will be sullied by his descent from his Virgin mother whom he called 'woman.' There will be no such thing as his conception by the Holy Ghost, and hence poor Joseph must have been a grossly deceived man. Poor fellow, to have raised an illegitimate son under such deceptive circumstances must have been painful indeed. I wonder when he found out the mistake. In conclusion, dear Mr. Editor, I would like to know if your paper is part of the secular press which is going to circulate those new views. If so, there will be no other remedy for some of us but to procure some other periodical to put into the hands of our children. Of course, this may be because some of us are poor

ANTI-MYTHOLOGISTS.

(To the Editor of the Witness.')

Sir,—Our Lord and Master, whose I am and whom I serve, said to his disciples, 'Ye are my witnesses.' Also in John vii., 17: 'If any man will do his will he shall know of the doctrine.' Argument avails not, but a loving, consecrated life speaks.

Not being one of the 'well read' persons to whom Mr. MacBride refers, I do not believe, as he professes to believe. I do not desire to do so, nor do I want to place communications of a similar nature in the hands of my growing family.

If a copy of a perniciously immoral paper came to my house I would burn it as quickly as I would kill a poisonous reptile. The letter signed 'E. W. McBride' is just as objectionable in our home. Its teaching is just as much opposed to all that I hold sacred. I have seen in others, and known from the peace and joy brought into my own inmost life, that God through Christ can pardon sin and bring life where death reigned. Do you not think it time to call a halt in the Workman controversy?

C. MACKLIN.

Milliken, Ont.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Dear Sir,—A letter of mine with reference to the Workman controversy, which you were good enough to publish [illegible] Dec. 7, has evoked a [illegible] evidenced by the [illegible] Perhaps you will allow me a little space to deal with these, as I think my argument has been misunderstood. That argument, concisely expressed, would run as follows: The whole outlook of man upon the universe and history is being rapidly changed. In the future theology will have to adapt itself to this changed point of view or cease to have any influence on educated men. Prof. Workman is a valuable asset for any church to possess, for he is capable of assisting in this adaptation. What have my critics to say in answer to this? Some of them passionately reiterate well-known evangelical positions, as if that were an argument; some imagine that I think Prof. Workman an exponent of the changed point of view, whereas I regard him as endeavoring to meet a state of affairs which neither the Methodist Church nor any other body can obviate. Some boldly deny the premises, and hurl epithets, such as 'rash,' 'foolish,' etc., at critics and men of science who have given their lives to the studies on which they speak.

Now, let me give my opponents some facts to ponder. The gradual evolution of man from an ape is believed in by every zoologist of any note—by every one that is, that has any right to have an opinion on the subject. The structure of man's body is clamant of his origin. I do not propose to trespass on your space in giving the arguments in favor of this view, especially as I hope at an early date to embody some of them in a university lecture. This origin, once admitted, automatically abolishes the Eden story, and at the same time explains the origin of evil. The moment that vague theological term 'sin' comes to be defined it resolves itself into a series of passions, every one of which is exemplified in the animals with whom we are most nearly related. Inherited 'depravity' therefore is inherited animal nature, and for this God is just as much responsible as for our inheritance of eyes, nose and ears, so that 'ruin by the fall' is no longer tenable. We have not fallen for the simple reason that we never were up; slowly and painfully we have been 'getting up' ever since we emerged from the brutal condition.

With reference to the higher criticism, which is merely the application of the scientific method to the analysis of the Scriptures, opinions just as advanced as those attributed to Prof. Workman are promulgated from practically every chair of Protestant theology on the Continent of Europe, and from the theological chairs in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Oxford and Cambridge. Is it likely that in Canada alone the truth is to be found? As to my own theory of the origin of the mistaken importance attributed to the virgin birth, my classical friends inform me that the mistaken idea of the sole paternal origin of the germ which I postulate, is explicitly asserted in the dramas of Aeschylus, and that a very similar view is taught in Aristotle. When we reflect that the early creeds of the Church were formulated under Greek influence, is it not in the highest degree likely that the minds of the men forming them would be imbued with the Aristotleian principle? All the critics whom I know are agreed that the story of the virgin birth is a late addition to the gospel story for the reason that it is not mentioned by Paul or in the oldest gospel, Mark. Some, however, think that it was invented to bring about a fulfilment of a prophecy from Isaiah: 'Behold a virgin shal conceive,' because, though the word in Isaiah does not mean 'virgin' it was mistranslated in this way in the Septuagint, the version quoted by the New Testament writers. The Rev. Mr. Troop refers me to Prof. Orr's book on the virgin birth. I have not yet had the pleasure of reading it; but I have read that gentleman's book on the infallibility of the scriptures, and all I can say is that whilst it may give comfort to those already convinced, the impression it produces on the minds of an impartial person is that the cause which needs such forced arguments as Prof. Orr thinks fit to use is irretrievably lost. The Rev. Mr. Troop also quotes Bishop Welldon's condemnation of the 'Encyclopaedia Biblica.' Let me refer him to another bishop, one of the most revered prelates of the Anglican Church, Dr. Ryle, Bishop of Winchester. This gentleman was brought up in the doctrine of the inerrancy of the Scriptures, of which his father, Dr. Ryle, late Bishop of Liverpool, was a most uncompromising supporter. But, as he himself relates, he was forced, inch by inch, into an 'advanced' position, by the overwhelming weight of the evidence brought forward by the critics, and this has been the fate of every sincere scholar who has studied that evidence.

Some of my opponents emphasize the provisional character of the theories advanced by critics. All inductions are provisional, certainty is only slowly attained, absolute certainty never, and many theories of both critics and scientific men have been and will be abandoned, but their only effective correctors are their colleagues. I lay stress only on the conclusion upon which all are practically agreed. One would think to read some of my opponents' letters that opposed to these conclusions there was something trustworthy, whereas there is only unverified tradition. When, for instance, Professor Otto Pfleiderer, the great authority on New Testament exegesis, pronounces the second epistle to the Thessalonians a forgery how are his arguments to be met? Not certainly by a reference to tradition, for that tradition we have received from the Church of Rome. Only by considering and weighing his arguments one by one, and those who attempt this will find it no easy task. One word in conclusion about the late Sir William Dawson and other contemporary scientific men who have been quoted against me. The longer I live in Canada the deeper reverence I feel for the memory of Sir William Dawson, both as a man and as a scientist. But Sir William Dawson and Agassiz were pre-Darwinian, their ideas were strongly formed before the overwhelming weight of evidence supporting Darwin's view was fully laid before the world. I find, however, to this day Sir William Dawson's criticisms valuable as a corrective to certain cruder forms of the evolution theory. Some of your correspondents refer with pardonable pride to the moral reformation wrought in England by John Wesley. It must be remembered, however, that he preached to men whose intellectual background enabled them to accept the premises on which his arguments were based. That intellectual background is changing with a rapidity to find any parallel to which we must go back to the period of Luther and the Renaissance of learning, and the Wesley of the twenty-first century will have to employ very different arguments if he is to produce any effect. If in the sixteenth century our fathers claimed the right to discriminate between the husk and the kernel of Christian tradition, why should we suppose that right denied to us? Our fathers, it may be replied, relied on Holy Scripture. On whose authority, it may be asked, did they know that scripture was infallible? On the authority of the Church of Rome, the very church that condemned them. Shall we accept that authority? As a Protestant, I answer no! and in my opinion the only safe course for a Protestant church is to march straightforward with a mind open to receive light from every quarter and with a faith that truth is at bottom essentially one.

E. W. MACBRIDE.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—I do not wish to discuss any point of doctrine involved in the Workman controversy.

As a young man myself, and one who has fought through the whole struggle in his inner personal experience, I would beg permission to offer a word of encouragement to those who have allowed themselves to be led by the spirit of truth. I write because I see the possibility of great harm being brought upon our evangelical churches by such ill-considered appeals for the upholding of 'the traditions of the elders' as that of 'Curtius' and others.

The real reason why our evangelical churches have done, and are doing still, such good work in Canada is because the majority of the men who stand before our people from Sunday to Sunday, have laid aside their creeds, and are dealing, as best they know how, with our present-day problems as prophets in the Spirit of Christ, and not by the pharisaic external application of past tradition. Our churches succeed in spite of traditions not because of them.

Not so many years ago, as a public school teacher in Ontario, I took a public school leaving class through their prescribed work in physical geography. On the basis of that experience, I claim that it is impossible for a boy or girl to take a thorough public school education and not be hopelessly at variance with the creeds of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches as they stand to-day.

What are intelligent laymen and students going to do? Step quietly out of the organizations they love? Is it their duty, as 'Curtius' would urge, to cut loose from those bodies which once stood out so daringly for progress and enlightenment? True, thousands have done so. But we claim that that is not the true, manly course. Jesus never ceased to be a Jew. Yet he was crucified for the same reason that would (in our more humane age) cause him to be cast from the doors of a Methodist college to-day.

No, my young comrades, do not let yourselves be 'frighted with false fire.' If you are in doubt as to whether you ought to remain in the ministry, or in your church, do not be too hasty in acting. Before doing anything rash, make up your mind to submit yourself to the highest, most earnest mental and spiritual training that our age can offer. I can assure you that even 'Curtius,' if he were to do that would not be quite so sure of his present position. I did have, as seat mate in the University of Berlin, a sort of heroic young man who was working with the fixed predetermination to take such a training and come through with his dogmatic presuppositions untouched. I have lost track of him, but would very much like to know how he is succeeding.

But in the meantime, I say to all true, prayerful fellow-students, 'Work away quietly.' Do not cry out your views from the housetops to those who have not the ears to hear. You will find lots to do in the practical application of your truth to keep you from falling a victim to ennui.

But desert your Church in her time of need! You will never do that. At least, not if you are as absolutely certain as I am that her very life hangs on the issue. Her continued existence depends on the separation of the kernel of eternal truth from the chaffy time element which must be cast off, and change its appearance from age to age.

Be true to yourself and the Spirit of Truth which leads you on. For it is only thus that you can be true to your Master, Christ. Yea, and to the spirit of those who, when they spoke and wrote in advance of their time, never dreamed of forging fetters to bind and burden coming generations.

'FOR TRUTH AND CANADA.'

THE WORKMAN CONTROVERSY.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—The Workman controversy is serving as a detective agency to the Methodists of Canada in revealing to them the real character of their professors and ministers; and as far as that goes it will be a real blessing and help to that church and to other denominations as well, for it is quite possible that others may have gaping skeletons concealed in out of the way cupboards. Certainly, it is more than high time that light should have been thrown upon the state of affairs in the Methodist Church here. It has long been a mystery to me how its laymen at least remained either blind or indifferent to the fact that their rulers were employing as a teacher of their divinity students a man who sixteen years ago denied 'that there was to be found in the prophets any references to Jesus as the Messiah.' The import of such a denial is, that Jesus Christ who said to the Jews, 'Search the Scriptures, for in them ye believe ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me,' was speaking false; or, in other words, deliberately lied of himself. As a mere mental operation, it is impossible to account for the fact that such a man was even thought of as a teacher of students intended to preach Christ Jesus as the Messiah. The fact that Dr. Workman had been given that position in the Wesleyan College, after having been driven out of Victoria, on this very same ground, sixteen years ago, spoke in no uncertain tone as to the real state of doctrinal belief in that church. I could not see then, and I do not yet see, how such a thing could have been tolerated by an Orthodox Trinitarian Church.

I have been told by a man who does know the inward character of the present rumpus, that there is, in some quarters, a very bitter feeling shown towards Dr. Shaw, who is blamed by Dr. Workman as the moving spirit of his dismissal, and this is verified by some of your correspondents. If it is so, I shall think yet more highly of Dr. Shaw than I have done in the past, for he has rendered a greater service to the cause of truth and to Methodism than any one else, not even excepting those rendered by the great and heroic Dr. Carman.

'Birds of a feather,' the Scotch say, 'flock together,' and that is seen in this case. Every sceptic in the country is in open avowed sympathy with Dr. Workman, and every one who is still in doubt, shivering on the brink, who only lacks the moral courage to take the plunge and be with Ingersoll for good or ill is for him. We have Dr. MacBride, who is probably doing as bad a service to the students of McGill as Dr. Workman has been doing to those of Wesley, for he told us two years ago that his study of the sciences had shaken his faith in evangelical truth. And we have another, from the lower Ottawa, who postures, now and then, as 'one of the advanced thinkers.' If these want to lay the Methodist Church and evangelical truth in the dirt, why don't they make a frontal attack, like soldiers, and not use their positions from within, to sap and mine her foundation. It were folly to cry 'peace, peace, when one's enemies are those of his own household.' The first duty of the Methodist Church in Canada is to weed out those who are undermining evangelical truth from within. Let there be no hesitancy, no cowardice. Hew to the line; the evolutionist and higher critics who would discredit the Bible and degrade our blessed Saviour from his divinity do no good, but harm only, wherever they are. Sorrowfully, but firmly, I am, ever faithfully,

JAMES FINDLEY.

Pembroke, Ont.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—I have read with a great deal of interest the discussion in your columns on the Workman case, and think those who write in defence of the authenticity of the Bible show up to good advantage. I would not trouble you now, were it not that I want to call attention to the definition of the word 'myth' in your issue of Dec. 17, as given by C. A. Brodie Brockwell. 'What is a myth?' was a question asked in the last Presbyterian General Assembly on the appointment of a professor who apparently held higher critical views, I presume of a similar nature to those of Dr. Workman. The question was not answered by anyone in the Assembly. At least, the newspaper report did not give the answer. As I felt interested in the subject, I turned up my dictionary—an Ogilvie—and got the following definition: 'A fable or fabulous story; a fictitious or fanciful narrative having an analogy more or less remote to some real event.' I found the root of the word was the Greek muthos. On turning up Liddell & Scott's Greek lexicon I found the definition of muthos given as 'Anything delivered by word of mouth, as mere word without the deed, talk, conversation, a telling, also the thing told, a tale, a story.' Afterwards, muthos was the poetic or legendary as opposed to the historical account.' Now, although the definition of the Greek muthos is not so divergent from Mr. Brockwell's as the English definition of myth, neither of them bears him out. He says: 'At the back of the mind of many earnest-minded people there generally lurks the false assumption that the myth is something utterly devoid of all historical antecedents and reality. To such an one 'myth' appears to be the direct antithesis of truth.' Is it such a false assumption in the light of either of these definitions, and when we take the general use of the word in English there is a still further disagreement with Mr. Brockwell's contentions. Last summer a report in a newspaper of a prospector finding a valuable mineral deposit in northern Ontario at some distance from Cobalt, wound up by saying that as yet the report was mythical—that is, unreal, not to be depended on, hearsay, entirely in accordance with the English and Greek definition.

Historians tell us that the early history of Scotland, for instance, is mythical, not to be depended on, imaginary. I have before me a letter from a Free Church elder in Scotland, in which, speaking of the position of that church at present—a position which is largely brought about on account of the teaching of some of the professors in her colleges—he says in the words of Samuel Rutherford: 'Although the great ones of the earth are against us, he who wields the sceptre of universal dominion will lead and guide us so long as we have humility and wisdom not to go before, but to follow him.' The promise which is not mythical, but real, still holds true. They that honor me I will honor, but he that despiseth me shall be lightly esteemed.' It is the use of this word, together with the other word legend as applied to any part of the Word of God, that is giving offence to God's people. Is any part of the Bible unreal, not to be depended on? The idea to my mind is just skepticism.

One of the members of last General Assembly—himself a professor—said in defending the appointment of the aforementioned professor, that he held those views, and that they were taught in all the colleges of the church save one. If our colleges are teaching that parts of the Bible are 'myths' and legends,' then skepticism is too much in evidence in the colleges, and I for one do not feel like supporting such colleges. Dr. Sedgwick was right when he said that it might yet cause a disruption in the church. The Methodist Church is to be commended for the course they have taken, and after what passed in the last General Assembly the members of the Presbyterian Church have a right to know what is the teaching of their professors on that subject before they are asked to contribute towards their support. When we pay professors that teach such things we are teaching it ourselves, and I believe that the great mass of Presbyterians as well as Methodists believe in the reality and genuineness of the Bible as the Word of God, and are unwilling to propagate any such teaching as would represent parts of it as mythical and legendary. ELDER.

Johnson P. O., Dec. 23, 1907.

Note.—The meaning of the word myth has undergone evolution as conceptions have changed as to the origin of mythologies. The definition given by Webster is: 'A story of great, but unknown, age which originally embodied a belief regarding some fact, or phenomenon of experience, and in which often the forces of nature and of the soul are personified; an ancient legend of a god or hero, the origin of a race, etc.; a wonder story of prehistoric origin; a popular fable, which is or has been received as historical.' The Century Dictionary gives it thus: 'A traditional story in which the operations of natural forces and occurrences in human history are represented as the actions of individual living beings, especially of men or of imaginary extra-human beings acting like men; a tale handed down from primitive times and in form historical, but in reality involving elements of early religious views as respecting the origin of things, the powers of nature, and their workings, the rise of institutions, the history of races and communities, and the like; a legend of cosmogony, of gods and heroes, and of animals possessing wondrous gifts.' Both of these authorities acknowledge a secondary popular sense in which the word is used to represent an imaginary story of any sort. To define as between the strict meanings of the words myth, fable and parable, the 'Century' quotes G. P. Fisher as follows:—'What is a myth? A myth is, in form a narrative, resembling in this respect the fable, parable, and allegory. But, unlike these, the idea or feeling from which the myth springs, and which, in a sense, it embodies, is not reflectively distinguished from the narrative, but rather is blended with it, the latter being, as it were, the native form, which the idea or sentiment spontaneously assumes. Moreover, there is no consciousness, on the part of those from whom the myth emanates, that this product of their fancy and feeling is fictitious. The fable is a fictitious story contrived to inculcate a moral. So the parable is a similitude framed for the express purpose of representing abstract truth to the imagination. Both fable and parable are the result of conscious invention. In both, the symbolical character of the narrative is distinctly recognized. From the myth, on the contrary, the element of deliberation is utterly absent. There is no questioning of its reality, no criticism or inquiry on the point, but the most simple, unreflecting faith.'

THE ALLEGED EDUCATIONAL DICTATORSHIP.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—I have read with interest the letters of the Rev. Dr. Rexford, in your issues of 7th, 14th and 21st instant, in which I am tried, condemned and quartered in somewhat the same spirit that prevailed in certain ecclesiastical circles a few hundred years ago. Let me say at once that I hope the proceedings have given pleasure to the Rev. Dr. Rexford. I admire a downright opponent.

It seems fated that Dr. Rexford and I should never agree upon educational policy. Why? I shall not attempt to give any reasons, as it might not interest your readers. I am sure, however, that Dr. Rexford is too manly to allow his feelings towards me to be influenced by the fact that, at the first meeting of the Protestant Committee which I attended, all his attempted motions of censure upon the government were defeated by large majorities.

Perhaps, after all, it may be in the interest of Protestant education that Dr. Rexford and I should not agree, inasmuch as it may draw the attention of the public to a subject requiring its best thought.

So far, I have to regret that the forceful philippics of Dr. Rexford do not seem to have had the effect of arousing the Protestant population of the province to the danger of the terrible dictatorship that is said to imperil their educational institutions. I had expected to see your columns filled with associate protests from the guardians of the Protestant rural schools. But brave Dr. Rexford still stands alone. I am forced to confess, so callous have our people become, that the recent communications I have had with representatives of the people, school inspectors, school commissioners, school secretary-treasurers, and school rate-payers, go to show that the government's Order-in-Council is popular and that Dr. Rexford's tirades are ignored. I sympathise with Dr. Rexford in his unsuccessful efforts to be a popular leader. I admit that to be popular is not necessarily to be right; but unfortunately, under this baneful and pernicious system of responsible government that now prevails, the representatives of the people are bound to believe in the adage, 'Vox populi, vox dei.'

There, at once, is the radical difference between Dr. Rexford's position and mine. As a member of the Protestant Committee, he is named practically for life and is not responsible to anyone; while I, not so fortunate, am a servant of the Legislature and the people, and must regularly submit all my acts to the judgment of the House and of my electors. I dare not exercise the glorious independence of the wishes of the people that is so marked a characteristic of Dr. Rexford. I am even so slavish as to admit that I like my masters, the people; that it is a pleasure for me to serve them; and, in particular, to be of use to the little children that attend our humble rural school-houses. Perhaps, if I were the dignified principal of a college my inclinations would be otherwise. But, alas! I am what I am—merely an elected representative of the people. My defects must be their defects also, as three times have they elected me by acclamation. Perhaps, next time, they will listen to Dr. Rexford, but there are no signs of it as yet.

Dr. Rexford has proved to his own satisfaction that I am endeavoring to establish a one-man power in Protestant educational matters in this province. In reply, I can only say that Dr. Rexford's knowledge of the workings of constitutional government is amazingly poor. He does not understand that, apart from my electors, all my acts are subject to the supervision and approval of seventy-three other elected representatives of the people and twenty-four Legislative Councillors, who are practically independent of the people. He forgets that the Premier and other members of the government and Legislature have Protestant electors, whom they are anxious to please. The government has tried to act according to the wishes of the Legislature and the people, and so far have received no protest, save from Dr. Rexford.

I have lately been in contact with the intelligent electors of Ormstown, Howick and other places in the County of Chateauguay. They had it in their power to condemn the government policy, but instead they approved of it. Why did not Dr. Rexford go and tell them of this alleged one-man dictatorship? They might have altered their votes and passed the censure, which the Protestant Committee rejected.

Mr. Editor, I must modestly yet firmly reject the laurels of dictatorship that Dr. Rexford would place upon my humble brow. I feel sure that such honor is more suitable to the characteristics of the Rev. Dr. Rexford himself. It is even said that he has already practiced for the role by his acts in the Protestant Committee. I must express regret, if my respected electors of Argenteuil, by sending me to Quebec, have interfered with the customs or ambitions of the reverend principal.

It is only necessary to refer to the last minute of the Protestant Committee in order to prove that Dr. Rexford does not believe in his own 'one-man absolute' theory, and that as a dexterous dialectician he has only used it in an attempt to prejudice the public against me.

One of the first events at the last meeting was the reception of the report of a sub-committee appointed to interview 'the government.' In that report, Principal Peterson, who is very closely allied to Dr. Rexford, makes special reference to his pleasure at receiving certain assurances from the Premier. If the Protestant representative is the 'one-man absolute,' Dr. Rexford should have at once disillusioned Principal Peterson. But he did not.

Then Dr. Rexford proposed a motion embodying a strong appeal 'to the government' for the preservation of the committee's alleged prerogatives and protesting against the recent Order-in-Council. If there is a one-man power in the Cabinet as regards Protestant education, Dr. Rexford was appealing and protesting to that one-man power; but everyone knows he was not.

But when Dr. Rexford penned his motion, he had not thought of the danger of the 'one-man power.' What he then feared was the Roman Catholic majority of the Cabinet, for a phrase of his long motion refers to the tendency of 'bringing the educational interests of the Protestant minority under the direct administration of government, which from the nature of the case must be overwhelmingly Roman Catholic.'

At the same meeting, Dr. Peterson and Mr. Ames proposed another motion, prepared by Dr. Rexford, calling 'the attention of the government' to certain matters. This again was unnecessary, if the alleged absolutism existed, as the poor dictator was sitting across the table from Principal Peterson, Dr. Rexford and Mr. Ames; and, according to the

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theory, there could be no useful result in calling the attention of the other members of the government to any matters affecting Protestant education. But Dr. Rexford evidently does not believe in the other members of the government, for although at one moment he denounces them as 'overwhelmingly Roman Catholic,' yet he repeatedly appeals to them as against the solitary and wicked Protestant representative. All his efforts are intended to destroy, if possible, the prestige and influence of the Protestant representative with the 'overwhelmingly Roman Catholic majority.' His anger is stronger than his Protestantism.

Referring again to the minutes of the last meeting, I note that, with Dr. Rexford's consent, another sub-committee was appointed to interview 'the government' regarding certain amendments to the school law. Did Dr. Rexford imagine that the appointment of this sub-committee was unnecessary, because the 'one-man absolute' had already heard the views of the whole committee. Evidently not.

The 'one-man absolute' theory is a figment of Dr. Rexford's imagination, useful only for rhetorical purposes in popular appeals against an adversary. The reverend principal is welcome to all the comfort he can get out of it.

I hope, sir, that the Rev. Dr. Rexford has pondered over that part of the letter of Mr. Mackenzie, M.P.P., for Richmond, where he narrates the deliberations of a caucus upon Protestant educational matters. It may afford him new notions of the workings of representative government. He might also ponder on the fact that Mr. Mackenzie, as an elected representative of the people, willingly endorses the recent Order-in-Council. Can it be that the people interested are all on one side and Dr. Rexford almost alone on the other?

W. A. WEIR.

Montreal, Dec. 26, 1907.

DEMORALIZING ATHLETICS.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Super-scientific reasoners of modern times have come to the conclusion that the Biblical account of the creation of man is only a Babylonian Myth, and instead of coming directly from the hands of the Great Creator, he was evolutioned from the lower animals through some freak of nature, or by means of successful cross-breeding. In proof of this peculiar theory they point to the numerous cases of what is called atavism, or return breeding, where men seem to possess in a larger degree the characteristic cruelty of the denizens of the jungle from which they sprang. A wolf will continue to slaughter sheep for the fun of the thing even when gorged with the blood of those he has already slain, and a cat takes delight in the agonies of a struggling mouse even when not yet ready to put an end to its miseries by devouring it.

I was reminded of these facts when reading lately in a Toronto paper a bit of sporting news with a large double-leaded heading which stated that 'the Maple Leafs had cut the Winnipeg team to pieces in a Brutal Hockey Game.' It read as follows:—

'Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 20.—The Maple Leafs defeated Winnipeg last night in a test game to decide which should enter the Manitoba Professional League, in a game which was the most disgraceful exhibition of rowdyism and sluggery ever seen in the West. The Pegs did not finish, but left the ice early in the second half, when nearly every man had been partially disabled and was cut and slashed. The ice was like the floor of a slaughter-house in some places, many of the offences being deliberate on the part of the Maple Leafs.'

That a club of so-called athletic sportsmen should bear the attractive name of 'Maple Leafs' when their brutal actions show them to be worse than whin bushes is but another proof of the fact that modern athletics is 'not what it is cracked up to be.' It is estimated that about a dozen men are killed annually and over a hundred seriously injured in the United States and Canada while engaged in what are called athletic sports, but in reality are brutal commercial athletes and are on a par with prize-ring pugilism and cock-fighting.

Swarthmore College, a Quaker institution in the suburbs of Philadelphia, has been noted more for its fondness for athletics than for its mathematics; and the cruelty, together with the bitter feelings engendered by Swarthmore students athletic contentions with the students of other colleges, was a source of perennial grief to one of the chief contributors to the funds of the college, an aged wealthy Quaker lady, Miss Anna T. Janes, who had often spoken to the Principal about the evil tendency of such games combined with jungle tactics as were often exhibited at these inter-collegiate contests. Nearly two months ago, this good old lady died and as her next of kin were already wealthy, she donated nearly all of her rich coal producing estates in Pennsylvania, which she had inherited from her forbears, supposed to be worth $3,000,000, to endow Swarthmore College 'on condition that the management of the aforesaid Strathmore College shall discontinue and abandon all participation in inter-collegiate athletics, sports and games.' Then followed the proviso that in case the condition was not complied with, the lands should be sold and the proceeds applied for the support of the Janes Cancer Hospital. The Board of Management of Swarthmore College held a meeting when the question of accepting the gift under such conditions was discussed. Dr. G. A. Hoodley, chairman of the Faculty Committee on athletics, said, 'Athletics are the blood and bone of a college. They should not be cut out for any amount of money. The Faculty are opposed to the acceptance of the gift under the conditions imposed.'

Another of the professors is reported to have said that the college would rather win a victory from the University of Pennsylvania in the athletic field than have the money.

It was decided at this meeting to consult the managers of a number of the leading colleges in the United States as to the propriety of accepting the gift with such conditions annexed to it. This course was taken and while some of the answers were non-committal, a majority of them were against its acceptance with such conditions, most of them saying that such a course would be illegal. Others said that it might be legal, yet not expedient.

President Schurman, of Cornell, in his answer said that it might be worth while for some American college to accept a gift of $1,000,000 even at the cost of the conditions imposed. He said 'There is a field for a college not having inter-collegiate sport, and in the interests of higher education, the experiment should be tried.'

It would thus appear that inter-collegiate athletic sporting contests which partake more or less of gambling and brutality has almost become the life blood of American colleges. Yet a comparatively small number of the students of any college take an active part in these inter-collegiate so-called, athletic sports, while much the larger numbers are merely onlookers, about on a par with the people who witness a cock-fight or a prize-ring slugging match, which, while in no wise beneficial physically, is more or less injurious morally. With such low sentiments prevailing in the chief seats of learning in the United States, is it any wonder that homicides, suicides, divorces, brutal lawlessness and grafting are so prevalent?

D. C.

A PRACTICAL PROPOSITION.

(To the Editor of the Witness.')

Sir,—I have read with interest the few articles which recently appeared in the 'Daily Witness' on the two-cent a mile passenger rates for railways in Canada. The subject is deserving of more attention than it it has as yet received from the press of the country. It must be apparent to those who have given the matter any thought that a two-cent-a-mile passenger rate on all Canadian roads which extend through well populated portions of the country, is a practical proposition. Those who are familiar with the workings of the system on American roads are well aware of the advantages which have accrued to the travelling public as a result of its adoption. And not only are the travelling public benefited by the system, but the lines which have adopted it have benefited as well. In a report made public some months ago, it was affirmed by certain railway officials, that in several places where the two-cent-a-mile passenger rate had not long been in vogue, there was a marked increase of business in the passenger department at said places. The contention that four or five excursion days during the year at single fare and one-third, offsets to the travelling public all of the benefits of a two-cent-a-mile rate, will not bear candid investigation. The unfairness of the passenger rates on Canadian roads is clearly illustrated in the experience of one who is travelling from White River Junction to Montreal, over the Central Vermont. The passenger may travel for two cents per mile until he reaches St. Johns, then he is compelled to pay three cents or a little more in order to reach Montreal on the same train. The recent decision of the Supreme Court that the G. T. R. must provide a third-class passenger service between Montreal and Toronto, is in keeping with a growing public sentiment on the question of cheaper passenger rates between points on Canadian railways. The question is one that must sooner or later become a live issue in Canadian politics, unless forestalled by the leading railways taking the initiative in the matter of cheaper passenger rates on all of their main lines.

L. D. BURO.

Osnabruck Centre, Ont., Dec. 23.

LITERARY REVIEW.

A STUDY IN CRITICISM.

A suggestive handbook for critics and students of critical literature is 'Specimens of Modern English Literary Criticism,' chosen and edited by William T. Brewster (The Macmillan Co., of Canada, $1). It is a substantial volume containing specimens of the various types of literary criticism taken from the works of the greatest English essayists. In a scholarly introduction to these chosen essays Professor Brewster deals with the different theories as to the true nature and method of this somewhat indefinite branch of literature.

Arnold, in a frequently quoted passage, says: 'I am bound by my own definition of criticism; a disinterested endeavor to learn and propagate the best that is known and thought in the world.' Pater's theory is summed up in these words: 'What is important, then, is not that the critic should possess a correct abstract definition of beauty for the intellect, but a certain kind of temperament, the power of being deeply moved by the presence of beautiful objects.' Mr. Robertson's method is somewhat more argumentative: 'It is the getting behind spontaneous judgment, the ascertaining of how and why we differ in our judgments, that the critics so-called have left mostly unattempted.' All these men, though at odds over method, evidently regard criticism as a high function. On the other hand, listen to Mr. Howells: 'Every literary movement has been violently opposed at the start, and yet never stayed in the least, or arrested by criticism; every author has been condemned for his virtues, but in nowise changed by it.' . . . . The most scornful opinion is that of one of the 'Rossetti-Swinburne school,' William Morris: 'To think of a beggar making a living by selling his opinion about other people! And fancy anyone paying him for it!' . . . . Furthermore, for every one of the opinions quoted above there is abundant historical evidence.

After examining all these opinions and theories, the author thus sums up his conclusions: 'In the main, however, literary criticism, like other forms of criticism, seeks (1) to establish the facts of literature and (2) to pass judgment on the value and significance of those facts.' Continuing his careful analysis of the forms and qualities of accepted critical writings he arrives at a definite characterization of good criticism. 'It would follow that the essentials of good criticism are, as personal qualities, sincerity, fairness and candor; as intellectual characteristics, knowledge of the facts, and an ability to use the ordinary rules of logic and common sense; as expression, clear and orderly statement.' He would limit the young critic to 'the three immemorial questions of Coleridge: What has the author tried to do? How has he done it? Is it worth doing?' Each of the fifteen critical essays included in the volume has appended notes classifying it under the various types distinguished in the introduction, as well as suggesting profitable lines of analytical and comparative study. Leslie Stephen's critique of Swift's vigorous tirade on 'Wood's Halfpence' is the example given of 'biographical criticism, . . . which interprets a man's writings in relation to his life.' 'Johnson's famous piece of criticism (The Metaphysical Poets) is an example of that kind which attempts to characterize the type or genre to which a man belongs.' Walter Pater's very graceful essay on Wordsworth belongs to that type of criticism broadly called appreciation. 'Lamb's famous essay on Shakespeare, perhaps his most conspicuous piece of criticism, is as good an example as can be found of that paradoxical type which rests on personality and a wholly a priori premise.' Each of the essays has its characteristics thus clearly indicated. A long list of critical essayists are also recommended as subjects of 'analytical and disciplinary study.' In closing he has a word of caution against the blind acceptance of any criticism.

It must not be forgotten that criticism . . . . . is what these men and many others have said about books, and that they have their accepted position because they say things that we gladly hear, though often with reservation and disagreement. Nor must it be forgotten that the aim in reading any critic is not only to find out his opinions but to ascertain how he arrived at them. It is an admirable study, so long as the student does not make many demands on the Real and the Absolute.

THE CRUISE OF THE SHINING LIGHT.

Norman Duncan has a number of quaint characters in his book 'The Cruise of the Shining Light,' (Henry Frowde, Toronto), the chief being a sea-captain who thinks he has lost his soul for a choice which nevertheless seems to him ethically the best. He brings up a lame orphan boy in greater luxury than he indulges in himself, and is rewarded by having the lad turn out creditable and grateful. The young man's story is, of course, the main thread of the plot, but the character next in interest to the captain is that of Moses Shoos, a half-witted but whole-hearted hero.

Moses Shoos, I recall, carried the mail that winter. 'Twas a thankless task; a matter of thirty miles to Jimmie Tick's cove and thirty back again. Miles hard with peril and brutal effort—a way of sleet and slush, of tollsome paths, of a swirling mist of snow, of stinging, perverse winds or frosty calm, of lowering days and the haunted dark o' nights—to be accomplished once a week, afoot and alone, by way of barren and wilderness and treacherous ice. 'Twas a thankless task, indeed; but 'twas a task to which the fool of Twist Tickle addressed himself with peculiar reverence.

'Mother,' says he 'always 'lowed that a man ought t' serve his Queen; an' mother knowed. "Moses," says she, afore she died, "a good man haves just got t' serve the Queen; for all good men don't," says she, "the poor Lady is bound t' come t' grief along o' rascals. Poor, poor Lady!" says she. "She've a wonderful lot t' put up with along o' stupid folk an' rascals. I'm not knowin' how she bears it an' lives. 'Tis a mean, poor dunderhead, with heart an' brains in his gullet," says she, "that wouldn't serve the Queen. God save the Queen!" says mother. "What's a man worth," says she, "that on'y serves hisself?"

Not much, thinks I!

'An' mother knowed,' says Moses, softly. 'Ay, Dannie,' he declared, with a proud little grin, 'I bet your mother knowed!'

'Twas this exalted ideal of public service, fashioned in the wisdom of the simple by the amazing mother who bore him, that led the fool, as by the hand, from a wilderness of snow and night and bewildered visions, wherein no aspiration of his own shaped itself, to the warm hearth of Twist Tickle and the sleep of a child by night.

'LA REVUE CANADIENNE.

The November number of the 'Revue' is the last that will bear witness to the editorial skill of Mr. Alphonse Leclaire, who, during the last fifteen years has spared neither toil nor money in his endeavor to make the 'Revue' a worthy exponent of French ideals in Canada. Jean Deylan continues his series of articles explanatory of the religious crisis in France, and outlines the causes of the success of the anti-clerical movement. Ivan Raille paraphrases a recent romance by Mercel Prevost, 'Les Théories de Monsieur Moloch.' 'En Chaldée,' Mr. Alphonse Gagnon's studious survey of Chaldean history, is concluded. Memories like those of Nicolas-Gaspard Boisseau, throw an interesting light upon the life of our province in the early days of the English régime. Some fifty pages of the present issue are devoted to these chronicles. Mr. Jules Lesage revives interest in the work of a Canadian poet, Eudore Evanturel, whose 'Premières Poesies' were published about 1878. The spirit of Villon, Rousard, and Musset it is good to find breathing in our native verse. A discussion of current world comment, and notices of several books, chiefly religious and doctrinal, round out an altogether interesting number.

THE LABOR GAZETTE.

Those who wish to study the labor question in Canada will do well to consult the pages of the booklet which is published monthly, under the editorship of Mr. Mackenzie King, by the Department of Labor, at Ottawa. Copies may be obtained from the King's Printer, for three cents each, or twenty cents annually. The special articles in the present number deal with the proceedings in 1907 under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act. Oriental immigration, and the losses of Japanese residents in Vancouver during the recent riots are discussed. The statistical tables relating to immigration and colonization are based upon the latest returns, and give some idea of the influx of settlers during the past summer, and their disposition throughout the country. Not the least important feature of the report is a summary of the opinions expressed by correspondents from every part of Canada upon the conditions of trade, and the financial prospects for the coming year.

ALSO RECEIVED.

'International Commercial Policies,' by George Mygatt Fisk, Ph.D., (Toronto: The Macmillan Company of Canada, Ltd.). 'Taking Men Alive,' by Charles Gallaudet Trumbull, (New York: Young Men's Christian Association Press). 'The Abductors,' by Joseph Prague; 'The Bishop's Emeralds,' by Houghton Townley; 'The Mammoth Hunters,' by Alfred Edward Carey; 'The Death Trap,' by R. W. Cole, (London: Greening & Co., Ltd.). 'Old Quebec, the City of Champlain,' by Emily P. Weaver, with illustrations by Annie E. Weaver, (Toronto: William Briggs). 'Scribner's,' 'Outing,' and the 'Century Magazines.'

LITERARY NOTES.

TWO NOVELS.

The Nova Scotian coast again offers Mr. Henry Miller Rideout an effective scene for a story in his latest book 'Admiral's Light' (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.). His collection of stories in 'Beached Keels' met with wide and favorable recognition and in this novel his style is much the same. Mr. Rideout evidently has a love for the rough, rocky coast, softened only in the folds of recurring mists, but he has a good story to tell as well as a good picture to paint and there is never so much atmosphere as to choke, or render dim his characters.

Dolores Bacon has out another story of American society life in her novel 'In High Places' (Doubleday, Page & Co.). There is the typical American man of untold millions, with the wife of extravagance and carelessness, there is the necessary flavor of stocks and deals and the only surprise is that after all the author is able to mislead the reader as to the trend of her tale. It will be read and enjoyed.

QUESTIONS.

Questions of growing and insistent importance in consideration of the steadily increasing numbers who are able to-day to avail themselves of a college education, are discussed by Clarence F. Birdseye in 'Individual Training in Our Colleges' (Macmillan.) Mr. Birdseye speaks with a conviction that his intimate acquaintance with college life justifies. There is an introduction by Dr. Elmer E. Brown, United States Commissioner of Education.

The same publishers bring out Professor Hugo R. Meyer's new book on 'Public Ownership and the Telephone in Great Britain,' a complete history of the telephone policy of Great Britain, and a discussion of the part taken by the government in its administration. One of the strongest opponents of public ownership, Professor Meyer will likely meet with vigorous opposition from its supporters but his book contains a full statement of the facts connected with this subject whatever may be the inferences drawn.

A clear and thorough consideration of the question of woman's legal rights and status from early time to the present is the work of Marianne Weber in 'Ehefrau und Mutter in der Rechtsentwickelung' Wife and Mother in the evolution of law (Tübingen: Mohr.) It is singular that in the present age women are denied the rights given them in the time of Hammurabi the Babylonian sovereign some 2500 years before Christ, but indeed there is much of surprise throughout the history.

LANDS OF THE EAST.

The position of Persia in the world to-day should make any book concerning it of interest, but merely for the curiosity that pertains to a land little known and even less affected by any contact with its neighbors, 'Queer Things About Persia' by Eustache de Lorey and Douglas Sladen calls for attention. The Persian is largely at a standstill, the heir of old customs to which he adheres in spite of any modern conveniences that may be introduced into his country, and M. Eustache de Lorey has seen him at home.

'The Egyptian Sudan: Its History and Monuments' by E. A. Wallis Budge, M.A., Litt. D., D. Litt., keeper of the Egyptian and Assyrian antiquities in the British Museum, is published in two volumes by Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co. It is an account of the various missions to the Egyptian Sudan since the first undertaken by Dr. E. A. Wallis Budge on behalf of the British Museum in 1897. The numerous illustrations only add to a story of the greatest interest and the successes in so short a time and in a comparatively small area show what a mine there is into which to dip.

OF INTEREST.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle appears as a critic in 'Through the Magic Door' (London: Smith, Elder & Co.), but not a very stern one. He is more inclined to tell about what he likes in the way of books and their authors than to pull to pieces somebody else's favorite, although he has dislikes as definite as his enthusiasms. He considers Bulwer Lytton's 'Haunted and the Haunters' 'the very best ghost story that I know' and gives first place to 'The Cloister and the Hearth' among historical novels. He will meet with general favor in the United States by his giving Holmes the precedence of Lamb. After all it is not so much literary criticism as a giving of reasons for the preference that is in him.

Old times and their tales have taken life again in the mind of Mr. G. S. Street, and 'The Ghosts of Piccadilly,' (London: Archibald Constable & Co.), are abroad to jostle the foremost stories of the day in the claim for interested attention. Mere names in history Mr. Street's reminiscences clothe with flesh and blood, and dimly remembered stories are ordered into place and power again by one who knows them well. Mr. Street rather relishes the suggestion that there is no more likely origin for the name of Piccadilly than lies in the word 'peccadillo.'

Rather an exceptional venture is that of Cassell & Co., in their publication of the series, 'The People's Library.' These reprints of standard works are offered in two bindings, green cloth at twenty-five cents, and red leather at fifty cents. The print also is clear and pleasant to read. The list of the first fifty books in the series show Dickens, Scott, Thackeray, Eliot, Brontë, Defoe, Bacon, Emerson, and many such names of the first rank.

MAGAZINES.

The January 'Century' is a fiction number containing short stories by May Sinclair, Jack London, Charles D. Stewart, David Gray, and others, as well as the beginning of Dr. S. Weir Mitchell's new novel, 'The Red City.' Of the greatest interest, however, are the productions in color of the new color photographs taken by Edward J. Steichen by the Lumiere process, and the article on 'The New Color Photography,' by J. Nilsen Laurvik. This is not an article for the professional alone, but for the general public as well. 'The Reminiscences of Lady Randolph Churchill,' and Elizabeth Robins's novel, 'Come and Find Me,' are continued in this number, and F. Marion Crawford contributes an articles on 'Beatrice Cenci.'

'Scribner's' for January marks the beginning of this magazine's forty-third volume. The opening chapters of a new story by John Fox, jr., 'The Trail of the Lonesome Pine,' are a feature. 'The West in the Orient,' a series of papers by Charles M. Pepper, opens with 'Irrigation; an Old Force Newly Applied,' remarking on its wonderful results in Egypt. Professor John Grier Hibben, the psychologist, offers 'A Defence of Prejudice,' and short stories are contributed by Grant Showerman, Frederick Palmer, Robert Herrick, and Frances Wilson.

'Appleton's' contains several poems of some length, among them 'The Battle of Sexos Port,' by Fremont Rider, the rhyme of an airship war, with illustrations by Beverley Towles; a good piece of imagination. 'The Tarpon and the Shark,' by A. W. Dimock, is an account of sport in a summer land, illustrated by the writer's son. Edith Rickert, Mary Dickerson Donahey, T. W. Hanshew, Allen French, Campbell MacCulloch, and others contribute short stories, and there is a paper by Agnes C. Laut on 'Henry Hudson, Dreamer and Discoverer.'

The December 'Presbyterian College Journal' contains an article by Dr. A. R. Gordon, the new professor of Old Testament Literature, on 'How criticism affects our view of inspiration.' The contribution of the rising young Canadian writer, Mr. Cyrus MacMillan, on 'The paradoxes of Kipling,' is timely in view of the recent visit to Montreal of the distinguished author. The centenary of Whittier, which is being observed by the schools and colleges of the United States, is observed by the Rev. Mac B. Davidson's 'The Quaker Poet.' Among the books reviewed by Principal Scrimger are Dr. Orr's 'The Virgin Birth of Christ' and Mr. James Croll's 'The Genesis of Churches.' The students of the Presbyterian College are to be congratulated on giving the public a periodical so up-to-date in modern theological and literary discussions.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

'A Happy New Year, and many of them!'

I have been hearing this so often of late and in such kindly tones that it has set me to considering what makes a happy year.

CAT HAPPINESS.

I know what makes a cat happy. A saucer of milk, a soft chair or cushion in a warm corner, a hand to stroke its fur and my cat will purr like a teakettle.

Now I haven't much desire to purr. It would sound too much like snoring. And the cat's pleasures are only now and then for me.

When I come to think of my own happy year, I do not want to be happy all alone in a corner. I have sometimes thought that if my cat could only read instead of sleeping she would like to get a story-book in a warm corner all by herself, with a pocket full of candy, as I have seen children do. But that is doing the cat injustice. Kittens always play together, and cats have no pockets. And of course there are times to read—every Cornerer knows that.

There is another kind of cat-happiness which I do not want for my happy year, and that is night prowling. When there is so much to do and learn at home and in friends' houses I do not want to go to school in the streets.

I know what will make my dog happy and I sometimes think he is the very happiest thing alive. If I put on my hat and open the door, though he seems to be fast asleep on his rug in the corner, he will be up like a flash and ready for a walk. And he will go five miles where I go one, exploring all the edges of the road and making excursions into the thickets, running back now and then to tell me that he loves me. It is so easy to make my dog happy that I am tempted to do it oftener than I should. And one thing about my dog I like best of all. He gets his happiness in sharing mine. I suspect the cat would not mind if I were in pain or distress so long as she had her milk and cushion and her stroking But the dog knows in a moment when I am unhappy; and when I am joyful he jumps and capers and wags his tail for joy.

I would like to be as happy as my unselfish dog is in the woods and fields, but God has made me more than a dog. What I really want is to be man-happy. That must mean not being dependent on a saucer of milk (or any other good things to eat) or a soft cushion (or any other helps to laziness) or even on having my fur rubbed the right way (or any other sort of praise or flattery). I assure you that I am not wishing any of you a cat-happy, or even a dog-happy year.

First of all, I wish for us all a growing happiness. They used to talk when I was a child of 'growing pains' but growing happiness is just as real. Perhaps a better name would be victorious happiness—the joy of overcoming. Even the plants know that. When you put a seed into the ground—a pea or a bean, let us say, because they are big enough to be easily watched—it pushes a root down and a stem up and conquers itself a place. Unless a plant can conquer, it withers and dies. This happiness of overcoming is better than what I have called cat-happiness, because it requires work. And this great task for us humans is in overcoming our own selfish love of ease. A boy has to conquer himself before he can get up in the morning or solve a problem in arithmetic or go on an errand for his mother. And by that overcoming happiness grows.

Did you boys ever notice that so long as you hold a ball tight in your own hand you cannot have the pleasure of catching it? If you want to have a good time, you throw it to some one else, who returns it, or at least against a wall so that it may come bounding back to be caught. The best sort of happiness is something like that. It is good for nothing until it is thrown away. I should like our happy year to hold a good deal of self-forgetting.

Of course I do not mean that we are to reckon it all out. 'If I, Tommy, give some of my cake to Harry, when he has a cake he will give me some of his.' That sort of thing is only a different sort of selfishness and results in anger when Harry gets his cake and forgets to give Tommy some. Tommy's real happiness is in giving and helping without any thought of what comes after.

I know a man who has a well on his place which never runs dry. In a drought all the neighbors come with pails and buckets from their empty springs to his never-failing well. I should like to have our new year's happiness like that man's well, always full and ready to provide for others in the dry, unhappy times. And that can only come to you and me when the springs of our happiness are fed from the unfailing treasure of God. It is Christ who gives the living water and he gives it for us to share.

C. C. C.

Now there are three words which will go with this idea of happiness: Courage, for overcoming, Consideration, for the needs and joys of others, Cheerfulness, for the kind of joy which depends on the living water which Christ gives and which is independent of drought and trouble. I am going to write C. C. C. in plain letters where I can see them and I am going to try whether I cannot get over the love of mere cat-happiness and have a better year than I had last year. — 'Congregationalist and Christian World.'

Each day is a furrow lying before us; our thoughts, desires, and actions are the seed that each minute we drop into it without seeming to perceive it. The furrows finished, we commence upon another, then another, and again another; each day presents a fresh one, and so on to the end of life * * * sowing, ever sowing. And all we have sown springs up, grows, and bears fruit almost unknown to us; even if by chance we cast a backward glance we fail to recognize our work.—Selected.

'Begin the year with C[illegible]
Let Him go [illegible]
He'll [illegible]
[illegible]

The Trying Period for Girls Is From Fifteen to Eighteen Years

The mental activity of school life and the terrible strain that must come in early womanhood taxes the vitality of the average maiden to the utmost. Many a young girl does not understand the physical changes she is undergoing. When the first signs of womanhood appear, everything depends on keeping health intact, so that in years to come chlorosis or consumption will not be developed.

Nothing so far discovered has such a beneficial effect as Ferrozone, which is a nutritive tonic and blood-builder of unusual power. Ferrozone is the best remedy, because it contains the exact qualities that are needed to build up those organs requiring assistance. Ferrozone revitalizes young girls, gives them spirit and energy, provides a surplus of vital power and nerve tone that sees them safely through the dangers of approaching womanhood.

Thousands of glad mothers tell of the vigorous health Ferrozone brought their daughters. Here is the experience of Mrs. W. E. Michael, a well-known resident of Richmond, Que.:

'I can strongly recommend Ferrozone as a good tonic for young ladies. My daughter has been taking Ferrozone for the past six months, and it has worked wonders for her. Before using Ferrozone she was anaemic and nervous, and had no strength. But Ferrozone has built up her whole constitution and given her strength and vitality. Of all the tonics I ever knew I don't think one of them compares with Ferrozone. It certainly brings health and strength to young girls quickly.'

Not only young girls, but women of all ages derive quick benefit from Ferrozone. It uplifts, braces, gives new health to all who test its enormous powers. Ferrozone is prepared in the form of a chocolate-coated tablet and sold only in 50c. boxes, or six boxes for $2.50, at all dealers, or by mail from N. C. Polson & Co., Hartford, Conn., U.S.A., and Kingston, Ont.

THE FOREIGN POLICY OF QUEEN VICTORIA

(The 'Nation,' London.)

Every student of the life and reign of Queen Victoria will, we are sure, be grateful to the editors of the letters which she wrote during her early and middle reign for their entirely frank revelation of her character and mental habit. They show, first of all, what it means to a country to be governed not only by a woman, but by one of the most 'womanly' of women who ever lived, and secondly, how large is the share of a British constitutional monarch, close-sheltered from all personal responsibility both for words and for acts, in shaping the foreign policy of her people. These letters, many of which are in style and thought immeasurably superior to the rather vapid domesticity of the Highland Journals, exhibit the Queen in every variety of human relationship, as daughter, niece, lover, wife, mother, friend, woman of feeling, and woman of the world. There are periods during which this inexperienced girl, rich in character, though not in intellect, and linked by many ties to the rulers and ruling families of her time, strikes us as much the most potent personality in the state system of Europe in the middle of last century.

Not that it is possible to say with precision where the Queen's policy, and tendencies of policy, were her own. With all her strong woman's will and tenacity of purpose, she was easily influenced. From the first hour of her reign her oldest counsellor, her uncle, the King of the Belgians, an astute, not ill-meaning, but certainly selfish man, hemmed her in with counsellors. It was he who gave her her real secretary, Baron Stockmar. It was he who promoted the eventful marriage with Prince Albert. It was he who urged, almost commanded, her to retain Melbourne, and it was he who used all his influence, and sometimes used it in vain, to maintain the close relationship with the Orléans dynasty which Louis Philippe's duplicity in the matter of the Spanish marriages destroyed. Later on, the pupil superseded the master. It is clear that many of the ablest state papers and memoranda which appear in these volumes under her name were written not by her, but by the Prince Consort. Stockmar himself dictated almost the words of the famous memorandum on foreign policy which helped to destroy Palmerston, just as Melbourne, though no longer a minister, most improperly suggested the decisive sentences in which she declared her will on the appointment of the ladies of the bed chamber. Her devotion to Prussia and Austria, her hatred of the Italian movement of liberty, sprang from her family relationships, and Palmerston had reason for his complaint that they 'poisoned' her mind against him. Had she had a thorough conception of British constitutionalism she could not have carried on the private correspondence with Melbourne which Stockmar, greatly to his credit, endeavored to break in a stern, almost impassioned, interview with that charming and not too precise or conscientious personality; nor could she have pursued the embittered warfare with Palmerston and Lord John Russell which the astounding correspondence of 1848-9 and 1859-60 discloses. The Queen was brave almost to rashness, and she was a singularly true, honest, and outspoken woman. Moreover, in the matter of the Crimean War and the dispute with the United States, she and Prince Albert rendered the country the service of clear-sighted and truth-loving natures. But her attempts to assert the power of the Crown above that of her constitutional ministers did, in the nature of things, touch the point of intrigue. It is not pleasant for example, to find Lord Granville, a cabinet minister, writing to Prince Albert in 1860 and describing the doings of the cabinet in a sense derogatory both to the policy and the personality of his chief. Still worse was Lord Melbourne's advice to the Queen on appointments made by his successor and rival, Peel, and his confession to Stockmar that he was prepared, if necessary, to resist and thwart Peel's policy by means of his underground communications with the Queen. Nor can it be claimed that, with all the Queen's singular and rare gifts of character, her mind was free from impulsive misjudgment and caprice. She leant on Melbourne with almost passionate insistence; she thought him as 'perfect' as she afterwards thought Prince Albert. Barely a day could pass without his seeing her and dining with her. There was more excuse for her reliance on this charming and gracious, though faulty, man than for the fascination exercised by two rulers of undeniably sinister character, Nicholas I. and Napoleon III. The visit from Nicholas she thought to be a 'great event'—almost a condescension, indeed, from a man whom she describes, in her italicised German style, as 'the greatest of all earthly potentates.' Her feeling for Napoleon went still further. One visit was enough to convince her that this arch-adventurer, his hands still wet with the blood which he shed in the coup d'etat, was calm, gentle, straightforward, charming, sincere. She was confident of her power to 'keep him in the right course.' And yet, four years later, she spoke of the probability of a 'regular crusade' against him, as 'the universal disturber of the world.' She began by hating Peel, and ended with a warm and well-deserved regard for that admirable, though difficult, nature. She treated Disraeli's earlier communications to her with the good-natured contempt which their pompous insincerity deserved: yet she lived to fall completely under his influence. She was open to argument; she was, indeed, essentially a candid and sincere soul. But she made grave errors. On the whole, it was, we think, fortunate that the foreign policy of England in the middle period of last century was directed by Palmerston and Russell to ends far different from those which she and the Leopold-Stockmar-Coburg combination imagined and devised.

But what were the main characteristics of the foreign policy of Queen Victoria so far as these letters reveal it? They were twofold. The Queen was not only no democrat, she was an anti-democrat, and she accepted the constitutional theory of the responsibility of Ministers to Parliament and to the people with reluctance, and with a woman's instinctive rebellion against an idea that she did not fully understand and a practice that was irksome and restraining to her and to her husband. On the latter point she went very far. Her warfare with Palmerston was sustained week after week, month after month, year after year, and her eager woman's nature overtopped Prince Albert's cool phrases and measured arguments. The minister himself was far from blameless. He had a reckless, cynical tongue, he was careless of forms, and often loose in written statement, he more than once treated his sensitive and quick-tempered mistress with real disrespect. Both he and Lord John Russell had selfish and, in comparison with the Queen, rather devious characters. But both of them possessed a true feeling for human liberty, and an inherited hatred of oppression. Both knew the British Constitution, and had occasion sharply to remind their Sovereign that there was such a date in English history as 1688. And both of them clearly divined the meaning of the movement for Italian liberty, and were determined to aid its development as a source of strength to liberal Europe, and as a human protest against the secular and spiritual tyranny which it defied. Throughout their ablest and most determined opponent was the Queen. She fought them both and on the same grounds. Her personal sympathies were first Prussian, and secondly Austrian, and her intimate advisers were of German stock. But, above all, she resented the idea of the right of a nationality to throw off a yoke imposed upon it from without and fixed by European consent, and to assert its will by such means as the plebiscite, the proud record of which adorns many a wall in many a famous town of Italy. For her 'the people' had no existence apart from the ruling house. Opinion in the country was strongly pro-Italian; the Queen ignored it. Her letters lump together 'Chartists,' 'rebels,' 'demagogues,' and 'agitators.' She was horrified at the idea that Cobden should step straight from a public meeting to the cabinet.

Moreover, she wanted a formal revision of the lines of our foreign policy in the light of the lessons taught by the risings of 1848. 'It will,' she said to Lord John Russell in that year, 'be a calamity for ages to come, if this principle is to become part of the international law, viz., that a people can at any time transfer their allegiance from the Sovereign of one state to that of another by universal suffrage (under momentary excitement).' She denounced the 'principle' of Lord Palmerston's policy—that of 'Italian Nationality and Independence from a foreign yoke and tyranny.' If we maintained such a principle in Lombardy or in Central Italy, how, she asked bluntly, could we meet critics of our Irish policy)? 'Really,' she wrote to her uncle, 'it is quite immoral with Ireland quivering in our grasp . . . to force Austria to give up her lawful possessions.' She complained that in place of neutrality, Lord Palmerston had 'gone a long way in taking up the side of democracy in the fight.' She wrote condoling warmly with Pio Nono on his expulsion from Rome, quite ignoring the abuses of government in the Papal States. She bitterly resented Palmerston's proposal to see Kossuth, and stopped the plans for a private interview at his house. The mobbing of the unspeakable Haynau by the draymen of Barclay and Perkins seemed to her a 'brutal attack and wanton outrage by a ferocious mob on a distinguished foreigner,' and Palmerston's cool reply that the people of England looked on Haynau as 'a great moral criminal,' and compared him with Mrs. Manning, the murderess, stung her to a vehement retort. Watching for a lapse of etiquette and propriety on the part of the most careless of men, she succeeded at last on a serious question of policy, and used Lord John Russell to procure Palmerston's downfall. Ten years later she worked with equal persistence against Lord John Russell, and was eager and insistent that the peace of Villafranca should not be used to advance the growing Italian kingdom. The Italian disaster at Novara was to her a source of unmixed joy. 'I could work myself up to a great excitement about these exploits,' she writes to the King of the Belgians, 'for there is nothing I admire more than great military exploits and daring.' She said nothing warmer of the Battle of the Alma.

On the whole, the Queen's policy failed; indeed, it was well for her that it did. For in what position would she have been placed if, on the Italian question, Palmerston and Russell had resigned on the ground that the Queen, though entirely irresponsible, had insisted that British policy should maintain a strong pro-Austrian bias? Considering the sheltered position of the Crown, the Queen went far. She herself hardly pretended to impartiality of view. Starting with a traditional hatred of the Tory party, she was, in effect, and during the greater part of her reign, the exponent and defender of Tory, or, at least, reactionary views in foreign affairs, and her position was most boldly advanced at the period when the cause of European liberty hung most doubtfully in the balance. Lord Beaconsfield was probably the only minister with whose foreign policy she was thoroughly in sympathy. She had great moral qualities; a noble candour and deep affectionateness distinguished her from the more shallow and insincere natures that surrounded her. She did not press her views to an extremity; they were, on notable occasions, right and wise. But it is idle to pretend that as a whole they were in harmony with the more generous and enlightened thought and the bolder statesmanship of her age.

A BORDER SHERIFF

DIES IN HIS BED—NOT WITH HIS BOOTS ON.

Not with his 'boots on,' but peacefully and surrounded by his family, one of the most picturesque characters of border warfare in behalf of peace, celebrated throughout Arizona, New Mexico, and the Southwest, died in his bed at his home in Los Angeles.

Peter Boscha was one of those men who survived the days of early pioneers who knew no fear, and whose personality helped to make of the great West an abiding place for peaceful citizens, beautiful homes, and wonderful prosperity. He was one of that advance guard of men who combine law with freedom, and uphold the best traditions of both at the muzzle of their six-shooters.

Born March 23, 1838, in Pouse, Germany, Boscha came to America as a child, and when still hardly more than a boy was lured to the goldfields and took a part in the making of California as a State. When the civil war broke out Boscha enlisted in the Second California Volunteer Cavalry and served throughout the war. When discharged he moved to Arizona, at that time the stamping ground for merciless Apaches and hardly less cruel outlaws.

In Arizona and New Mexico he became a waggon master for the convoys of prairie schooners which carted freight across the plains, and varied and wonderful were his experiences in those desolate regions. He finally settled in Florence, Ariz., and there met and married Miss Amelia Ward, who survives him, as do four sons and two daughters.

Shortly after his marriage Boscha moved to Prescott and became a Deputy Sheriff. He served for several terms in this capacity and made himself a name for fearlessness and attention to duty, few 'bad men' getting away from him once he took up their trail. Later he was elected Sheriff of Yavapal County and the county became comparatively peaceful. He held this office for two terms and then became Deputy County Assessor.

During his term as Sheriff he made many remarkable arrests and seemed to bear a charmed life. At one time, while in the little town of Congress, there drifted into the place from the North a noted outlaw, wanted in Wyoming for killing two Sheriffs, and who had sworn he would never be taken alive.

This 'bad man' raised a disturbance over a woman in a dance hall and there was a shooting affray. Sheriff Boscha heard of it and started for his man. The desperado rushed for his horse, tethered near, and with a six-shooter in each hand mounted and started to ride away. Boscha never hesitated, but started after the fugitive armed with a shotgun. Meanwhile the horse of the outlaw suddenly began to buck and Boscha, running up, threw away his gun and grappled hand to hand with the desperate man, dragged him from his horse, disarmed him, and locked him up in jail. He was afterward sent to Wyoming to face the charges of murder against him there.

On another occasion, in Weaver, Ariz., a merchant of the town was called to his door one night and stabbed to death and robbed of a large sum of gold by a gang of outlaws, who escaped. Sheriff Boscha took up their trail and located two of the gang in a tough saloon. With one deputy he entered the saloon and held up ten desperate men and took from among them the two murderers he was after. One of them is still serving a life sentence.

It was such courageous feats as these in behalf of law and order that endeared Sheriff Boscha to the hearts of the respectable element in the territory and made him the dread of the lawbreaking class, who acted as though they were above the law.—Los Angeles 'Times.'

CHEATED DEATH

CAPTAIN'S REMARKABLE ADVENTURES.

The Paris correspondent of the London 'Chronicle' says:—After an extraordinary series of adventures, Captain Mauger, a French naval officer, who some months ago was officially reported as dead, has arrived in Paris. The captain commanded the cruiser 'Chanzy,' which became a total wreck off the Chinese coast in May last. On this occasion, Captain Mauger was stated to have been drowned while attempting to save his ship. He, however, reached Shanghai safe and well, and a telegram was sent to the Minister of Marine correcting this error.

The day after the telegram was sent the officer was riding in an automobile with a friend when a collision occurred with another vehicle. The occupants of the car were thrown out, and while Captain Mauger was lying injured on the roadway he was run over by a heavy fire-engine, his skull being fractured and several ribs being broken. He was picked up for dead, and taken to the American hospital. There the receiving surgeon examined him, and in view of his fearful injuries, declared that it was impossible for him to live through the night. Based on the doctor's statement, a second telegram was sent off to the Minister of Marine, announcing that the injured officer was beyond hope of recovery, and that his death was but a question of a few hours.

Some days elapsed, and as nothing further was heard from Shanghai, the Minister of Marine concluded that Captain Mauger's death had duly taken place. They accordingly informed his relatives to this effect, and struck him off the strength of the navy. As it so happened, he disappointed the doctors, and cheated death. After having been unconscious for six weeks, he made a slow recovery. When he was convalescent he started for Europe, ignorant of the fact that his demise had been announced in the principal French newspapers.

Under the circumstances, it is not difficult to understand the look of astonishment that crept over the face of an usher at the Ministry in Paris when a pale-looking man, with tottering gait, walked into the office, and, announcing himself as Captain Mauger, asked to see the Minister. The usher's first impulse was to send for a policeman, thinking he had to deal with a lunatic. But an old comrade of the 'dead man' happened to come along, and, recognizing him, saved the situation. M. Thomson received and warmly congratulated the returned officer, and then he performed a more painful task, and told him that, as he was still living, he would have to face his trial by court-martial for losing his vessel.

A VISIT TO THE LAMA TEMPLE IN PEKIN.

(By W. P. K., in 'China's Millions.')

The great Lama Temple in Pekin is situated near the north wall of the Tartar city and is one of the sights which always attracts the tourist. As in most temples in China, there are the usual large paved courtyards, lofty buildings, old cypress trees, and great incense bowls. Every temple—and there were many—had its attendant Mongol lamas waiting to unlock the doors, show the strangers around, and clamor for money. It is well to be provided with an abundance of ten cash copper pieces, for a more insistent and persistent set of beggars than these priests it will be hard to meet even in China, this land where mendicants abound. We entered one hall where there were a great many Mongolian prayer wheels of various shapes and sizes. Whilst having one of these wheels explained to me, I mechanically turned it round. The priest broke in, 'You have turned that wheel twice —$1.00 per turn, $2.00 please.' Needless to say, I immediately dropped the wheel, at the same time giving him a polite refusal.

There are eight hundred priests in the temple, many of them mere children who are being initiated. Nearly all are Mongolian lamas, as there are but a dozen or more Thibetan lamas amongst the number. As the great gong sounded at sunset for evening prayers, we looked forward with some expectancy to the service. Truly in this famous monastery, we thought, Buddhism will be seen at its best, 'The light of Asia' at its brightest. Imagine our feelings when we saw straggling out from their living rooms, a motley, unwashed, vicious looking crowd of men and boys—mostly the latter—all wending their way toward the great hall at the back of the series of courtyards which comprise the main temple. Laughing, pushing, fighting, they made their way with no semblance of order and an utter lack of all reverence. We looked at them curiously. There was the shaved head of the Buddhist priesthood, the vacant, ignorant, or sensual expression, so well known by those who see the votaries of Buddha in the Orient. All carried yellow plush helmets, and each had a red cloth which he wound round his body. We were greatly struck by the number of children amongst the priests. One little fellow could not have been more than six, whilst the majority looked to be from ten to fifteen years old. They thronged up the steps of the great hall and stood in picturesque confusion, each one wearing his yellow plush helmet and adjusting the folds of his red cloth robe. Led by one of the seniors, they entered the dark, lofty hall and squatted cross-legged on low, broad, cushioned seats, their hats being laid on the tables before them. Then the chanting of evening prayers began. No books were used, and the very large majority of the young novices kept silence while the intoning was done by some eight or ten on the front benches.

The scene was weird in the extreme. Outside, the sun was setting in a calm rosy west; within, the light was rapidly fading. The long lines of priests reached far back among the massive black pillars of the dark temple. The multitude of shaven heads, the faces so unresponsive, dull and dead to all thought of worship or devotion, the red robes folded over the crossed knees and hands, and above all, the rising and falling cadences of the half wail, half chant of the senior priests, made an impression not soon to be forgotten. The prayers were all in the Mongol tongue. Some of the men had good bass voices and a few of the younger men carried on the recitative in a not unpleasing tenor.

The master of ceremonies walked around and administered tremendous cuffs on the faces of two little priests who were having a surreptitious game right in front of us.

Some at the back engaged in mild fights; others openly looked for parasites on their very dirty bodies; and still the droning chant went on. At times all clapped their hands and the master of ceremonies prostrated himself before the image of Buddha.

We wondered what hold this worship —if it may be dignified by such a name —could possibly have on the heart of man. The majority of the priests were in total ignorance as to the meaning of their idols or worship, and there was an entire absence of joy or even ordinary intelligence upon their faces. Looking over this crowd of men and boys condemned to celibacy one trembled to think of the potentialities of evil in their midst, and longed for the day when the idols shall be utterly abolished and these false systems with their enslaving power will be swept away by him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

There are now in Germany 116 cities with special schools for backward children. The total number of these schools is 203, and the number of pupils is 13,100. Berlin has 31 of these accessory schools.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

Annual visit of Dr. A. W. Chase's Almanac. It will this year go to more than 15,000,000 readers. Great interest manifested in the Diary Competition for $200.00 in gold. Because of its usefulness and on account of the great interest taken in the Diary feature, Dr. A. W. Chase's Calendar Almanac is now annually welcomed into millions of homes. This year this favorite Almanac will reach about 15,000,000 readers, and, if you do not receive a copy, it will be because the publishers failed to get your name and address. If you mention this paper and write direct to Edmanson Bates & Co., Toronto, Ont., a free copy of the Almanac will be sent you, postpaid. Possibly, you do not know about the annual Diary Competition, in which $200.00 in gold is given in prizes for the best record of events kept in Dr. Chase's Almanac, but you will find full particulars in the Almanac. Thousands find it most interesting to enter this competition and by so doing form the valuable habit of keeping a record of business transactions and find their Almanacs of inestimable worth for future reference. Most people know of Dr. A. W. Chase as author of the famous Receipt Book, bearing his name, and as discoverer of the great family medicines. In the Almanac will be found a life of the famous doctor and also full particulars in regard to the great prescriptions which have made his name known and revered in almost every home. The enormous success of these great medicines is due to the fact that they never disappoint. Like the world-famous Receipt Book, they are backed by the honesty of purpose, integrity of character and professional skill for which the grand old doctor is noted. Like many great successes, Dr. A. W. Chase's Medicines are flattered by imitators, and for this reason it is necessary to caution you to look for the portrait and signature of A. W. Chase, M.D., on the box you buy. There can be no stronger guarantee for any medicines, and by getting the genuine Dr. A. W. Chase's Medicines, you can be certain that the results will be entirely satisfactory. Better write for an Almanac to-day, as the supply is now limited.

KILLED BY A COW'S TAIL

Binghampton, N. Y.—Wm. A. Wells, of Neward Valley, was milking, when a cow swished her tail, striking him on the forehead with the fleshy part of the appendage. Shortly afterwards, Mr. Wells returned to the house, complaining of a pain in the head, which rapidly grew worse. Physicians pronounced it apoplexy, brought on by the blow from the cow's tail. Mr. Wells died the same night.

Apoplexy is the result of poisoned blood. Bowels become constipated, kidneys get weakened, skin action becomes poor, and the blood is loaded with impurities, which produces weakness in the blood vessels.

Whenever there is headache, backache, neuralgia, rheumatism—it means blood poisoning. 'Fruit-a-tives' are a certain cure for all these troubles.

'Fruit-a-tives' are made of fruit juices and tonics. 50c a box. At all dealers.

Lost Hearing Quickly Restored

No matter whether of long standing or not, deafness can be permanently cured by Catarrhozone, which never fails even in the worst cases. The pleasant-scented vapor of Catarrhozone allays inflammation, prevents and cures the catarrhal condition that causes deafness, and relieves right away. Thousands have proved the efficiency of Catarrhozone, and with a valuable remedy within easy ... is no longer any reason for ... main deaf. Catarrhozone is ... for Coughs, Colds, Ca... plete outfit,

READABLE PARAGRAPHS

EIGHT FLIGHTS UP.

When the first fire company, in response to an alarm, reached the long row of tenements, the fire-captain at once jumped from his engine and endeavored to locate the fire. When he had ineffectually hunted through three or four structures for it, he descried an old woman sticking her head out of a window of the topmost floor of an eight-story tenement, a little farther up the street.

'Any fire up there?' he yelled, when he had reached the pavement beneath the building.

In answer, the old woman motioned for him to come up.

Accordingly, the captain, with his men, lugging their heavy hose behind them, laboriously ascended the eight flights and burst into the room where the old woman was.

'Where's the fire?' demanded the captain, when no fire nor smoke became visible.

'Oh, there ain't none here,' replied the old woman, flashing an ear-trumpet. 'I asked y' up 'cause I couldn't hear a word you said 'way down there!'—'Bohemian.'

Not a Nauseating Pill.—The excipient of a pill is the substance which enfolds the ingredients and makes up the pill mass. That of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills is so compounded as to preserve their moisture, and they can be carried into any latitude without impairing their strength. Many pills, in order to keep them from adhering, are rolled in powders, which prove nauseating to the taste. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills are so prepared that they are agreeable to the most delicate.

Old Inhabitant—'Why, in bless 'ee, miss, I can remember the place when me an' a seagull was the only people here!' —'Punch.'

An ill-tempered old gentleman was watching the diabolo players in Kensington Gardens. 'And to think,' he mused aloud, 'that a month or so ago this sort of thing was only being done in our asylums.' —'Punch.'

How to Cleanse the System.—Parmelee's Vegetable Pills are the result of scientific study of the effects of extracts of certain roots and herbs upon the digestive organs. Their use has demonstrated in many instances that they regulate the action of the liver and the kidneys, purify the blood, and carry off all morbid accumulations from the system. They are easy to take, and their action is mild and beneficial.

'How is your boy at college getting along with his language lessons? 'He is keeping just about even. He has unlearned English and learned how to talk baseball.'—Chicago 'Tribune.'

'If elected,' said the orator, 'it shall be my effort to protect the unscrupulous from the poor and weak—er—a—.' The effect of his ringing periods was lost forever.—'Puck.'

A Requisite for the Rancher.—On the cattle ranges of the West, where men and stock are far from doctors and apothecaries Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil is kept on hand by the intelligent as a ready made medicine, not only for many human ills, but as a horse and cattle medicine of surpassing merit. A horse and cattle rancher will find matters greatly simplified by using this Oil.

Miffkins—'It is said that aggressive impulsive people usually have black eyes.'

Biffkins—'That's right; if they haven't go them at first; they get them later.'—Chicago 'Daily News.'

If the British army airship works as well as is reported, it may do more to prevent war than the Hague Conference itself.—'Christian Endeavor World.'

The healthy glow disappearing from the cheek and moaning and restlessness at night are sure symptoms of worms in children. Do not fail to get a bottle of Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator; it is an effectual medicine.

Kind Lady—'What occupation do you two poor men follow? Gritty George—'Why, mum, we are "nature fakers."' Kind Lady —' "Nature Fakers?" ' Gritty George—'Yes, we play de elephant in de show. Sandy is de head and I am de legs.—Chcago 'Daily News.'

Are your corns harder to remove than those that others have had? Have they not had the same kind? Have they not been cured by using Holloway's Corn Cure? Try a bottle.

Little Ella—'I'm never going to Holland when I grow up.' Governess—'Why not?' 'Cause our geography says it's a low, lying country.'—'Life.'

The efficacy of Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup in curing coughs and colds and arresting inflammation of the lungs, can be established by hundreds of testimonials from all sorts and conditions of men. It is a standard remedy in these ailments and all affections of the throat and lungs. It is highly recommended by medicine vendors, because they know and appreciate its value as a curative. Try it.

Client—'Didn't you make a mistake in going into law instead of the army?'

Lawyer—'Why?'

Client—'By the way you charge, there would be little left of the enemy.'

BRITISH NEWS

ENGLAND.

Bicycles not to be allowed to ride on the Motor cars at Wells cemetery, a favorite resort of Tunbridge visitors, except when they form part of a funeral procession.

An American motorist was fined £60 at Surrey Assizes for attempting to bribe a police constable who had stopped his car for exceeding the speed limit at Esher.

The London death rate in the four weeks ending Sept. 28, 1907, averaged 12.6 per 1,000. This is remarkable considering the population and the congestion of people.

Although blind, Mr. Edwin Luxton, who has just died at Plymouth, often attended football matches. He took as much interest in the game as if he could see every movement of the players.

William H. Pawson, of London, and Shawdon, Alnwick, in the course of bankruptcy proceedings, admitted spending £200,000 in racing, hunting and coursing. He had paid £8,000 to money lenders.

It was stated at a meeting of the Hackney Borough Council, London, that they produced electricity at the lowest working cost, which was $1.68 per unit. The borough intends to enlarge its plant at a cost of $92,500.

Bournemouth is to erect new municipal buildings, costing over £70,000, on the 'Horseshoe' site in the centre of the town. In the last nine years the local authorities have planted 61,000 young fir trees in the borough.

Thomas Burgess, who joined the Oddfellows in 1839, and was the oldest Oddfellow in the world, has just died at Burton-on-Trent, in his ninety-ninth year. In his youth he was captured by a press gang.

Mrs. Sarah Lamb (105), who has died in St. Pancras Workhouse, was given a public funeral at the expense of the official staff. Her mother is alleged to have lived 110 years, and one of her brothers 103.

An Accrington woman sued her father for compensation for the loss of her husband, who was alleged to have been killed by a kick from the defendant's horse. The parties agreed out of court to an award of £225 and costs.

A London egg importer who had in his possession a number of casks of liquid eggs, has been fined £100 and costs, for exposing the eggs for sale. It was proved that the defendant did a considerable business with bakers with the putrid eggs.

Colonel W. R. Robertson, of Aldershot, who thirty years ago entered the 10th Lancers ('Alfonso's Own') as a private, and who only got his first commission twenty years ago, is about to be promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General.

A lady at Harringay has succeeded in collecting almost half a million farthings in aid of a local church. She will try to collect another half million next year. Two ladies at Enfield have undertaken to collect a million farthings for a diocesan fund.

The Penzance Education Committee has instructed its clerk to furnish a return of the number of boys in the borough who would benefit by a course of lessons in cookery. It is considered that cookery will be useful to boys likely to follow a seafaring life or emigrate.

'The last of the peelers,' Superintendent Rose, has retired from the Metropolitan Police. In 1860 he joined the London 'force,' and donned its uniform, a top hat and swallow-tail coat. Throughout his forty-seven years' service his name has not once figured on the sick list.

The old parish church of Honeychurch is to be closed for want of a clergyman. Honeychurch is a small parish, about a mile from Exbourne and two miles from North Tawton, Devonshire. The living is a rectory of the net value of £80, including seventy-eight acres of glebe.

A former Oxford undergraduate successfully contested a tailor's bill for £145, incurred by him when he was under the age of twenty-one, the judge holding that the garments supplied were not, under all the circumstances, 'necessaries.' They included a dress suit for £15 and another for £10.

A 'Mauretania' cot' has been endowed in Newcastle Infirmary with £500, part of the proceeds of visitors' admission fees to that vessel when in the Tyne. A model of the vessel constructed for the Cunard Company, at a cost of nearly £2,000, is being exhibited in the north for the benefit of charities.

About 1,000 Cambridge students, who took umbrage at the strictness of the Junior Proctor, the Rev. C. West Watson, recently, 'escorted' that gentleman from the gate of Emmanuel College to the University Church, many blowing bugles, whistles, and mouth-organs. As he entered the church they gave a tremendous howl.

Sooner or later London will have to get its water supply from Wales, according to speakers at a meeting of the Metropolitan Water Board. It was resolved to ask parliament to prevent all the good water-supplying areas from being snapped up by the smaller towns—to safeguard the water supply and see that it is distributed to the best advantage.

School slates spread infection, according to the headmaster of Duchess road School, Sheffield. To the abolition of slates he attributes the school's freedom from epidemic disease in the last twelve months. In Birmingham hardly a slate is to be found in the schools, their abolition having been decided on because of their recognized liability to spread infection.

A tragic occurrence is reported from Crewe. Recently a lady residing there was taken ill, and died. The shock of her death so affected her son that he was taken to an asylum. A little later a daughter, who had been nursing her mother, died from typhoid fever, and after her burial another daughter contracted the same disease and succumbed a little later.

'The fault I have to find with the working classes,' said Mr. John Burns, in an address at Burnley, 'is the meanness of their wants, the misery of their desires, the poverty of their aims, tastes and ideals.' He wanted to see education that would fire them with inspiration and give them higher ideals and nobler aims. They could make 'a new heaven and a new earth' for themselves with the £3,000,000 a week that they wasted on drink and various forms of gambling, and rise to the level of their duties and responsibilities.

Wrapped around the body of a German who attempted to evade the customs at Queenborough was a canvas tube containing a large quantity of saccharine. He was fined £100, with the alternative of four months' hard labor. The duty on saccharine is 20s. per pound. Revenue officers declare that much illicit saccharine is hawked about the country, and that the chief smugglers are women who secrete the powder in their clothing.

Interrupted by Suffragettes at Leeds, Mr. John Burns succeeded in talking some of them down and in applying appropriate epithets to such as had to be removed. As a struggler was carried out, he observed: 'They've got her off the list; she never will be missed'; and when a male sympathizer was ejected he quoted the line from Bret Harte: 'And the subsequent proceedings interested him no more.'

The Rev. R. J. Campbell, whose criticisms of orthodox readings of the Bible caused such excitement, has now taken up the socialistic side of politics with great zeal. Preaching at the City Temple, he denounced what he termed the sickening cant of merely preaching against sin and the evils of materialism, whilst all around was pain and anguish. In London and elsewhere there was an appaling total which lay at the door, not of the sufferers, but of the lethargic respectable Christian community which permitted it.

The little village of Danbury, Essex, is putting forth a claim as the healthiest spot in that county, as judged from the longevity of a few of its oldest inhabitants. The population numbers 850, and among these are twenty-five inhabitants whose united ages amount to 2,008 years. The oldest is ninety-two and the youngest sixty-eight, and the average age per head works out at about eighty-four years. The women preponderate among these 'oldest' inhabitants, since eighteen are females and only seven males.

Lord Alington, who had the honor of entertaining the Kaiser while on his visit to England, is a descendant and co-representative of the Lords Alington who came to an end in 1691, though it was as recently as 1876 that the title which he holds was conferred on his father, the late peer. Crichel is famous for its 'White Farm,' whereon every living creature, from the pigeons to the cart-horses, is white—white cows, white pigs, white dogs, white geese, white turkeys, white Brahmin bull, and so forth.

Approval of a proposal to have an independent agricultural party in the House of Commons has been expressed by the Worcestershire and Lincolnshire Chambers of Agriculture. Disapproval has come from the Isle of Wight Agricultural Society and the Berks and Oxon Chamber of Agriculture. The latter body declares in favor of bringing pressure to bear on members of parliament, pledging them to oppose all measures inimical to agriculture and to support such bills as the Chambers of Agriculture may prepare.

SCOTLAND.

A Dundee Town Councillor proposed that the Town Clerk should write to officers of the Boys' Brigade to instruct members of that institution to kick banana and orange skins off the pavements. A counter suggestion was made that a committee of the Town Council should be appointed to kick those who dropped the skins on the pavements.

A striking illustration of the amity which is sometimes to be found among the churches was seen in Inveresk Parish Church Hall. The Rev. Dr. Bennet delivered a lecture on the churches of Rome under Catholic auspices, and a ladies' choir conducted by the Rev. Father Stuart gave renderings of several typical pieces of church music.

Bishop Wilkinson, the Primus of the Episcopal Church in Scotland, has died under tragic circumstances. After addressing a meeting in Edinburgh, he resumed his seat, but immediately collapsed. Medical aid was at once obtained, but the doctor found that the Bishop had passed away. Lowly bending over the body, the Bishop of Glasgow pronounced the benediction. Naturally the painful incident caused a great sensation, and number of those present were reduced to tears when they knew that death had taken place. A good many of the representative had gathered in one of the side rooms to await the doctor's decision. After the sad news had been made known to them they re-assembled in the council room, where a short service was conducted by Bishop Dowden.

IRELAND.

Belfast spinning firms have reduced the daily hours of work owing to slackness in the linen trade. Thirty thousand workpeople are affected, the wages being reduced by about one-fifth weekly.

Colonel Sir John Ross, chief commissioner of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, dismissed from the force two policemen concerned in a fatal bicycle accident, in which the Countess of Aberdeen intervened to prevent the escape of the constables concerned in the affair

A member of the Royal Irish Constabulary, Ruane by name, has died in Dublin under peculiar circumstances. Having been certified insane, he was placed in the hospital, but escaped, being found after six days on the roof in an exhausted state. He died four days later. It appeared that the constable who looked after the man in the hospital was not informed as to the nature of the illness of the deceased.

During the progress of a football match at Belfast between Distillery and Glentoran, the referee, Mr. Hamilton, Glasgow, had occasion to order a player of the latter team off the field. Immediately afterwards the referee was seen prostrate on the ground, with players from all parts making in his direction. The Distillery linesman, who came to his asssistance, was four times knocked down. A scrimmage ensued. There were many policemen as usual on the ground, and they eventually checked what had all the appearance of developing into a serious riot.

There are few matters in Ireland upon which the Royal Irish Constabulary are unable to provide information. One such exists, however, in a small event of daily occurrence in the Phoenix Park. The spot where Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke were murdered used formerly to be marked by a grass plot with two crosses, which formed a place of pilgrimage for visitors and tourists. A few years ago, however, it was deemed expedient to remove all records of the event. In its place are invariably to be found two crosses roughly scratched on the gravel. Nobody knows by whom this is done, or at what hour of the day or night. Let the crosses be effaced by rain, and in an hour or two the passer-by will find once more this tribute to the memory of the murdered men.

FANCY WORK DESIGNS.

Cambric patterns, full working size, supplied of design given below. Pattern may be used over and over again. With each design is sent a sheet of illustrated directions for working. As an additional accommodation for out of town customers, the necessary material in braids, thread, etc., can be supplied if desired at prices named.

Readers will bear in mind that the materials we supply are not cotton, but of the best imported linen, so that if the cost seems a little higher than the braids generally sold, the quality fully makes up for it in beauty of appearance and in durability.

Send money in express or postal order or registered letter, reading directions carefully, that correct amount may be sent and delay avoided.

Design 28. Size 17 inches.
CENTREPIECE WITH EMBROIDERY CENTRE.

Pattern alone, 20 cents; material, 16¼ yds. No. 2 braid, 24 large rings, 2 thread, 45 cents; stamped linen for centre (12 inches) for 20 cents; or pattern, braid, rings, thread and linen centre, all for 85 cents.

Address, Art Needlework Department, 'Witness' office, Montreal.

The 'Witness' Pattern Service.

FALL AND WINTER FASHIONS.

Those who purchased our catalogue of spring and summer patterns, will know that it was a very handy addition to the home work-room. We can now supply a very attractive catalogue of the latest styles for fall and winter, 1907-8, Same price as before, only ten cents, and well worth more than that small sum.

Over three hundred charming designs are given for ladies' and children's garments, besides illustrated supplement on Home Dressmaking, Fancy Work, House hold and Beauty Hints, and the latest Embroidery Designs.

To obtain this catalogue fill in coupon given at foot of this department, send it to us with ten cents in stamps, and the catalogue will be sent by mail to your address. Allow one week margin beyond time necessary for return of mail, as orders are handled in rotation.

No. 5239. Girls' Pleated Dress. Sizes 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Eight-year size requires 3¾ yards of 36-inch material.

No 5960. Girls' Guimpe Dress. Sizes 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Eight-year size requires 2¾ yards of 36-inch material for the dress and 1⅜ yard for the guimpe.

No 5916. Ladies' Dressing Sacque and Slumber Shoes. Sizes 32 to 42-inch bust measure. Thirty-six inch bust requires 3⅞ yards of of 36-inch material for the sacque and ½ yard for the shoes.

No. 5885. Ladies' Over-Blouse, to be slipped on over the head. Sizes 32 to 42-inch bust. Thirty-six-inch size requires 1⅜ yard of 44-inch material.

No. 5931. Ladies' Box-Pleated Skirt. Sizes 22 to 32-inch waist. Twenty-six-inch size requires 5¼ yards of 44-inch material.

No. 5690. Misses' Coat. Sizes 15, 16 and 17 years. Sixteen-year size requires 2 yards of 44-inch material.

No. 5961. Ladies Skirt. Sizes 22 to 32-inch waist. 26-inch size requires 4⅞ yds of 44-inch material.

No. 5935. Ladies' Apron. Sizes small, medium and large. The medium size requires 3⅝ yards of 36-inch material.

No. 5940. Girls' Jumper Dress. Sizes 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Ten-year size requires 5½ yards of 36-inch material

No. 5746. Ladies' Jumper Dressing Sacque. Sizes 32 to 42-inch bust. Thirty-six-inch bust requires 2¾ yds of 36-inch material.

No. 5870. Ladies' Kimona. Sizes small, medium and large. The medium size requires 3¼ yards of 36-inch material.

No. 5776. Ladies' Dressing Sacque. Sizes 32 to 42-inch bust. Thirty-six-inch size requires 3¼ yards of 36-inch material.

No. 5937. Little Boys' Suit. Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 years. Four-year size requires 2½ yards of 54-inch material.

No. 5929. Misses' Jumper, with Kimona sleeves. Sizes 15, 16 and 17 years. Sixteen-year size requires 1¼ yard of 36-inch material.

No. 5933. Ladies' Wrapper. Sizes 32 to 42-inch bust. 36-inch bust requires 9 yds of 36-inch material.

No. 5888. Ladies' Cut-away Coat. Sizes 32 to 42-inch bust. Thirty-six-inch bust requires 2½ yards of 44-inch material.

No. 5928. Ladies' Waists. Sizes 32 to 42-inch bust. 36-inch size requires 1⅝ yds of 44-inch material.

No. 5908. Ladies' Blouse. Sizes 32 to 42-inch bust. 36-inch size requires 3¼ yds of 36-inch material.

No. 5865. Girls' Box-Pleated Dress. Sizes, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Eight-year size requires 3⅛ yards of 36-inch material

The pattern coupon is crowded out of this issue, but orders will be filled at once if number of each pattern wanted and size (or age, if required), be given carefully on a sheet of paper, along with name and address in full. Allow one week beyond return of post, as orders are filled as received. Send in postal note or stamps.

Address, Pattern Department, 'Weekly Witness and Canadian Homestead 'Witness' Block, Montreal.

N.B.—A Costume usually calls for two separate patterns, under separate numbers, and each 10c, making 20c in all.

THE KISS POLITICAL.

The story of how the beautiful Duchess of Devonshire successfully wooed the free and independent burgesses of Westminster on behalf of Fox by the witchery of her bright eyes and red lips, in the general election of 1784, is well known. 'But,' says Mr. Michael McDonagh, in the 'Lady's Realm,' 'other times other manners. A neat retort was made by Lady Randolph Churchill when once she was invited to follow the example of the Duchess of Devonshire in an electioneering contest. It was during the general election of 1886, when she was canvassing in the interest of a Tory candidate, say Sir Horace Dain, whose wife had left her youth remotely behind. Interviewing that most important person in an election, a wobbler—for it is he and his kind that often decide the issue of a parliamentary contest—"I hope," said she, "you will support the constitutional cause, and vote for the Unionist party." "I haven't made up my mind yet," replied the man, "but," he went on with a jocose smile, "if I could get the same price as was paid once by the Duchess of Devonshire for a vote I think I could promise." "Thank you very much," said Lady Randolph Churchill sweetly, "I'll let Lady Dash know!" The wobbler, no doubt, continued wobbling. In the one case, the lady's kiss would probably have convinced him that her politics were excellent. In the other—well, possibly he would have seen or felt little in the argument that was convincing.'

Mr. McDonagh once witnessed the 'mothering' of her illustrious and aged husband by Mrs. Gladstone. 'On leaving the Reporters' Gallery (of the House of Commons) late one night that Gladstone as Prime Minister had made a fine speech in support of his Home Rule bill in 1893, I saw Mrs. Gladstone waiting with a brougham in Palace Yard. She was thinly clad in evening dress, with a light shawl over her grey hair. Presently her husband emerged from the ministers' entrance to the House of Commons, with a puckered, wearied look on his mobile face. She at once ran forward and kissed him proudly on the cheek. Then catching with both hands the lapels of his heavy overcoat, which was hanging open, as if to button it up, she cried out in a reproving voice, "Oh, William, without your muffler!" and diving her hand into one of his pockets produced the wrap and wound it tenderly round his throat. She then hurried him into the brougham, following after and shutting the door herself. It was like the tender solicitude of a mother for a precious only son in whom all her hopes and alarms are centred.'

SHOW THIS TO YOUR S. S. SUPERINTENDENT.

By far the most popular Sunday-school paper in Canada is the 'Northern Messenger.' It contains from twelve to [illegible] teen pages a week of the most int[illegible] ing matter. It is so interes[illegible] scholars who are n[illegible] to school will come [illegible] 'Messenger.' It ha[illegible] circulation through[illegible] any Sunday-school [illegible] be an indication [illegible] larity.

Please sh[illegible] also the [illegible] in th[illegible]

JANUARY SUBSCRIBERS

Should in renewing for the 'Witness' take advantage of one or other of the following clubs:

The 'Weekly Witness'

AND THE

'Canadian Pictorial'

one year for

only $1.35.

Worth $2.00.

Our Special Family Clubs

are the best in the market.

1. 'Weekly Witness,' 'World Wide,' 'Canadian Pictorial' and 'Northern Messenger,' worth $3.90, for only **$2.70.**
2. 'Daily Witness,' 'World Wide,' 'Canadian Pictorial' and 'Northern Messenger,' worth $5.90, for only **$3.70.**

Our other clubs are as follows:—

	Regular rate per annum	Club price
'Weekly Witness' and 'World Wide.'	$2.50	for only $2.00
'Weekly Witness' and 'Northern Messenger'	$1.40	for only $1.20
'Weekly Witness,' 'World Wide' and 'Messenger.'	$2.90	for only $2.20

The above cut rate offers are subject to postal regulations given on page 8.

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

PERISHED BY FIRE

FATALITIES AT OTTAWA, HESPELER, ONT., AND SEATTLE.

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—Francois Desloges, aged 40 years, a government printer, was killed, and his seven-year-old son, Alexandre, was fatally, and his nine-year-old daughter, seriously burned, in a fire which broke out in the family residence, 82 Nelson street, at 10.30 last night. The father had retired for the night in the upper part of the house, where the elder children were sleeping. Mrs. Desloges had remained downstairs operating a sewing machine, and was in the act of putting the cover on the machine when she overturned an oil lamp, setting fire to the curtains at the foot of the stairs. The flames quickly spread upstairs. The mother, seizing the two little ones who were with her, and crying out to those above to escape, rushed to the street, screaming. The alarm quickly spread, and the fire brigade was summoned. On arriving, the firemen rescued the father and two children in an unconscious condition, the father slightly burned, and the daughter with severe cuts about the hands, received in her efforts to break the window and escape. Mr. Desloges never recovered consciousness, but died a few minutes after being rescued. The boy was removed to Water Street Hospital, where he died at four o'clock this morning. The daughter will recover. Mrs. Desloges is nervously prostrated and under medical care. The fire did damage to the extent of $500.

Hespeler, Ont., Dec. 29.—Mrs. Hartsick, of this town, was badly burned yesterday by the ignition of a bottle of benzine which she was using, and died last night. The flames set fire to the house, and it was with difficulty that it was saved.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 29.—Fire to-day destroyed the Washington Children's Home, South Seattle. Two children were burned to death and the matron and a nurse were injured. The others escaped, clad only in their night robes. Mrs. Minnie Myers, the matron, was seriously injured and burned in an attempt to rescue the two children who were burned to death. Miss A. L. Hill, day nurse, was slightly burned, and was bruised in jumping from a second story window.

LAROCQUE COMMITTED.

Brockville, Dec. 27.—John Larocque, the Montreal man arrested on Saturday, after appearing at the home of his brother-in-law, Max Philion, was brought up in the Police Court to-day charged with pointing a loaded revolver with intent to shoot. His solicitor was willing to waive all preliminaries in order that his client might be committed for trial, but the magistrate wanted to hear some evidence relative to the charge, and in consequence called Philion, who narrated the circumstances of Larocque's visit to his home. The prisoner was then committed. During the proceedings Mrs. Philion, his sister, appeared in court, weeping, and sitting beside her brother, who also seemed to take the matter to heart.

FAMOUS OARSMAN DYING

Toronto, Dec. 30.—Ned Hanlan, for years the world's champion oarsman, is dying at his home on Beverley street, in the house given him by the city.

A FAKE BURGLARY.

Members of Duke of Westminster's Christmas House Party Made Raid on Cholmondeley Castle.

(New York 'Times.')

London, Dec. 28.—English society generally is greatly amused over the 'great robbery' perpetrated yesterday by members of the Duke of Westminster's Christmas house party at Eaton Hall, who selected for their field of operations Chomondeley Castle, the historic seat of the Marquess of Chomondeley, lord great chamberlain of England. Incidentally several detectives from Scotland Yard, as well as local Cheshire policemen and detectives, who swarmed over the castle and scoured the roads for miles around in a cold biting wind in search of the burglars, are feeling rather bad.

The raid on the castle was effected at midnight in approved motor car fashion the operators patterning their work after the style of the clever gang which ten days ago visited Lord Lonsdale's hunting box at Melton Mowbray, and carried off valuables in the automobile, and a week earlier visited Brooksby Hall, the seat of Col. Beatton, whose wife was the daughter of Marshall Field.

In view of the recent robberies, it is small wonder that the members of the Marquess of Cholmondeley's house party were greatly excited on learning at breakfast yesterday morning that the great hall had been entered during the night by burglars, who had accomplished the work of carrying off valuables right under the eyes of several generations of Cholmondeleys who haughtily looked down at the miscreants from their gilded environment.

Among the articles taken was a massive two-handed racing cup, won by Lord Cholmondeley with the famous 'Screech Owl,' at the Southdown hunt meeting. Several decanters of good wine also were taken, and a lot of good cigars. Investigation showed that the burglars had left a large lump of coal on the great oak table in place of the hunting cup, and that several coal scuttles had been filled with gold and silver plate and left near the window, giving the impression that the intruders had been frightened and had left hastily.

As soon as the Marquess of Cholmondeley learned the news, he summoned the superintendent of the Cheshire police, and within a short time detectives, including Scotland Yard men, were on the way to the castle.

Inquiry showed that a motor car arrived at the Chester entrance to Cholmondeley Castle Park about 2 o'clock in the morning. Footprints showed that a man had walked up and down as if to keep warm, and from this the detectives deduced that the car had been left in care of the chauffeur while the other occupants walked through the grounds and gained entrance to the castle dining room, the window cords of which were found broken.

After obtaining their booty it appeared that the burglars regained the motor car and drove off at such furious speed that when the car collided with the lodge gate it scattered fragments of both gate and car all about. The noise of the collision waked up the lodge keeper, who gave an alarm.

The excitement occasioned by the burglary spread throughout the entire country, and the newspapers at Chester made preparations to get out special editions telling of the burglary.

Late in the afternoon a detective made the discovery that several valuable necklaces and other trinkets had been fastened together and wrapped about the top of the chandelier in the dining room. Other discoveries also were made, each of which created additional wonder, Lord Cholmondeley's guests turning themselves into detectives and working to unravel the mystery.

After the police had spent a hard day, a deputation of the Duke of Westminster's house party motored over from Eaton Hall, not far away, and solved the mystery, explaining that they had accomplished the robbery as a practical joke, by which they hoped to enliven the Yuletide season.

They agreed to return the hunting cup on condition the Marquess handed over the lumps of coal. This exchange was made, and the amateur burglars went off to Easton Hall to play a new diversion.

London, Dec. 28.—The Duke of Westminster and his hilarious boon companions are now rather ashamed of their escapade as amateur burglars and their midnight descent upon Cholmondeley Castle, the residence of the Marquis of Cholmondeley in Cheshire.

The newspapers of Chester, where the Duke is almost an autocrat, have received a ducal ukase to make no further reference to the matter. The Duke, when invited by the Press Association to give a statement for publication, curtly refused.

The Marquis of Cholmondeley, though a sport himself, resents being victimized by a silly joke of this description, especially as the ducal marauding party not only shattered an ancient wooden gate when dashing away in their motor car, but also did considerable damage in the dining-room of the castle.

In addition to consuming large quantities of champagne and brandy, the ducal interlopers made off with Cholmondeley's specially made cigars.

While the raid upon Cholmondeley Castle was a joke, there is unmistakable evidence that the jokers were in a condition of obfuscation during the proceedings.

They left the chairs arranged in a pyramid on the dining table of the castle, the whole surmounted by an antique silver wine cooler, in which was placed a satirical address to the Marquis. The handwriting of this literary effort was disguised or rendered eccentric as a result of the attentions paid by the writer to the Cholmondeley champagne and brandy. The names signed to the address were also hardly decipherable.

There is a suspicion that at least one lady was a member of the marauding party. A lady's handkerchief, somewhat muddy, with a coronet embroidered in the corner, was picked up outside the window through which the ducal Raffleses entered the castle.

Two thousand dollars will not pay for the damage done by the make-believe burglars, especially as some silver articles which were taken away in a coal scuttle have been lost.

The Duke of Westminster is Lord-Lieutenant of Cheshire, and is not only the King's representative in the county, but is head and nominator of the magistracy. Therefore, this freak is frowned upon in the highest quarters.

It appears that the raid was decided upon after the Duchess of Westminster had retired for the night. She knew nothing about it until the following morning, when a servant informed her that the Duke's motor car, with the body much damaged, was found standing outside the front entrance, with a coal scuttle filled with silver ornaments, on the front seat.

The tenants and retainers on the Duke's estate shake their heads over the affair, and say they fear he is going at too fast a pace.

CANADIAN CABLES

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 30.—A Liverpool firm refused to accept wheat consigned to them by Messrs. Medley & Co., Toronto. The case comes up to-day. Mr. W. L. Griffith, secretary to Lord Strathcona, will be present for the purpose of explaining the regulations of the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce in regard to feed wheat.

London, Dec. 30.—Lord Strathcona has received from the Colonial Office a communication that a notice appears in the 'Official Gazette' at The Hague stating that the Minister of Foreign Affairs discourages emigration to Canada at present.

Another communication says the Netherlands consul-general at Toronto, Ont., states that a number of factories and shops are discharging numbers of men.

London, Dec. 30.—The Canadian Government has taken 121,500 feet of space at the Franco-British Exhibition, and 44,000 feet at Edinburgh. The Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific railways will both have space at the exhibitions.

London, Dec. 27.—'Liberal Colonial,' in a letter to the 'Times' on the all-red route, says nobody who has at all considered the scheme doubts but that there are grave difficulties to be overcome before the end can be realized. They may prove insurmountable, but their existence hardly forms an objection until this has been proved.

London, Dec. 25.—The secretary of the Empire Education League says there is no need of any man or woman with a little patience to be idle or unemployed in Canada, and that in view of hundreds of starving men striving to sell penny toys in Holborn, it is criminal to throw any damper on the zeal of the emigration societies.

TRIED TO END LIFE.

Ottawa, Dec. 23.—Harry Simonds, an immigrant who had been out of work for some time, attempted suicide this evening by shooting. The bullet, however, narrowly missed the heart, and he will probably live. His sweetheart came out from England a few days ago, but, finding him penniless, declined to wed, and went West. Brooding over this probably had something to do with Simmond's attempt at self-destruction.

WINNIPEG'S CHURCH CENSUS.

Winnipeg, Dec. 23.—Complete returns of the church census taken a month ago were announced to-day. After carefully examining the report, the estimate is that the city will have had figures similar to the following, on a basis of 100,000 population: Presbyterians, 18,000; Church of England, 17,000; Roman Catholic, 15,000; Methodist, 13,500; Baptist, 5,000; Hebrew, 3,000; Evangelical, Lutheran, 7,000; Congregational, 3,200; Salvation Army, 1,000; various denominations, 7,300; no preference of any kind, 8,000.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

Notices of births, marriages and deaths must invariably be endorsed with the name and address of the sender, or otherwise no notice can be taken of them. Birth notices are inserted for 25c, marriage notices for 50c, death notices for 25c prepaid. The announcement of funeral appended to death notice, 25c extra; other extension to obituary, such as short sketch of life, two cents per word extra, except poetry, which is 50 cents per line extra—prepaid.

Annual subscribers may have announcements of births, marriages and deaths (without extended obituary or verses) occurring in their immediate families, free of charge, in which case name and address of subscribers should be given.

MARRIED.

ARCHIBALD—ROBERTS.—At Toronto, on Dec. 25, 1907, by the Rev. Henry Sinclair, Mr. Samuel Andrew Archibald, son of Mr. James Archibald, of Seaforth, Ont., of the firm of Chesney & Archibald, Seaforth, Ont., to Miss Minnie Roberts, youngest daughter of the late Robert S. Roberts, Seaforth, Ont.

ASTLE — McDUFFIE — On Dec. 25, 1907, at Rochester, Vt., by the Rev. W. H. Watson, Thomas F. Astle, of Montreal, to Edith Isabel, youngest daughter of the late Dr. J. W. McDuffie, of Stanstead, Que.

CAMPBELL—WARDEN.—At the home of the uncle of the bride, Mr. Robert Hadvey, in the parish of St. Anicet, County of Huntingdon, Province of Quebec, on Dec. 25, 1907, by the Rev. E. W. Florence, minister of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Huntingdon, Mr. Alexander McDonald Campbell to Miss Isabella Mary Warden, both of the parish of St. Anicet.

FEATHERSTONE—STEVENSON.— At the home of the bride's parents, Campbellford, Ont., on Dec. 25, 1907, by the Rev. A. C. Reeves, B.A., George Hay Weatherstone, of Peterborough, Ont., to Sarah Ethel, daughter of William Stevenson.

FITZGERALD — YOUNG—At 'Algonquin Lodge,' Bradford, Ont., on Christmas Day, 1907, the home of the bride's parents, by the Rev. Egerton R. Young, the father of the bride, assisted by the Rev. E. Ryerson Young, brother of the bride, and the Rev. J. A. Long, Ph.D., of Bradford, Florence Ferrier, the second daughter of the Rev. Egerton R. and Elizabeth Young, was united in marriage to the Rev. A. Boylan FitzGerald, of Newark, N.J., a nephew of the late Bishop FitzGerald.

FORNERET—BOSTWICK—On Dec. 23, 1907, at Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal, by the Rev. Rural Dean James Carmichael, of Knowlton, Que., Victor F. W. Forneret, C.E., of the Marine Dept., Ottawa, to Minnie Cuthbert, daughter of the late John Bostwick, Berthier, Seignior of Lanorale and Dautrale.

GILBERT—HOWELL.—On Dec. 11, 1907, at 323 Catherine street, Ottawa, by the Rev. J. H. Turnbull, Elsie Margaret, only daughter of Wm. H. Howell, to Wm. Grant, eldest son of A. G. Gilbert, Experimental Farm.

JONES — CAMPBELL — At Avenue Road Presbyterian Church, Toronto, on Dec. 24, 1907, by the Rev. J. W. Stephen, Rodie, daughter of the late Roderick Campbell, Esq., to Dr. William Warner Jones.

LAMONTAGNE—DOWLING.— On Dec. 18, 1907, at St. Matthew's Church, Brandon, Man., by the Rev. A. U. De Pencier, Charles Horace Lamontagne to Clara May, youngest daughter of Mrs. William Dowling, of Covey Hill, Que.

LAUGHLIN — BRADLEY — On Dec. 23, 1907, by the Rev. James Lawson, at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. William James Laughlin, to Elizabeth Jane (Lizzie), eldest daughter of Mr. William Bradley, all of the Township of Fitzroy, Ont.

MACNAIR.—CLEMENTS. — On Dec. 14, 1907, at St. Alban's, Fulham, by the Rev. H. B. Forster, M.A., Neil Douglas Cameron, of Strathcona, Canada, youngest son of David MacNair, of Batavia and Forest Hill, and of Helen Cameron MacNair, of Baronstown, Dundalk, to Dorothy Z. C. V. D., youngest daughter of Edwin and Mary M. Drummond Clements, of 80 Baron's Court Road, London, W., England.

MACVICAR—STIRTON—In St. Paul, Minn., on Dec. 19, 1907, by the Rev. Dr. Maurice Edwards, Henrietta, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Stirton, of Guelph, Ontario, to Malcolm Guthrie MacVicar, son of the late Mr. George MacVicar, of Winnipeg.

McRAE — MacRAE — At the residence of the bride's father, on Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1907, by the Rev. R. Drinnan, Geo. R. McRae, of Gravenhurst, Ont., to Catherine Ann, daughter of Alex. J. MacRae, Esq., of Cardwell Township, Ont.

MOFFATT — FERRIER — On Dec. 24, 1907, by the Rev. Canon Baldwin, at All Saints' Church, Toronto, Margaret Ferrier, daughter of Dr. D. W. Ferrier, to Robert W. Moffatt, B.A., Sc.

OGILVIE—WALLACE.—On Dec. 24, 1907, at the residence of the bride's parents, 59C McLaren street, Ottawa, by the Rev. Mr. Snowdon, Gladys A., eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Wallace, to Noel J., eldest son of J. C. Ogilvie.

PARMENTER—HARGRAFT. — At Holy Trinity Church, Winnipeg, by the Venerable Archdeacon Fortin, on Dec. 26, 1907, Alice, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Hargraft, to Reginald Holland Parmenter, of Toronto, barrister-at-law.

PHILLIPS—RALSTON.— At Montreal, on Dec. 28, 1907, by the Rev. Calvin E. Amaron, M.A., D.D., Charles William Phillips and Louisa M. Ralston, both of Berthier (en haut), Que.

PORTEOUS—ROGERS.—On Dec. 23, 1907, at 21 Third avenue, Glebe, Ottawa, by the Rev. Mr. Parker, of McPhail Baptist Church, William L. Porteous to Miss Annie Rogers, of Bathurst, Ont.

QUAIL—FARWELL.—At the home of the bride's brother, Mr. James A. Farwell, Lennoxville, Wm. A. Quail, of Montreal, to Clara L. Farwell, of Compton, by the Rev. A. E. Saunderson, S.T.L., on Thurs. Dec. 26, 1907.

RUNIONS—FLEMMING.—At the home of the bride's father, Mr. Robert Flemming, Dixon, Ont., on Wednesday evening, Dec. 18, 1907, by the Rev. W. J. Beamish, W. Stanley Runions to Florence S. Flemming.

SHAMBROOK — GRANT — On Dec. 21, 1907, by the Rev. E. J. Etherington, at St. Thomas's Church, Hamilton, Ont., Helen Maud, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Grant, to William Davidson Shambrook, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Shambrook.

STEWART — WILL — In Victoria College Chapel, Queen's Park, Toronto, on Dec. 26, 1907, by the Rev. N. Burwash, D.D., Miss Alice A. Will, B.A., eldest daughter of the Rev. P. D. Will, Toronto, to Mr. Robert Holden Stewart, M.E., of Roseland, B.C.

SWEETNAM—STEWART.—At the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. C. H. Gooderham, 592 Sherbourne street, Toronto, on Dec. 25, 1907, by the Rev. S. Cleaver, Margaret Victoria Sweetnam to Dr. Cameron Robertson Stewart, of London, England.

THOMAS — HISLOP — On Dec. 9, 1907, at the residence of and by the Rev. J. Myles Crombie, Notre Dame des Neiges, Montreal, John Thomas, of Morrisburg, Ont., formerly of Llanddeusant, Carmarthenshire, S. Wales, to Robina Margaret Crozier, fourth daughter of the late Mrs. John Davidson, of St. Laurent, Montreal, and granddaughter of the late Robert Crozier, of Lachute, Que.

TOSH — LAFFERTY— At 202 Ryde street, Montreal, on Dec. 24, 1907, by the Rev. G. F. Kinnear, B.A., Elizabeth Lafferty to David Tosh, both of the city of Montreal.

WATSON — McINTYRE — At the home of the bride's parents, Township of Downie, County Perth, on Dec. 25, 1907, by the Rev. Walter Nichol, of Knox Church, St. Mary's, Clara V. McIntyre, to Robert Watson, merchant, of Norval, Halton County, Ont.

DIED.

AITKENHEAD.—At St. Luke's Hospital Ottawa, on Dec. 22, 1907, Elizabeth Stevenson McInnes, beloved wife of David Aitkenhead, 95 Turner street.

BASTEDO — On Dec. 23, 1907, at Newmarket, Ont., J. A. Bastedo, Postmaster, in his 67th year.

BECKSTEAD.—Sarah Nettie Kathleen, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Beckstead, 222 Congregation street, Point St. Charles, aged 1 year, 7 months and 8 days.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Francois Xavier Leduc, of the Town of Notre Dame de Grace, in his quality of institute to the substitution created by the terms of the last will and testament of the late Charles Leduc, his father, and of the codicils of the said last will, will apply to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, at its next session, for an act to authorize him to withdraw with the assistance of the curator of the said substitution, the moneys proceeding from the sale of the properties so substituted, to give a valid discharge to the buyers thereof, to provide that the latter shall not be bound to supervise the re-investment of said moneys, to authorize him to re-invest said moneys in accordance with the terms of Article 953-a of the Civil Code of Procedure of the Province of Quebec; and also to ratify the sale which he has already made of the said properties, and for other purposes connected therewith.

Montreal, December 16, 1907.

ALPHONSE DECARY,
Attorney for the Petitioner.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec at its next session for an Act to make special provision for the partition of the Estate of the late John Redpath, in his lifetime of the City of Montreal, and to ratify and confirm two deeds passed before W. deM. Marler, N.P., at Montreal, on the 5th October, 1907, between Francis Robert Redpath and others of the one part, and the said Francis Robert Redpath, Huntly Redpath Drummond and George Hyde of the other part, and to have the said deeds declared binding on all persons having or claiming under or by reason of the will of the said late John Redpath, any interest in or to any of the property in said deeds described or referred to.

Montreal, 30th November, 1907.

FLEET, FALCONER, WILLIAMS & BOVEY, Solicitors for Applicants.

NOTICE is hereby given that The Male Institution for the Catholic Deaf and Dumb of the Province of Quebec will apply to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, at its next session, to ask for an extension of the delay which is granted to it by the Section 5 of 7 Edward VII., chap. 102, to the effect of suspending the recourse of the creditors of the said Institution during three years; and to obtain a ratification of the sale to the said Institution of a lot of land belonging to the substitution created by the donation intervivos of Marie Anne Corbeil in favor of Pierre Picotte et uxor.

GEOFFRION, GEOFFRION & CUSSON,
Solicitors for The Male Institution for the Catholic Deaf and Dumb of the Province of Quebec.

Montreal, December 14th, 1907.

BRADD.—At Peterborough, Ont., on Dec. 23, 1907, F. J. Bradd, M.D., aged 48 years.

BUCK — At his late residence, in East Farnham, on Dec. 24, 1907, Cortez Buck, at the age of 73.

CAMPBELL.—On Dec. 19, 1907, at the residence of her son-in-law, James Brodie, Brodie, Ont., Mrs. Allan P. Campbell, aged 68 years, daughter of the late Donald McLaurin, of Breadalbane, Ont.

CORCORAN.—In this city, on Dec. 22, 1907, Edward B., son of the late B. F. Corcoran, pressman.

COWAN.—At Beech Ridge, Argenteuil Co., Que., on Dec. 23, 1907, Thomas Cowan, aged 74 years, 9 months and 20 days.

DENT.—On Dec. 23, 1907, at the residence of his son, John A. Dent, Rockland, Ontario, Lionel James Dent, in his 76th year.

ELLIS — On Dec. 27, 1907, at her residence, 4612 St. Catherine street, Westmount, Jane Ellis, eldest daughter of the late Robert Kirby, and widow of the late H. Ellis.

GRAHAM.—Suddenly, at 111 Union avenue, on Dec. 26, 1907, Mary Cockburn Harber, widow of the late George Harber, a native of Irvine, Ayrshire, Scotland.

HERALD — Suddenly, at Winnipeg, on Dec. 22, 1907, John Gratton Herald, only son of the late Dr. Herald, of Kingston, Ont., aged 23 years.

HUTCHESON — On Dec. 22, 1907, at the residence of her son, Richard Hutcheson, Gananoque, Ont., Margaret Hutcheson, widow of the late William Hutcheson, aged 70 years.

HYDE.—In Decorah, Iowa, U.S., Edward, son of the late George Hyde, St. Andrew's East, Que.

JARDINE — At Hespeler, Ont., on Dec. 24, 1907, Isabella Dawson, relict of the late A. B. Jardine, in her 86th year.

LEITCH — In Kingston, Ont., on Dec. 26, 1907, William Leitch, aged 73 years.

MEREDITH — At the family residence, London, Ont., on Dec. 24, 1907, Isabella Magdalene, second daughter of the late John C. Meredith, Esq.

M'TAVISH.—At Baltimore, Md., on Dec. 22, 1907, Mary Bayne, beloved wife of the Rev. Dr. McTavish, M.A., D.Sc., pastor of Central Presbyterian Church, Toronto, and daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Bayne, of Pictou, N.S.

OXLEY.—At Foothill, Ont., on Dec. 21, 1907, Annabella, widow of the late Albert Oxley, in the 74th year of her age.

POTTS.—On Dec. 21, 1907, at the late residence, 259 Palmerston avenue, Toronto, Rhoda Potts, widow of the late Samuel W. Potts.

READ.—At Detroit, Mich., on Dec. 20, 1907, Leonard Read, formerly of De Ramsay, Que., in his sixty-eighth year.

ROWBOTHAM—At Quebec, on Dec. 21, 1907, Elizabeth McIntyre, beloved wife of the late Jos. Rowbotham, aged 72 years and nine months.

ROWLAND.—On Thursday, Dec. 26, 1907, at his residence, 133 Rushbrooke street, Montreal, John Rowland, conductor G.T.R., aged 49 years.

Western Vermont and Brooklyn papers please copy.

STEWART.—At the Toronto General Hospital, on Dec. 21, 1907, Walter Gregg Stewart, aged 19 years, second son of the Rev. Alexander Stewart, D.D., Clinton, and grandson of the Rev. Prof. Gregg, Toronto.

TAYLOR.—At Dunnville, Ont., on Dec. 19, 1907, Mary, beloved wife of the late John Taylor, P.M., aged 66 years 11 months.

THOMPSON — On Dec. 18, 1907, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Wm. Carson, Nicolet Falls, Que., Eliza Lodge, widow of the late James Thompson, in her 84th year.

TRUSSELL — On Wednesday, Dec. 25, 1907, Alexander R. Trussell, beloved husband of Isabella Kyle, aged 38 years.

WATT — At his home in Barrie, on Dec. 9, 1907, Frank M. Watt, in his 58th year.

WHITMAN — At Lacolle, on Wednesday, Dec. 25, 1907, Jane Gunn, wife of Robert Whitman.

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PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the Corporation of the Village of St. Pierre-aux-Liens will apply to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, at its next session, for an act erecting it into a Town Corporation, under new name and under the Cities and Towns Act of 1903, extending its limits, more fully determining its powers of imposing and collecting certain taxes and licenses, determining the number and qualification of its aldermen, the mode of election of its mayor, modifying its borrowing power and for other purposes.

Montreal, December 6th, 1907.

ALPHONSE DECARY,
Attorney for the Corporation of the Village of St. Pierre-aux-Liens.

THE 'WEEKLY WITNESS' is printed and published at the 'Witness' Building, at the corner of Craig and St. Peter sts., in the city of Montreal, by John Redpath Dougall and Frederick Eugene Dougall, both of Montreal.

All business communications should be addressed 'John Dougall & Son,' and all letters to the Editor should be addressed 'Editor of the "Witness."'

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