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## THE POPE'S VIEWS

### On the Manitoba School Question Published at Last.

Quebec, Jan. 10.—The papal encyclical on the Manitoba schools was promulgated here yesterday by a pastoral letter from Archbishop Bégin, administrator of the diocese and coadjutor to Cardinal Taschereau, which was read in the Basilica.

The pastoral starts out with an explanation of the reason why the promulgation is made at Quebec instead of simultaneously all over the Dominion, and on this head it says:—"We are happy to-day to bring to your notice the encyclical letter which our Holy Father Leo XIII. has lately addressed to the archbishop, bishops and other ordinaries of the Canadian confederation in union with the Apostolic See. We were waiting, to publish it, for an opportune moment and for all archbishops and bishops of the Dominion to have received it and signed the collective letter destined to accompany it. But now His Holiness demands the promulgation without delay of this important document which has been despatched to us alone, in our quality as coadjutor to His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of the Metropolitan Church of Quebec, the mother of all the Churches of Canada."

With the statement that the encyclical was long expected His Grace goes on to praise Leo XIII. for his solicitude and fatherly affection, for the wisdom with which he has governed the Church, and for his care of its interests and especially for education of the youth in the smallest and humblest, as well as in the largest and proudest of the states into which the world is divided.

#### STORY OF THE TROUBLE.

Then, taking up the Manitoba school question he traces its history from the beginning to the present day. Claiming that the bishops were justified in acting as they did on the subject, and that their course was not influenced by leaning towards one political party more than the other, but by duty and love of justice, he refers to the later phases of the difficulty in these terms:—"The Federal law proposed to solve the question, was foiled, and, since that moment, our country has continued to be the scene of painful strife. A new government took the place of the old one, and we learned one day that between it and the Government of Manitoba, an agreement had taken place, a compromise had been concluded. That compromise was not the restitution of the rights violated; it was not even an improvement that might coincide with the prescriptions of the Church so formal in this matter. How could the episcopate have approved it. The bishops, therefore, declared it unacceptable, and the Catholics of Manitoba continued to support their own schools at the cost of the greatest sacrifices."

But the situation was becoming more and more strained. The question was presented to the Pope, to that venerated head of the Church, whom Catholics acknowledge as their supreme pastor, to that great diplomatist, to that master both prudent and wise, whom even they who are not his sons have chosen for the arbitrator of their difficulties. As he has already done, in similar circumstances, for other nations, Leo XIII. was pleased to act as our teacher and our guide. But before expressing his judgment in so grave a matter, and in order to give satisfaction to all, the Sovereign Pontiff appointed a delegate Apostolic and charged him to present a report after having heard the parties interested.

Leo XIII. speaks, therefore, to us today, our dearly beloved brethren, with a heart full of the loveliest affection, but not without having examined and naturally weighed all, confident that his word should be greeted as a word of equity and peace. His admirable encyclical will provide a theme for many salutary instructions; but it is not our intention to comment on it to-day. We wish simply to promulgate it by giving its sense and bearing. That sense, however, is quite clear and cannot lead to discussion."

#### LIGHT ON THE ENCYCLICAL.

The pastoral then goes on at great length to explain the encyclical, dividing it into three principal parts:—First, principles of the Catholic Church regarding education; second, appreciation of all the events relating to the Manitoba school question from the law of 1890 until the present day; third, duty of Catholics and of all citizens, regarding this question, in the future.

On the latter head, which is probably the most important, His Grace declares that: (1) Catholics are bound to strive to reconquer, by all legal means at their disposal, all their rights in their fulness. "Such," says the Pope, "must be the aim in view, such the object to be pursued with zeal and prudence."

(2) In this difficult struggle, in which all should have the same ambition and the same desires; to render entire justice

to the minority, if honest differences of opinion may occur, nevertheless these various sentiments, stated with all moderation and charity, finish by being effaced and blended in a certain manner into a common sentiment and a brotherly unanimity. The principle of such unity of action is the episcopal authority and direction, without which nothing must be done nor undertaken, "non sine consilio vestro."

(3) The Roman Catholics of Manitoba must be disposed, as they have always been, to accept, without ceasing to claim entire justice, the partial reparations which they may obtain, provided, naturally, that they agree with the doctrines of the Church, and cause to disappear from the schools the neutral teaching condemned by the Sovereign Pontiff.

(4) The Holy Father, trusting in the excellence of the cause of the Roman Catholics, expresses the hope that, owing to the equity and the real prudence we have a right to expect from our governments, owing also to the good will and the spirit of justice of all Canadians, this thorny question will finish by receiving a thoroughly satisfactory solution. He also greatly relies, to reach this end, on the loyal and enlightened concurrence of journalists whose task is so noble and so important, but may worthily fulfil their mission only by respecting the rights of truth, of justice, of religion, and by obediently following the episcopal directions."

(5) As long as justice will not have been obtained the Roman Catholics will aid with their alms in the support of the Roman Catholic schools of Manitoba, and they cannot perform a better and holier work. For our part, we desire that the work of the Manitoba pence, approved by the Holy See, be encouraged by all the Roman Catholics of our diocese.

(6) The bishops must provide for their authority and with the aid of those who direct educational establishments that a full programme of studies be carefully and wisely elaborated, and that such only be admitted as professors who are endowed with the qualities requisite for the functions of a solid and profoundly religious teaching.

#### IN CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the pastoral says: "Nothing remains to us now but to appeal to the spirit of faith and submission with which we know you to be animated towards the Holy See. We are desirous to proclaim it aloud; we are above all political parties; we have no intention to be bound to any. That which we desire is the triumph of a sacred cause and not the triumph of party. And this triumph we hope that men of heart, all friends of justice and liberty, will help us to obtain."

There is no question of coming back upon an unfortunate past; this is the hour for a complete, entire reparation that we expect and that hour all sympathies, every noble courage, every generous kindness must strive to hasten. Let public men therefore unite together and have recourse to the means that wisdom and patriotism shall inspire in them to put an end to the violent state of things we are all enduring. They know the means of action authorized by the constitution. Let justice come from the government at Winnipeg, induced to repair the injustice committed; let it come to us from the Federal Government by an efficacious and abiding law, as we have already demanded, or even, were it possible, from the Imperial Government. We shall rejoice thereat and the heart of the Sovereign Pontiff—we know it—will be consoled.

"In the name of justice, in the name of that harmony that should reign among all the citizens of the same country, we invite Protestants—whom a diversity of belief does not prevent from being our brothers—to give us their hand and to work with us. Already many of their numbers, by what they have done in the past, have acquired titles to our gratitude, of which we here offered them the sincere expression. All, such is our hope, will listen to our voice; they will treat that small but valiant minority of Manitoba as they would be treated themselves were they in their place. We rely upon them, and let it be known to them, the victory that they shall win, will be theirs as well as it is ours, as it will be the victory of right and of liberty."

#### THE ENCYCLICAL.

#### FULL TEXT OF THE POPE'S RECENT UTTERANCE.

The following is the official translation of the Pope's encyclical on the school question:—

To our venerable brothers, the archbishops, bishops and other ordinaries of the Dominion of Canada, having peace and communion with the Apostolic See, Leo P. XIII.:

Venerable brothers, health and apostolic benediction:

In addressing you, as we most willingly do, there naturally occurs to our mind the continual interchange of proofs of mutual kindness and good offices that have ever existed between the Apostolic See and the people of Canada. The charity of the Roman Catholic Church watched by your very cradle, and she has never ceased since she has received

you into her maternal bosom to hold you in a close embrace and bestow benefits on you with a prodigal hand.

If that man of immortal memory, Francis de Laval Montmorency, first Bishop of Quebec, was able to happily accomplish for the public good such deeds of renown as your forefathers witnessed, it was because he was supported by the authority and favor of the Roman pontiffs, nor was it from any other source that the works of succeeding bishops, men of great merit, had their origin and drew their guarantee of success.

#### CHAPTER OF HISTORY.

In the same way, to go back to earlier days, it was through the inspiration and initiative of the Apostolic See, that generous bands of missionaries undertook the journey to your country, bearing, together with the light of the gospel, a higher culture and the first germs of civilization. It was these germs, rendered fruitful by their devoted labors, that have placed the people of Canada, although of recent origin, on an equal footing of culture and glory with the most polished nations of the world.

It is most pleasing to recall those beloved facts, all the more so because we can still contemplate their abundant fruits. Assuredly the greatest of these is that amongst the Catholic people there is an ardent love and zeal for our holy religion, for that religion which your ancestors, coming providentially first and chiefly from France, then from Ireland, and afterwards from elsewhere, faithfully practiced and transmitted as an invaluable deposit to their children. But if the children have faithfully preserved this previous inheritance it is easy for us to understand how much of praise is due to your vigilance and your zeal, venerable brothers.

How much also is due to the zeal of your clergy, for all of you have labored with unanimity and assiduity for the preservation and advancement of the Catholic faith, and we must pay this homage to the truth, without meeting with disfavor or opposition from the laws of the British Empire. Thus it was that when moved by the consideration of your common merits we raised, a few years ago, the Archbishop of Quebec to the Cardinalate dignity, we had in view not only to recognize his personal merits, but also to repay a tribute of homage to the piety of all your Catholic people.

#### OUR YOUTH.

As regards the education of youth, upon which rest the best hopes of religious and civil society, the Apostolic See has never ceased, in conjunction with you and your predecessors, to occupy itself. Hence were founded in great numbers in your country institutions destined for the moral and scientific instruction of youth, institutions which are now flourishing under guardianship and protection of the Church. Amongst these the university of Quebec, adorned with all the titles and enjoying all the rights which Apostolic authority is accustomed to confer, occupies a place of honor, and sufficiently proves that the Holy See has no greater preoccupation nor desire than the formation of youthful citizens distinguished by intellectual culture and commendable by reason of their virtue.

Therefore, it was with extreme solicitude, as you can readily understand, that we turned our mind to unhappy events which in these latter years have marked the history of Catholic education in Manitoba. It is our wish, and this wish is a duty for us to strive to obtain and to effectively obtain by all the means and all the efforts in our power, that no hurt shall come to religion among so many thousands of souls whose salvation has been specially committed to us, especially in the country which owes to the Church its initiation in Christian doctrine and the first rudiments of civilization. And since many expected that we should make a pronouncement on the question, and asked that we should trace a line of conduct and a way to be followed, we did not wish to decide anything on this subject before our apostolic delegate had been on the spot, charged to proceed to a serious examination of the situation, and to give an account to us of the state of affairs. He has faithfully and diligently fulfilled the command which we had given him.

#### THE PRESENT QUESTION.

The question agitated is one of great and exceptional importance. We speak of the decision taken seven years ago by the Parliament of Manitoba on the subject of education. The act of Confederation had secured to Catholic children the right of education in public schools in keeping with their conscientious convictions. The Parliament of Manitoba abolished this right by a contrary law. By this latter law a grave injury was inflicted, for it was not lawful for our children to seek the benefits of education in schools in which the Catholic religion is ignored or actively combated; in schools where its doctrine is despised and its fundamental principles repudiated. If the Church has anywhere permitted this it was only with great reluctance and in self-defence; and after having taken many precautions, which, however, have too often been found unequal to parrying the danger. In like manner, one must at all cost avoid as most pernicious those schools wherein every form of belief is indifferently admitted and placed on an equal footing, as if in what regards God and divine things it was of no importance whether one believed rightly

or wrongly, whether one followed truth or falsehood. You well know, venerable brothers, that all schools of this kind have been condemned by the Church because there can be nothing more pernicious or more fitted to injure the integrity of faith, and to turn away the tender minds of youth from the truth.

#### ANOTHER POINT.

There is another point on which even those who differ from us in all else will agree with us, namely, that it is not by means of a purely scientific instruction, nor by vague and superficial notions of virtue that Catholic children will leave school educated as their country desires and expects. They must be more deeply and fully instructed in their religion if they are to become good Christians, honest and upright citizens. The formation of their character must be the result of principles which, deeply engraven on their consciences, will impose themselves on their lives as the natural consequences of their faith and religion, for without religion there is no moral education worthy of the name, none truly efficacious, seeing that the nature and force of all duties are derived chiefly from those special duties which bind man to God, who commands, who forbids and who had accorded a salvation to good or evil.

Wherefore, to hope to have souls imbued with good morals, and at the same time to leave them deprived of religion, is as senseless as to invite to virtue after having overthrown its very foundation. For the Catholic there is but one true religion, the Catholic religion, hence in all that concerns doctrine or morality or religion, he cannot accept or recognize anything which is not drawn from the very sources of Catholic teaching.

Justice and reason demand then that our children have in their schools, not only scientific instruction, but also moral teachings in harmony, as we have already said, with the principles of their religion, teachings, without which all education will be not only fruitless but absolutely pernicious. Hence the necessity of having Catholic teachers, reading books and text books approved of by the bishops, and liberty to organize the schools, that the teaching therein shall be in full accord with the Catholic faith as well as with all the duties that flow therefrom.

#### RIGHTS OF PARENTS.

For the rest, to decide in what institution their children shall be instructed, who shall be their teachers of morality, is a right inherent to parental authority. When, then, Catholics demand, and it is their duty to demand and to strive to obtain that the teaching of the masters shall be in conformity with the religion of their children, they are only making use of their rights; and there can be nothing more unjust than to force on them the alternative of allowing their children to grow up in ignorance or expose them to manifest danger in what concerns the supreme interests of their souls.

It is not right to call in doubt or to abandon in any way these principles of judging and acting which are founded on truth and justice, and which are the safeguards both of public and private interests.

Wherefore, thus when the new law in Manitoba struck a blow at Catholic education, it was your duty, Venerable Brothers, to freely protest against the injury and disaster inflicted; and the way in which you all fulfilled that duty is a proof of your common vigilance, and of a spirit truly worthy of bishops; and although each one of you will find on this point a sufficient approbation in the testimony of his own conscience, learn, nevertheless, that you have also our concurrence and our approbation, for the things which you sought and still seek to protect and defend are most sacred.

The difficulties created by the law of which we speak, by their very nature, showed that an amelioration was to be sought for in a united effort. For so worthy is the Catholic cause that all good and upright citizens, without distinction of party, should have banded themselves together in a close union to uphold it. Unfortunately for the success of this cause the contrary took place. What is more deplorable still is that Catholic Canadians themselves failed to unite as they should in defending those interests, which are of such importance to all, the importance and gravity of which should have stilled the voice of party politics, which are of much less importance.

#### Laurier-Greenway Settlement.

We are not unaware that something has been done to amend that law. The men who are at the head of the Federal Government and of the province of Manitoba have already taken certain measures with a view to decreasing the difficulties of which the Catholics of Manitoba complain, and against which they rightly continue to protest. We have no reason to doubt that these measures were taken from love of justice and from a laudable motive. We cannot, however, disguise the truth, the law which they have passed to repair the injury is defective, unsuitable, insufficient. The Catholics ask, and no one can deny that they justly ask, for much more. Moreover, in the relief measures that have been proposed there is this defect, that in changes of local circumstances they may easily be valueless. In a word, the rights of Catholics and the education of their children have not been sufficiently provided for in Mani-

toba. Everything in this question demands, and is conformable to justice, that they should be thoroughly provided for, that is, by placing as security and surrounding with due safeguards those unchangeable and sacred principles of which we have spoken above. This should be the aim, this the end to be zealously and prudently sought for.

Nothing can be more injurious to the attainment of this end than discord. Unity of spirit and harmony of action are most necessary. Nevertheless, since as frequently happens in things of this nature, there is not one fixed and determined, but various ways, of arriving at the end which is proposed, and which should be obtained, it follows that there may be various opinions all equally good and advantageous. Wherefore, let each and all be mindful of the rules of moderation, gentleness and mutual charity; let no one fall in the respect that is due to another, but let all resolve in fraternity, unanimity and not without due advice, to do that which the circumstances require and which appears best to be done.

As regards especially the Catholics of Manitoba, we have every confidence that with God's help they will succeed in obtaining full satisfaction. This hope is found, in the first place, in the righteousness of their cause; next, in the sense of justice and prudence of the men at the head of the government, and, finally, in the good will of all upright men in Canada.

#### DUTY OF CATHOLICS.

In the meantime, until they are able to obtain their full rights let them not refuse partial satisfaction. If, therefore, anything is granted by law, or custom, or the good will of men which will render the evil more tolerable and the dangers more remote, it is expedient and useful to make use of such concessions, and to derive therefrom as much benefit and advantage as possible. Where, however, no remedy can be found for the evil, we must exhort, and beseech that it be provided against by the liberality and munificence of their contributions, for no one can do anything more salutary for himself or more conducive to the prosperity of his country than to contribute according to his means to the maintenance of these schools.

There is another point which appeals to your common solicitude, namely, that by your authority and with the assistance of those who direct educational institutions, an accurate and suitable curriculum of studies be established, and that it be especially provided that no one shall be permitted to teach who is not amply endowed with all the necessary qualities, natural and acquired, for it is only right that Catholic schools should be able to compete in bearing, culture and scholarship with the best in the country.

As concerns intellectual culture and the progress of civilization, one can only recognize as praiseworthy and noble the desire of the provinces of Canada to develop public instruction, and to raise its standard more and more, in order that it may daily become higher and more perfect.

#### A WORD TO JOURNALISTS.

Now, there is no kind of knowledge, no perfection of learning, which cannot be fully harmonized with Catholic doctrine, especially Catholics who are writers on the daily press can do much towards explaining and defending what we have already said. Let them, therefore, be mindful of their duty. Let them secretly and courageously uphold what is true, what is right, what is useful to the Christian religion and the state; let them do it, however, in a decorous manner. Let them avoid personalities, let them never overstep the bounds of moderation. Let them respect and religiously take heed to the authority of the bishops and all legitimate authority. The greater the difficulties of the time and the more imminent the danger of dissension, the more studiously should they endeavor to promote unity of thought and action, without which there is little or no hope that that which we all desire will be obtained.

As a pledge of heavenly gifts and a testimony of our fraternal good will receive the apostolic benediction, which we lovingly impart in the Lord to you Venerable Brothers, and to your clergy and people.

Given at Rome, from St. Peter's, on the 8th of December, 1897, in the twentieth year of our pontificate.

(Signed) LEO P.P. XIII.

#### MRS. STERNAMAN'S CHILDREN.

Cayuga, Ont., Jan. 8.—As the time for the carrying out of the death sentence on Mrs. Sternaman approaches preparations have been actively going on to make everything ready. Mrs. Sternaman, realizing the terrible position in which she now stands, made to-day disposition of her two boys, aged three and ten years respectively, to Mrs. Chipman, mother of her first husband, E. Chipman, through T. A. Snider, barrister, of Cayuga, in the presence of her spiritual advisers, the Rev. J. D. Edgar and the Rev. J. G. Foote, both of Cayuga.

#### THE LICENSE RESOLUTIONS.

Quebec, Jan. 10.—The government's license resolutions will not be introduced to-day. This much, however, is certain of them, they will only cover urgent matters undisputed and admitted by all parties.

## IN THE SOUDAN.

### CONFLICT BETWEEN BRITISH FRENCH TROOPS BELIEVED TO BE IMMINENT.

Cairo, Jan. 9.—The Dervishes continue massing their forces between eight and nine miles below Khartoum, and there is great activity at Omdurman, with forwarding of supplies to that port.

Nothing is known here in confirmation of the report that the French mission under Capt. Marchand has arrived at Fashoda.

The railway to Assouan, just below the first cataract, will be completed in a few days.

London, Jan. 8.—The Anglo-Egyptian force now operating on the Nile, consists of 18,000 Egyptians, three battalions of British troops and the Nile gunboats, all commanded by the Sirdar Sir Herbert Kitchener. The latter refuses to allow the war correspondents to go beyond the rail-head.

New York, Jan. 9.—Mr. Harold Frederic cabling to the New York 'Times,' regarding the rumored French advance southward on the Nile, says:—"Circumstances have suddenly forced the Nile valley complications into extraordinary prominence. My despatch last week reflected the notion, based on several disconnected signs, that the next few days would see troops despatched from Malta to Alexandria. It was a curiously close guess, because Monday saw England thrown into excitement over just this announcement. The most obvious popular explanation of this hurried mustering and dispatch of all arms of the service of Egypt, apparently on a moment's notice, is that it was induced by the news of Marchand's French expedition coming down the Nile toward Khartoum. From this to the suspicion that the Menelik Dervishes and the French are all in a combination hostile to England, was but a step and was taken at a single leap.

Reflections now seem to cool this perturbation, but it remains true that the English at the present moment are angrier with the French than at any time in a dozen years past. In their existing mood it would take very little indeed to make a French war welcome to the mass of them, and tolerable to even a majority of the rest. These French exploring parties have been troubling John Bull's outlying ports like mosquitoes for years and if they served any useful end on earth he could perhaps have schooled himself not to mind them. But they are the sheerest perverse foolishness conceivable. The French have pre-empted hundreds of thousands of square miles in Africa which they have made not the slightest attempt to colonize nor to develop in any way, but with which no one dreams of interfering. Solely to keep quiet an ignorant little gang of the demagogue of the deputies and editors in Paris, the French Government has convived ever since M. Hanotaux was in office, at expeditions under French officers wandering round toward the great lakes and tributaries of the Nile in a territory expressly declared and understood to be in the British sphere of influence, for no conceivable purpose but to exasperate the English. Well, at last, they have fairly succeeded.

If Marchand, with his handful of whites and his two toy steamers, is really up on the Nile at Fashoda, it will be better for him to stay there, for if the English advance comes across him there will be complications that will not be easily settled without blood. Military men who know Egypt best, I may say, discredit the theory that this rush to arms is to defend Berber against an advance of the Dervishes. They are unable to see why the Kalifa should thus gratuitously play the English game, for that he would be whipped out of his boots is beyond question. But what the real reason is is not so clear. Some fancy it turns on Marchand's expedition, but since at the utmost only eight white men are in it, that seems to hardly call for so many regiments of British troops. A graver speculation is that trouble with the Abyssinians is imminent. Menelik has always been distrusted here and perhaps his willingness to be led by the nose by the French is exaggerated, but certainly it would not surprise the English to learn that he had laid aside for the time being his evangelical Christian mission in order to make common cause with the Kalifa and drive the English out of the Nile valley."

Berlin, Jan. 8.—The diplomats of Berlin expect serious trouble between France and Great Britain as the outcome of the race to Khartoum. They say that if France arrives there first there is bound to be war, as Great Britain could not submit to it since Lower Egypt is valueless without this key of inner Africa.

#### HELD A POW-WOW.

Winnipeg, Jan. 10.—The Sioux Indians held a pow-wow with the whites at Brandon on Saturday to air their grievances against Mr. Marcell, Indian agent. They say he is too arbitrary, did not help them in farming operations and would not hear their protests.



LITERARY REVIEW.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF KNOWLEDGE.

The numerous ways in which the human mind is liable to find itself mistaken, the various illusions and fallacies that are seen to entrap our thinking powers and even our senses, doubtless give rise in the first instance to the questions that again and again in the history of thought have clamored for decisive answer: 'Do we know anything at all?' and 'How can we know that we know anything?' The department of philosophy which deals with these fundamental questions is called epistemology. Hardly any very modern works of philosophy, at least in the English language, have been devoted to the discussion of this problem, and the place of a pioneer is claimed for 'Philosophy of Knowledge,' by George Trumbull Ladd, professor of philosophy in Yale University, (Scriber's.) Professor Ladd calls his book 'A philosophical criticism of knowledge, with a view to point out its origin and nature as implicating reality, . . . and to mark out its limits . . . especially by distinguishing the sources and kinds of error and of half-truths.' After stating the nature of the problem he devotes a couple of chapters to the history of what has been said on the subject by philosophers of many ages, saying:

This brief survey of the history of opinion, if it does not start us on our way with handfuls of coin which will pass current in the markets of the present world of thought, may serve to warn us in what direction our journey lies, through what thickets, and swamps we must find a path, and over what mountains we must pass—as well as surely a no less important lesson—what short cuts we must avoid taking with the vain hope thus more easily to reach the desired end.

Professor Ladd is a careful student of Kant, but disagrees with many of Kant's conclusions. Like Kant, he plainly interests himself in recognizing the bases of knowledge, but he does not define the limitations of intellect in order to 'make room for faith.' He asserts that every complete act of cognition or knowing, involves to some extent the feelings and the will, and therefore includes some degree of faith. 'For knowledge and faith are not really distinguished after the critical fashion which Kant made so disastrous to the integrity of both.' The first enemy on the ground is agnosticism or the conviction that we do not know, and cannot know anything—a very curious doctrine to believe, but one which finds many supporters. This general philosophic agnosticism is to be carefully distinguished from the religious agnosticism which merely denies us the knowledge of God, 'but the agnostic or despairing attitude toward the problem of knowledge itself lies, both logically and in fact, at the base of all other agnosticism and of manifold forms of despair.' To this agnosticism Mr. Ladd's first answer is that if we can even 'know that we don't know' we are caught in the act of knowing something.

'I-do-not-know' is itself an experience, which is pregnant with meaning only as it carries within itself all the life from which springs a world of transcendent reality. For the 'I' which avows itself to be in this state of negation is as truly a self-known self as is the confident Ego of the most credulous dogmatist. The state of negation, or non-knowledge, in which it knows itself to be, is meaningless, except as contrasted with the memory-image of previous states of knowledge.

But if we 'know' at all there are several things implied in the mere fact of knowing. The first of these is, of course, our own existence, and Mr. Ladd makes a striking point in placing second the existence of other minds similar to our own. For even our own investigation as to the validity of an argument 'implies some standard to determine the justice of the issue,' necessarily outside ourselves and yet necessarily of a nature corresponding to our own mental constitution. The reductio ad absurdum occurs when a man holding the view that we can know nothing of other minds tries to prove his view to the public, thus taking for granted that he knows enough of other minds to judge what arguments will convince them. The third 'implicate,' of knowledge is the existence of a world, a unity of which we are a part. Without following up this line (which would bring us into another department of philosophy) Mr. Ladd takes up among other related ideas the subject of error. He would hardly agree with that sage who said, 'It would be better not to know so many things than to know so many things that are not so.' On the contrary, his whole argument is to show that, in spite of errors from many sources, our knowledge of mind and of things is valid on the whole, and increasingly so. To show the relation of our knowledge to

our non-knowledge, he uses a very simple illustration.

For example, an elm tree is a plant and not an animal; but an elephant is an animal and not a plant. Thus much may be affirmed without hesitation. But this elm tree and this elephant are in several important respects, alike; and there are some beings possessing the most important of these respects, common to elm tree and to elephant, about which biology is in doubt as to whether they are plants or animals. Between these being of a doubtful class, and both elm tree and elephant, a continuous series of living forms can be interposed. In other words, one is not forced to deny the important distinctions between certain attitudes of mind that are plainly cognitions with all which this implies, and certain other attitudes that plainly fall short of being cognitions, because one can give no universal rule for distinguishing cognitions, or because one finds one's actual cognitions capable of being arranged in varying degrees of approach to the standard which measures them all.

Students of philosophy will find many special points such as 'The aesthetic momenta of knowledge,' dealt with in some detail. 'Monism,' 'idealism,' and other theories receive due attention. The style is fairly brilliant, and might occasionally be clearer if less imaginative. A couple of passages will show the strong and sunny spirit which permeates the whole. First, when a picture is drawn of the metaphysical ghosts of doubt returning in spite of the boasts of a scientific materialism, the author says:—

Shall we then steal silent and despairing into the dark forests of a total agnosticism, or run shrieking to the mad house where untamed imagination and irrational feeling hold their riotous sway; or shall we set our teeth and button up well our overcoats against the cold and go about our business resolutely believing what we know to be untrue? Perhaps, we may find a yet 'more excellent way.' For it may be that faith and intellect, feeling and thinking and willing, can all be combined into a right attitude of our cognitive souls toward truth, life and all reality.

And, again, in the concluding chapter we read, 'Man knows Reality because Reality is of his own kinship. In knowledge will answers to will and mind to mind. Yes; there are even indications in the very nature of cognition that what ethics and religion crave to discover is true; and that heart speaks to heart a voice whose promises are often obscure but never wholly false. Knowledge is indeed relative, but is itself the establishment of a relation between the Revealer, the Absolute Self, and the Self to whom the revelation comes.' (W. Foster Brown, \$4.00).

A CREEL OF IRISH STORIES.

'A Creel of Irish Stories' by Jane Barlow (Methuen's Colonial Library) contains the following tales: 'The Keys of the Chest,' 'A Deserted Child,' 'An Account Settled,' 'McNeill's Tiger-sheep,' 'The Snakes and Norah,' 'Three Pint Measures,' 'The Surree at Mahon's,' 'The Shortest Way,' 'The Stay-at-homes,' 'A Proud Woman.' Miss Barlow is renowned as a writer of Irish stories. She tells of village quarrels, friendships, bargains and love affairs with a constant perception of local characteristics. The quiet country life which is perhaps disappearing from Ireland as well as from other lands is skilfully depicted. In 'The Stay-at-homes' we hear of a village in which a railway journey of more than seven miles was regarded as a great undertaking.

As for Dublin, that had hitherto seemed a goal which remoteness and magnitude made hardly accessible even to imagination. Let-trown folk considered vaguely that it would need a sight of money and a powerful length of time to bring you thither, and what might be expected to befall you there was so hard to say that your return seemed misty indeed. Yet here was a printed notice boldly promising, 'To Dublin and back for two shillings,' and going into circumstantial details about a train departing at six in the morning, and arriving at noon, and leaving again at midnight. 'Twenty-four hours for twenty-four pence,' it ended epigrammatically, and some of its readers felt no manner of doubt that each one of them would be an hour of rapture unalloyed. Others were less confident. Old Dan Molloy had heard tell of there being such thick fogs in Dublin most winters that people 'were as apt to walk plump into the river as anywhere else, which was a terrible dangerous thing.' And the Widow Loughlin had been told that 'thim quare excursion trains as often as not got shunted off into a siding before they came to any place, and the crathurs in them did be left there perishin' for nobody knew how long.' Several of the neighbors also wondered whether the people would have to be sitting in their seats all the time she was stopping in Dublin station, for that wouldn't be very gay at all. Mr. Farrell, the station master, was frequently called upon to clear up this or some similar perplexity.

The idea of taking this trip was entertained by an enterprising old widow 'whose age never estimated at less than "rale ould entirely," is by some people asserted to be "every day of ninety year." A neighbor remonstrated with her in the following terms:

'Supposin' I had the chance itself, which I haven't, it's long sorry I'd be to settin' off on any such a demitted stravade. Sure, werman alive, them that has the age on

them of you and me is bound to be travellin' p'intinly, whether or no, far enough to content anybody, unless it was the Wanderin' Jew. So, where's the sense of tatterin' about afore then in them racketin' smoky trains? I declaas to you I hate the noise and smell of them passin' by there, goodness forgive me, and it's only the natur of them after all.'

(Copp, Clark Co., Toronto.)

VIVIAN OF VIRGINIA.

'Vivian of Virginia,' by Hulbert Fuller (Lamson, Wolfe & Co., Boston), is a prettily written romance of the rising known as 'Bacon's Rebellion,' which occurred when Sir William Berkeley was governor of Virginia under Charles the Second and refused to let the colonists fight the Indians, who were carrying out massacres. His own monopoly of Indian trade was the important thing to him. Nathaniel Bacon was the leader of the people in a general rising. The governor's niece favored the cause of the people and gave them secret aid. It was at her request that young Vivian, just arrived from England, first became mixed up with the affairs of the colony:

In response to my heavy footsteps on the rough board floor, a tall brawny fellow, heavily bewhiskered, came out of an adjoining room and inquired my business.

'I must have a horse to-night, sir,' I replied briskly, 'or, rather, bethinking myself that I should not go alone, three of them, my friend, and only such as are able to carry three men of goodly weight on a continuous journey of fifty miles.'

Paying scarce any heed to my request, he scanned me sharply from head to foot. 'In what direction, pray,' he asked, finally, 'would you be travelling at this late hour?'

I was as much astonished, I remember, as irritated by the man's inquisitiveness. But attributing it to the love of his nags, and unwillingness to let them go out at that late hour, I replied, curtly, 'Where I am travelling, sir, is my own affair. Here are three hundred crowns for the return of the animals, and a fair sum for their use until that time.'

'You may keep your money, sir,' he answered, dryly: 'My horses are not for hire.' 'What do you mean?' I demanded, impatiently. 'I was told that I could be accommodated here.'

'And who told you that?' he asked, in a cool indifference, whilst he picked up a coarse broom and began sweeping the dirt back from the doors as though he would close them for the night.

Seeing, perforce, that the man had an obstinate will of his own, and that I was only losing time by parleying with him, I smothered my wrath the while I bethought me of Mistress Langdon's words. Then knocking to his mood for the nonce, I replied: 'Why, sir, I was told by Mistress Langdon to call for your gray nag—if it be any concern of yours to know who sent me.'

'And it is, sir,' he exclaimed, dropping the broom so that it smelted to the sprightly change in his behaviour. 'It concerns me as well as others, a great deal. You shall be accommodated as quickly as you desire, and need say nought about the pay. Only you see, sir,—and he looked at me knowingly,—'it behooves us to act cautiously.'

The adventures narrated show the life of the times, and the love story is as pretty and simple as possible. The historical element conveys one of the finest stories of dignified colonial protest against the royally authorized misgovernment so common in that day. (\$1.75.)

BY IAN MACLAREN.

In 'The Potter's Wheel,' Ian Maclaren discusses many of the ordinary problems of life. The motto is:—

Ay, note that Potter's Wheel, That metaphor, and feel Why Time spins fast, why passy lies our clay. . . .

He fixed thee 'mid this dance, Of plastic circumstance, This present thou, forsooth, would'st fain arrest: Machinery just meant To give thy soul its bent. Try thee and turn thee forth sufficiently impressed.

One of the most awful and hopeless thoughts which can possess the human mind, says Mr. Watson, is that we are all caught in the moving wheels of a huge machine, which has no hand to control it, and goes on relentlessly of its own accord. This is the thought of unbelief. Faith holds with the scriptures that God is the potter and we are the clay, and 'as for the innumerable and inexplicable circumstances of life, they are simply the whirling wheel on which the clay is changed and shaped, till the potter's design is finally accomplished.' This thought is worked out through sixteen chapters treating of such topics as 'Broken homes,' 'Loss of goods,' 'Vexatious children,' 'Perplexing providences,' and the like. The following extract from a chapter entitled 'Obscurity,' is a good sample of the style.

As generations pass across the stage—a long, unceasing stream of men and women, each with an individual life, how few faces do we recognize. There, we say, is St. Paul, that is Columbus, here is Raphael, and we recognize Dante. Some hundred, or it may be, only fifty names, and the rest are dust. Let us not, therefore, repine because we share the inevitable lot of our brothers, and have no hope of the greater fame. And as for the little fame of our own time—it is shorter than we imagine. Reputa-

tion was never so quickly made, never so quickly dissipated, as in our hurried day. If the heroes flaunt in the sun of popular applause, they have only an ephemeral life. The preacher who had a crowd ten years ago, is heard with languid interest to-day. The writer of many editions once is thankful at last to find a publisher. Let a statesman withdraw for a short space from the front, and the people ask themselves whether he is alive. Very likely the man speaks or writes as well as ever, but his audience is feeble, and fashion changes. . . . Besides, if it comes to notoriety, that is easily won. If a writer will only dabble in physical details, which decent minds ignore, he will be credited with nobility of intention, and be read with prurient curiosity. Should a preacher fall with the message of the gospel, and the methods of the Master, he can tickle foolish ears with a piquant treatment of wages or murders. One has only to dress absurdly, and to cultivate a certain insolence of manner to have his name in people's mouths. And if all else fail, a shameful scandal or a crime, will gain wider notice than is given to a saint. When it came to be a choice one day long ago the multitude preferred Barabbas to Christ, and a dancing girl had more weight than John the Baptist. To-day a prize fighter would be welcomed by a larger crowd than a man of science, a buffoon have wider appreciation than a poet. So poor and vulgar a thing is publicity.

The book is copyrighted in Canada by Hodder & Stoughton, and published by the Revells, (\$1.00.)

[For the 'Witness' TO MARION.

Four and forty years together, Dearest, can it be so long? Swift as birds of swiftest feather, Fleeting as a summer's song, All the seasons that have sped, Since the hour when we were wed.

Well and proudly I remember How you left your father's roof; Wintry weather that November, But our hearts were winter-proof, Going to the sacred shrine, Where the rector made you mine.

Quickly to your home returning, Mirth and music charmed the night, Till the stars, no longer burning, Melted into morning light; Guests departing, young folk happy, Old folks just a little nappy.

Sometimes gladly, sometimes gravely, Step with step and cheek to cheek, We have journeyed onward bravely, Patient when fatigued or weak; Never flinching, striving still, With indomitable will.

Time, his glass from all concealing, May be squinting at our share; Long may you, with buoyant feeling, 'Scape the hunter's hidden snare; Books and music, palms and flowers— Household gods—these still are ours.

You, while reading, I while rhyming, Hear our children's children play; One upon my chairback climbing, Full of frolic all the day; She, our youngest pet, Lenore, Is a baby pet no more.

Sharer of my joy and sorrow, While you tarry by my side, Let the great globe crack to-morrow, You are still my peerless bride, Shaped to woman's winsome prime By the gracious touch of time.

On the heights or in the hollow Of the battlefield of life, Where the red-beaked vultures follow, Clings no comrade like a wife, Closest when the blows of fate Thicken on her wounded mate.

On! dear friend, there's no retreating, All our bridges burned behind; Heart to heart responsive beating, Cords of love will brace and bind, Till the hughes herald peace And our weary march shall cease.

GEORGE MARTIN.

Nov. 22, 1897.

THE ORCHARDS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The extension of orchard land in Great Britain, which has been in continuous progress during recent years, has been further emphasized in 1897, the total area now amounting to 224,116 acres, or 15,160 acres more than in 1892, when the aggregate area was 208,950 acres.

The three western counties of Devon, Somerset, and Hereford alone—pre-eminently our cider countries—contain 78,217 acres of orchards, representing thirty-five percent, or more than one-third of the orchard area of Great Britain.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility, and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested this wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYER, 630 Powers' Block, Rochester, N.Y.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

DOUBLED UP!

UNABLE TO WORK.

Suffering Agony Day and Night.

'For nearly two years,' says Frank J. Wray, 211 Sherbourne street, Toronto, 'I suffered greatly with lameness and pain in my back. It often happened that my back and kidneys pained me so badly



that I was doubled up and could hardly walk, except in a stooping position. Very often I was unable to work, suffering agony both day and night. I had severe pain in the lower part of my stomach, and other symptoms which proved conclusively that my kidneys were in a very unhealthy condition. My appetite was lost and my strength declined rapidly.

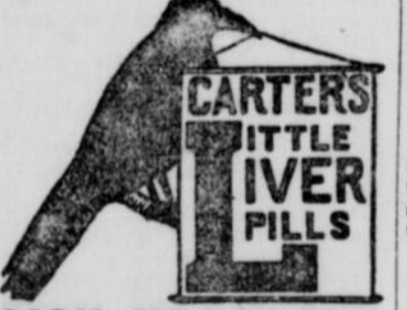
I began taking Doan's Kidney Pills in March last, and after using three boxes of them was completely restored to health. I have not had the slightest pain or stiffness in any part of my back, or any indication of my former trouble, since using these wonderful pills.

'With the restoration of my kidneys to a healthy condition, my appetite was restored, and my strength returned, so that I am now strong and hearty. I make this statement of my cure by Doan's Kidney Pills with the greatest pleasure, because when I commenced taking them I did not really expect so remarkable a cure as that which followed their use. I am very thankful that I hit upon this remedy, and gladly recommend it to all sufferers.'

One Laxative Pill every Night for Thirty Days Cures Constipation.

CONSUMPTION.

I will send FREE and prepaid to any sufferer a simple bottle of the best and surest remedy in the world for the cure of all Lung and Blood Diseases. Write today and be made sound and strong. Address: Franklin H. Hart, Station & New York.



SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

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

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READABLE PARAGRAPHS.

THE FACULTY OF OBSERVATION.

'Gentlemen, you do not use your faculties of observation,' said an old professor, addressing his class. Here he pushed forward a gallipot containing a chemical of exceedingly offensive smell. 'When I was a student,' he continued, 'I used my sense of taste.' And with that he dipped his finger in the gallipot and then put his finger in his mouth. 'Taste it, gentlemen—taste it,' said the professor; 'and exercise your perceptive faculties.' The gallipot was pushed towards the reluctant class. One by one the students resolutely dipped their fingers into the concoction, and, with many a wry face, sucked the abomination from their fingers. 'Gentlemen, gentlemen,' said the professor, 'I must repeat that you do not use your faculties of observation; for, had you looked more closely at what I was doing, you would have seen that the finger which I put in my mouth was not the finger I dipped in the gallipot.'—'Home Journal.'

HIS MISTAKE.

The manager of a large concern, remarkable for his severity and love of showing his authority to the employees of the firm, noticed one day, whilst going his usual rounds in the yard, a big fellow lounging about on one of the railway sidings.

Approaching him, he inquired what he was earning a week, and on being told twenty shillings, the manager gave him a sovereign, at the same time telling him to clear out, as they could not afford to pay for idleness.

Next day he saw the fellow again in the same place. Very angrily he said to him: 'I thought I dismissed you yesterday.' The manager's chagrin and surprise may be imagined when the fellow told him that he was employed by the railway company. —'Tit Bits.'

INDUCING RECKLESSNESS.

Loud-voiced Sergeant—'Now, Macpherson—you long-limbed, raw-boned, fog-featured scarecrow, eyes right! Be smart you dunderhead, and, if you're not shot, you'll be a soldier one day, like me.' Macpherson—'Like you, sergeant! 'Deed, ye make me long for the risks of battle.'

WHAT ELSE.

Commercial Traveller (to boy who has answered the bell)—'I want the boots. You're not the boots, surely?' Boy in Buttons—'No, sir! I'm the socks!' Commercial Traveller—'Socks! You impudent fellow: what do you mean?' Boy in Buttons—'Why, you see, sir, I'm under the boots.'

THE NEGLECTED MUSE.

'Ah, Mr. Timothy,' said the city girl to the country poet, 'and do you still court the muse?' 'Well, no'um,' replied Timothy, blushing: 'it's—it's Mary Hodge jes' now.'

THE SILVER LINING.

'I have seen better days,' began the beggar. 'So have I,' said the passer-by, hastily. 'But I don't think this rain will last long.'

AN AWKWARD REMARK.

A political speaker accused a rival of 'unfathomable meanness,' and then, rising to the occasion, said, 'I warn him not to persist in his disgraceful course, or he'll find that two of us can play at that game!'

COULD NOT AFFORD IT.

A countryman walked into a newspaper office to advertise the death of a relative. 'What is your charge?' he asked of the clerk. 'We charge 8s per inch.' 'Oh!' said the countryman, 'I cannot afford that. My friend was 6 ft. 3 in.'—'Tit-Bits.'

WHAT TO LOOK AT.

Brownrigg (to waitress who has handed him a newspaper)—'Ain't yer got nothink comin'?' I likes to have somthink funny to look at while I'm a heatin'.' Waitress—'There's a looking-glass straight in front of you, sir.'

ALL HE WANTED.

In the midst of a stormy discussion a gentleman rose to settle the matter in dispute. Waving his hand majestically, he began—'Gentlemen, all I want is common sense.' 'Exactly,' interrupted another, 'that is precisely what you do want.'

SO CANNY.

'Mrs. Blimber has put up four hundred cans of fruit.' 'Scotch, isn't she?' 'Why?' 'So canny!'

ON THE CATTLE LIST.

An English country squire, who wished to make an entry at an agricultural exhibition, wrote thus to the secretary: 'Please put me down on your list of cattle for a calf.'

CASTORIA.

THE IDEAL SIGNATURE OF CHARLES H. FLETCHER'S CASTORIA.

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# The Boys' Page.

## The Cameo Ring.

(W. Bert Foster in the 'Woman's Home Companion'.)

'I've told Joe Hall to come over and help you to-morrow, Leonard,' remarked Mr. Ashton one evening at the tea-table. 'He'll be here by five o'clock, he said.'

'What did you do that for, pa?' demanded Leonard, with a whine, not at all pleased by the information. 'We don't want any town's poor helping us. And anyway, we can do it all ourselves, I promise you.'

'Oh, I know you youngsters, and just about how much huskin' you'll do,' said good-natured Mr. Ashton, with a chuckle. 'You'll get tired of it before the evening's half over. And as for Joe's bein' "town's poor,"' continued the farmer, 'what if he is? He's a smart youngster and knows how to work. He'll do twice as much as any of the rest of you, I'll warrant.'

'It'll just spoil the whole thing!' cried Len, almost whimpering. 'I don't want him. I'd rather not have a huskin' at all on my birthday than have Pauper Joe Jangin' round.'

'There, that'll do!' interrupted Mr. Ashton, sternly. 'Don't begin to snivel, nor don't you let me hear you talkin' that way no more,' he added, with more force than elegance of expression. 'Joe is comin' to help to-morrow, and he is goin' to be treated just as well as anybody else. If he isn't, you'll hear from me.'

Mr. Ashton was a well-to-do farmer—in fact, he was the wealthiest man in the township—and Len did about as he pleased in most things. He had more pocket-money at circus-time than any other boy who attended the Five Forks school, and wore better clothing.

Five Forks was well off the railway and far from any city. The township possessed no poorhouse, and when, some seven years before, a wandering emigrant family had been overtaken by fever while passing through the township and had all succumbed to the ravages of the disease but one youngster of eight years, the town fathers were perplexed to know what to do with the little charge thus left upon their hands. Finally one neighbor agreed to take the boy and 'give him his keep' for what chores he could do.

But little Joe proved to be able to 'earn his keep' from the first. There was not a lazy bone in his body, and the farmer who had at first taken the waif in doubt found that he had made an excellent bargain.

The farmers had taken a good deal of interest in Joe, looking upon him as a sort of protégé of the entire township, and nobody had thought of calling him a pauper until after the school was established in the log school-house at Five Forks. Joe's guardian sent him regularly, and the boy was as quick at his lessons as he was at work. Before long it became apparent that he was the smartest child on the prairie, rapidly overtaking and passing even the older scholars in his studies.

Then it was that the finger of scorn began to be pointed at the waif. The boys and girls who found themselves his inferiors in mental powers soothed their wounded pride by calling him 'pauper' and 'town's poor.'

But Mr. Ashton was one of those who appreciated young Joe Hall's good qualities too highly to allow his anxiety for his own children's well-being to dull his kindness to the waif. During the years which had passed since Joe's coming to Five Forks, two or three other needy bodies had come upon the township for their support, and had been sent to live with Joe's master. But the place was seldom called the poorhouse, nor were the old people who here found a pleasant home in their old age called paupers.

It was Leonard Ashton who had really first applied the term 'pauper Joe' to young Hall.

Len's father was a most indulgent parent. He allowed the boy to have altogether too much spending-money for a boy of his age, and Len scarcely uttered a wish that was within the range of possibility that Mr. Ashton did not seek to gratify. The boy had early learned that he could 'tease' his father into a great many things which were at first refused him. But he knew that it would be useless to try his powers of persuasion further upon the subject under discussion. Young Joe Hall had got to come, and that's all there was about it.

When the birthday morning dawned, however, Len well nigh forgot his vexation in his enjoyment of the presents which were bestowed upon him. One in particular delighted him. It was a nicely cut cameo ring, which his father had sent away to Cincinnati to obtain. No other boy—or girl, either, for that matter—on the whole prairie possessed such a ring. Perhaps if Mr. Ashton had been a wiser parent he would not have catered to Len's vanity in this way.

Len was showing the ring to an admiring group of boys and girls, the early arrivals at the husking party, when Joe Hall arrived. The husking was to be done on the floor of the great barn, where heaps of corn were already piled, and Len and his friends were at the door.

'I say, Len,' whispered one of his cronies, 'here comes Pauper Joe. Why does he come here?'

'Pa made me have him,' said Len, scowling at his school-fellow. 'But he's only come to work. I don't want him.'

Joe was probably as sensitive as any boy could be, and these words, which were said loud enough for him to plainly hear, cut him deeply. But he had ex-

pected something of the kind. He had at first demurred when asked by Mr. Ashton to attend; but half-dollars did not grow on every bush—at least not at Five Forks—so he had agreed to help.

He pressed through the group in the barn doorway without a word, found a pumpkin (a number of which had been drawn from the field to serve as seats), and set to work at one end of the great winnow of corn. After a while the other guests arrived, and the whole merry troop gathered about the piles, each squatting on a pumpkin.

All his schoolmates did not treat Joe as meanly as Len Ashton; yet he felt himself apart from them.

'I won't stay here forever,' he thought bitterly, and he bent his head over the corn to hide the tears which would come into his eyes. 'I'll go away from Five Forks, as far as ever I can, where people won't know I was ever "town's poor." But I'll wait until I learn all Miss Maywood can teach me, first,' he added, compressing his lips.

The youngsters worked well for the first hour; then, as Mr. Ashton had foreseen, the majority of them got enough. They began to play jokes and more corn was thrown about than was husked.

'See here, Len, you'll lose that ring,' suggested Bob Murray, who sat beside the young host.

The cameo ring was rather loose for Len's finger, and as he flung an unhusked ear across the barn floor it almost slipped off his finger.

'Here, I'll put it up here,' said Len, pulling off the ring and placing it on a beam behind him. 'Don't you knock it off, Bob.'

The fun waxed more furious. Every one who happened to nusk a red ear had to pay a forfeit, and the favorite forfeits among the boys was for the victim to stand a heavy fire of ears of corn from the opposite side of the barn. Len got a red ear, and underwent a perfect fusillade from the whole crowd. A moment later he uttered an excited cry.

'Now see what you fellows have done!' he exclaimed, with almost a whine.

'What is it?' asked Bob Murray.

'That ring. It's gone!'

'You've lost it?' cried Bob.

'It ain't on that beam. I s'pose it's been knocked down. Now, you fellows turn to an' help me find it.'

But the cameo ring refused to come to light, although they searched thoroughly. Len was almost in tears.

Everybody solemnly disclaimed having touched the ring; that is, everybody but Joe Hall. He seemed to take no interest in the matter, but kept steadily at work.

'I tell you, somebody's taken it,' declared Len, angrily. 'It ain't here.' Then his attention was suddenly attracted to Joe. Two or three of the others followed his glance, and there were whisperings and nods. 'Say, Hall, have you seen my ring?' He blurted out insinuatingly.

'No.' The answer came sharply.

'I believe you have,' exclaimed Len, his face ablaze.

Joe sprang up furiously.

'You say I'm a thief, do you?' he cried, dashing at his accuser.

In an instant Len was down on his back from the force of the blow which Joe delivered. Just then Mr. Ashton, attracted by the quarrel, appeared at the doorway.

'What's this—what's this?' he demanded, sternly. 'What do you mean by such actions, Joe?' he asked.

'He called me a thief, and I won't stand that from any one,' declared the boy. 'I'm going back to the farm. You can keep your money, Mr. Ashton. You haven't got enough to hire me to come here and be insulted!'

He dashed out of the door and hurried back to the poorhouse, while Mr. Ashton remained to listen to a rather highly colored account of the episode from the excited boys and girls.

If Joe's life had been hard before this incident it was doubly so afterward. Len took every means to keep the flame of persecution alive, and it was not long before even Joe Hall's determination broke down under his schoolmates' scoffings. Much as he desired an education he could not longer endure the endless persecutions inspired by malice and envy, so he left school altogether. This gave him all the more time in which to work for the other farmers, and he hoped by spring to have earned enough money to warrant leaving his present home and going to some part of the country where he would not be known.

The weeks of autumn passed and the rigorous western winter came in all its ferocity. Fierce, blinding snow-storms wrapped the rolling prairie in a thick, white mantle, and Jack Frost chained the creek and mill-pond with crystal fetters. By Christmas the pond presented a smooth field of ice to the delighted skaters.

Joe liked to skate as well as any boy, but he seldom appeared on the ice when his old school-fellows were likely to be there. He usually chose as his time for skating when they were at school. But on Christmas day he decided to enjoy his favorite pastime.

Joe had nothing to busy him that afternoon, and taking his skates he ran over to the pond. What was his chagrin to find the boys and girls already in possession of the ice. He halted on the margin, undecided as to his course. As he stood there he heard a shout from the further end of the pond. There was a piece of treacherous ice in that direction, and Joe sprang forward and gazed with startled eyes. The crowd was skating toward the dangerous spot. Somebody had broken through.

Joe's skates were already strapped to the heavy log-boots which he carried in his hand. It was but the work of a moment for him to kick off the shoes he wore and pull the boots on his feet. Then he darted out upon the ice and sped down the pond like an arrow from the bow. No boy in Five Forks could skate like Joe Hall; and none in that group of terrified youngsters kept his head as Joe did. No one had dared go near the broken ice, but Joe dashed on toward it like the wind.

'Look out!' yelled Bob Murray, seeing him coming. 'It's cracking all about there.'

But Joe kept right on. When some yards from the hole he cast himself flat upon the ice and slid along almost as rapidly, the sharp points of his skates dragging as a brake. The treacherous ice sagged and cracked beneath him, but he slid on until his outstretched hands touched the edge of the hole. The white, fear-stricken face and weakly brandishing arms of Leonard Ashton were just before him.

Joe dug his skates deeper into the ice and seized the drowning boy by the collar. Poor Len gripped his arm desperately, but he was too far gone to otherwise assist himself. Joe felt unequal to the task of pulling his old-time enemy out. In a few moments Len's weight would drag him over the edge, too.

'Quick!' he shouted. 'One of you fellows lie down and grab my leg. Make a life-line. I can't hold him long.'

Nobody moved for a moment. Then Bob Murray skated cautiously forward, lay down and wormed himself along the ice until he could grasp Joe's ankles. Another boy quickly followed and seized Bob's legs. Soon there was a string of humanity leading back to the solid ice—a human 'life-line' indeed. Then the others laid hold, and with a mighty tug the line of boys was tugged back, and Len came with them.

Joe got up and skated away without a word, and when the excited boys and girls looked around for him he had left the pond.

Len was hurried to the school-house



SOON THERE WAS A STRING OF HUMANITY LEADING BACK TO THE SOLID ICE.

and his father sent for. Mr. Ashton carried his son home under an almost suffocating weight of blankets and buffalo robes in the bottom of his sleigh, and Len was put to bed and dosed with hot drinks, until by morning the dangerous effects of his accident were averted.

When he came down to breakfast, as was an interesting-looking invalid as a healthy boy of fifteen with a snub nose can look, he saw an object lying beside his plate which brought a cry of amazement to his lips. It was the cameo ring.

'Where—where did it come from? Did Joe?'

'Stop!' exclaimed his father, with some sternness. 'Just remember that if it hadn't been for Joe Hall, in all probability you wouldn't be eating breakfast with us this morning.' And his voice broke.

'Don't I know that?' responded Len, gulping down a lump in his own throat. 'But where did that ring come from?'

'When your mother was makin' some punkin pies, yest'day, she found it when she went to cut her punkin,' said Mr. Ashton. 'It was just where it fell when you boys was foolin' that day—jammed right down next the stem of the punkin. It'd serve you just right if I took the ring away from you, after makin' so much trouble with it.'

But he didn't, of course, for Len wore it for a good many years afterward, and I guess his boy wears it now. Len himself probably never looks at that cameo ring without remembering the lesson which the episode taught him.

As for Joe, he didn't go away from Five Forks—at least not then. He had won the admiration of his schoolmates in spite of themselves, and when he finally left the prairie, having learned all Miss Maywood could teach, Len Ashton was his closest friend.

## The Loss of the 'Earl of Eldon.'

(N. Y. 'Ledger'.)

On Aug. 24 I embarked on board the ship 'Earl of Eldon,' of London, six hundred tons, Captain Theaker, at Bombay, with a view of returning to my native land on furlough. She was one of the finest and strongest ships in the trade, and any insurance might have been had on the chances of her successfully resisting the winds and waves. She was laden with cotton. The number of individuals on board were forty-five, including three ladies and an infant and the captain and his crew. It fortunately happened that the cotton had been brought on board in a damp state, not being dried at the warehouse previously to being put on board, and it seems not unlikely that the fire damp may have been generated within, in the same manner as in a haystack when it has been stacked damp.

On Sept. 26, after a series of baffling winds and calms, and heavy rain with squalls of wind, we got into 7° 27' south latitude; and the trade-winds appeared to have fairly caught hold of our sails. We began now to anticipate our arrival at the Cape. On the morning of the 27th I rose early (about half-past five) and went on deck. I found one of my fellow-passengers there, and we perceived a steam apparently arising from the fore-hatchways. I mentioned at the time to the captain that I thought it might be caused by fire-damp, and, if not immediately checked, might become fire. The captain came on deck, and I asked him what it was; he answered steam, and that it was common enough in cotton-loaded ships when the hatches were opened. I said nothing, but the smoke becoming more dense and beginning to assume a different color, I began to think that all was not right, and also that he had some idea of the kind, as I saw the carpenter

sumption, together with such pots of jam and preserved meats as we could get at, and the day's provision of fresh and salted meat. It was now about two o'clock; the hatches were then opened, and all hands set to work to endeavor to extinguish the fire. The main hatchway being lifted and a tarpaulin removed, there was a sail underneath which was so hot that the men could hardly remove it. When they did, the heat and smoke came up worse than ever, and it being now known, from inspection, that the fire was underneath that part, orders were given to hoist out the uppermost bales in order to get at those that were burning underneath. But when the men laid hold of the lashings to introduce a crane-hook they were found to have been burned through beneath and came away in their hands. The case now appeared bad indeed. However, we cut a bale open and tried to remove it by hand, but the smoke and heat became so overpowering that no man could stand over it, and water, in the quantities we dared to use it, only seemed to increase it, for had the captain ventured to pump water into the ship sufficient to extinguish the fire, the bales would have swelled so much as to burst open the deck.

Under these circumstances, perceiving the case to be utterly hopeless, the captain called us together on the poop, and asked if any one could propose any expedient likely to avail in extinguishing the fire and saving the ship. As, in that case, said he, we will stick by her while a hope remains. It was unanimously agreed that all had been done that could be done, the men had been most arduous in their exertions, but one and all seemed positively decided that the case was hopeless. The heat was increasing so much that it became dangerous to leave the poop; the captain therefore requested the gentlemen to get into the boats; next he embarked his men, and at three o'clock he himself left the ship, the last man who did so, just as the flames were bursting through the quarter-deck. We then put off the two boats, towing the longboat. The progress of the ship had been previously stopped by backing her yards, and when we were about a mile from her, she was in one blaze, and her masts began to fall in. Between eight and nine o'clock all her masts had fallen in, and she had burned to the water's edge; suddenly there was a bright flash, followed by a dull and heavy explosion, the fire having reached the powder. For a few seconds the splinters and flaming fragments glittered in the air and then all was darkness, for the water had closed over the 'Earl of Eldon.'

Sad was the prospect now before us! There were in the long-boat the captain and twenty-five persons, including an infant four months old; the size of the boat twenty-three feet long by seven and a half broad; in each of the others ten individuals, including the officer in charge. One of the boats had some bags of biscuit, but the chief provision was in the long-boat. We were, by rough calculation, about a thousand miles from Rodrigue and four hundred and fifty from Diego Garcia, the largest of the Chagos Islands; but to get there we must pass through the squally latitudes in the long-boat. We were, by rough calculation, about a thousand miles from Rodrigue and four hundred and fifty from Diego Garcia, the largest of the Chagos Islands; but to get there we must pass through the squally latitudes we had just left, and be subject to variable winds and heavy weather or calms, neither of which we were prepared to resist. Seeing, then, that our stock of food was sufficient, we determined on trying for Rodrigue, and, having humbly committed ourselves to the guidance of that Providence in whom alone we had hope, we accomplished rigging the boats, and got under sail. On the third day of our boat navigation the weather began to threaten a change, but as we were in the trade we did not apprehend foul or contrary winds. In the course of the night it blew fresh with rain; we were totally without shelter, and the sea dashing its spray over us, drenched us and spoiled some of our biscuit. The weather grew worse, and one of our small boats, in which were Mr. Simpson, the second mate, with nine others, was split by the sea. She came alongside, and we put the carpenter into her, who made what repairs he could, but with little hope that they would answer. We then proceeded to fasten a spray-cloth of canvas along our weather gunwale, having lashed a bamboo four feet up the mast and fixed it on the intersection of two stanchions, at the same height above the stern; the spray-cloth was firmly lashed along so as to form a kind of pent-house roof. Toward evening it blew hard, and, not thinking the other damaged boat safe, we took in the crew and abandoned her. We were now thirty-six persons, stowed as thick as we could be, and obliged to throw over all superfluous, and we had not more than eight inches of clear gunwale out of the water. Wet, gloomy and miserable, the night passed away; at last the day broke, and though the weather was still very bad, I again felt hope, which had never entirely forsaken me, that we would still weather the storm. During the last night the sea had broken right over us more than once; one sea came roaring down, and while I held my breath with horror it broke right over our stern, wet the poor ladies to their throats, and carried away the steersman's hat. The captain then cried out in a tone calculated to inspire us with confidence: 'That's nothing; it's all right; ba'e away, my boys!' He never expected us to live out the night, but, harassed as he was both in mind and body, he gallantly stood up, and never, by word or deed, betrayed a feeling that might tend to sink our hopes. He stood on the bench that livelong night, nor did he ever attempt to sleep for nearly forty-eight hours.

Later the weather began to moderate and we enjoyed a comparative degree of comfort. We had three small meals of biscuit and some little jam, etc., and three half pints of water per day. Thus we had enough for necessity, and I incline to attribute to our having no more the good state of bodily health we enjoyed. The ladies were most deserving

compassion and praise, and never uttered one single word like repining or complaint.

On the eleventh evening we began to look out for Rodrigue; the captain told us not to be too sanguine, as his compass was not to be depended upon after the rough treatment it had met with. The night fell and I went forward to sleep. About dawn I was awakened by the cry that land was ahead. I looked and saw nothing through the mist. An instant after I informed the captain that I could see no land. Every person in that boat was awake. Every eye was strained in the direction the captain indicated. Some thought they could see land; others had their visions blurred by phantom ships, and finally the tears from their over-exerted eyes shut out their vision to such an extent that their imagination ceased to act.

'Where is it? What is it?' 'I can't see anything,' and dozens of similar questions were asked in as many seconds.

Daylight was now asserting itself a little more, and the captain had the boat brought to, and she drifted about for an hour. Rodrigue appeared right ahead, distant about six miles, and by eight o'clock we were all safely landed. A fisherman who came off to show us the way through the reefs received us in his house and proceeded to feed us, and, in the meantime, sent to tell the people of the island of our arrival. Two of them came down immediately, and, having heard our story, said that we had been most miraculously preserved. Every arrangement was made for our comfort, and during the period of our stay at Rodrigue we were treated with such invariable kindness and attention as demands from us the fullest expression of our gratitude toward those to whom we are under so many obligations, without forgetting our paramount obligations to that Power by whom we were preserved through all the dangers that had surrounded us.

## NAPOLEON AND THE POTATOES.

Constant, the body-servant of Napoleon, in the fourth volume of his 'memoires' devotes a chapter to 'military anecdotes.' These have to do especially with the Emperor's dealings with individual soldiers, dealings which were often, no doubt with design, highly theatrical. With all his other gifts, Napoleon understood as well as any one the art of making himself talked about.

At Eylau the French army ran short of provisions. For eight days there was no bread, and the men supported themselves as best they could. On the evening before the final attack, the emperor, who liked to see everything for himself, went the rounds of the camp.

In one place, where the men were asleep, he saw some potatoes roasting. The fancy took him to eat, and he drew two or three of them from the fire with the point of his sword. At that moment one of the soldiers awoke.

'Hallo, there!' he cried to the thief. 'There is nothing mean about you, eating other men's potatoes!'

'Comrade,' answered the emperor, 'I am so hungry that you must pardon me.'

'Oh, well, in that case take one, yes, two, if you need them, but begone.'

The intruder was slow to start. The angry soldier insisted with vehemence, and presently the two were engaged in a warm discussion. A minute more, and the soldier lifted his hand to strike. It was time for the emperor to declare himself. No words could describe the man's confusion. He fell at Napoleon's feet and begged forgiveness.

'No,' said the emperor, 'it was I that was at fault. I do not blame you. Rise and be tranquil.'

The next day Napoleon made inquiries about the man, and hearing a good report of him, made him a sub-lieutenant.

## STEEL USED FOR PENS.

More steel is now used in the manufacture of pens than in that of swords. It is even said that the metal annually turned into pens weighs more than all the metal used during a year in the war-impement factories of the world. Should this be true it emphasizes the saying that the 'pen is mightier than the sword.'—'Tyt-Bits.'

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

The germs of consumption are everywhere.

There is no way but to fight them.

If there is a history of weak lungs in the family, this fight must be constant and vigorous.

You must strike the disease, or it will strike you.

At the very first sign of failing health take Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites.

It gives the body power to resist the germs of consumption.

50c and \$1.00; all druggists. 647 SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, Toronto.

CHINAMEN AND CHRISTMAS.

Gathering at Crescent Street Church.

John is a name that fits a Chinaman well; it is of one syllable, like his own, and more easily remembered than the generality of Chinese names.



CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

identals being able to bear in mind his correct appellation.

The Christmas festival of the Montreal Chinese mission took place on Monday evening, Dec. 27, in the lecture hall of the Crescent Street Church.

Besides the Chinese there were also present a great number of members of the congregation of Crescent Street and

ferent in all respects to their own as English.

The following ladies and gentlemen also assisted in the entertainment with songs and recitation:—Miss Thomas, Miss Stewart, Miss Annie Ross and Mr. S. S. Bain.

At the conclusion of the entertainment refreshments were served in the basement hall, which was prettily decorated for the occasion.

Several of the admission tickets to the entertainment, or 'Morrison memorial tickets,' as they were called, which bore on their face an excellent portrait of Dr. Robert Morrison, and some of the sheets of song selections, the latter containing an illustration of a Chinese pagoda, were sent to Mr. Robert Morrison Hobson, of Toronto, a grandson of the first missionary to China.

DEVIL'S ISLAND.

WHERE DREYFUS IS IMPRISONED.

The Ile du Diable, where the unhappy ex-Captain Dreyfus is imprisoned, forms one of the Ile du Salut, or Islands of Safety, which lie in the Atlantic off the coast of French Guiana.

Parties of political prisoners were despatched thither long before 1851, and one suspects that the islands derived their collective name from this circumstance—it was reasonably safe to assume, having regard to their location, that when a political suspect was once deposited there, or on the contiguous mainland (which has a murderous climate), the state was quite 'safe' from him for the future.

It is only since 1851, however, that systematic penal colonies have been established on the Iles du Salut. From that



HIS ROMANTIC THEORY—A CLEAR ROAD TO SUCCESS.



The Actual Condition—The Road to Success is a Little Overcrowded

THE YOUNG MAN OF TO-DAY—IT IS "A CONDITION, NOT A THEORY THAT CONFRONTS HIM."

—'Puck.'

a deck, leaving a cockpit sufficient to enable him to crawl in. He calked all the joints, made a pair of paddles out of two planks and without much difficulty he reached the water's edge, where he embarked. Assisted by the tide, he paddled his sepulchral craft. Silently and slowly he proceeded, in the hope of reaching either Venezuela or British Guiana.

Now, a hundred and fifty miles in a coffin does not constitute a very tempting enterprise, but Lupi was full of confidence. Perhaps he remembered that Victor Hugo had said, 'Rien n'est plus intrépide qu'un forçat'; at any rate, he had the spirit. At the penitentiary it was soon discovered that he was missing. No boat had been taken away. The boats are usually well guarded, and nobody ever dreamed for a moment that any man would go to sea in a coffin. It was thought that he had either committed suicide or concealed himself somewhere near by. Fortunately, or unfortunately, for Lupi, the steamer 'Abelle,' returning from the Antilles, off Paramaribo, came close to him three days after his escape.

The captain noticed in the water an object that looked like a piece of wreckage, around which a flock of seagulls were circling and screaming. He steered in the direction of the object. As he came close to it his curiosity was increased. The thing which at first took to be a piece of wreckage turned out to be a coffin, and in addition to its noisy winged escort, it was accompanied by two guards that travelled on either side of it. These two guards were enormous sharks, whose great dorsal fins from time to time seemed to touch the sides of the box. He ordered a boat to be launched and manned. The men in the boat looked into the box and to their astonishment found a man in a half-drowned condition. They hauled him into the boat, and took him on board the vessel, and later on handed him over to the authorities. As a rule the latter are not quite so ready to reclaim convicts who find their way into British Guiana as the English officials desire, and frequently enough the latter have done much more than the French in the recapture of runaways.

THE GREAT DANE DOG.

(Good Words.)

The Great Dane, the exhibition dog of to-day, and growing every day in favor as a beautiful and 'biddable' dog, is the modern representative of the boarhound. On the Continent, where its Danish origin is repudiated, it is called the German mastiff, and under this head all its varieties are classed at shows; while in this country we call it the Great Dane, and catalogue under that name all the varieties of German mastiff, so that, taking the one with the other, the dog comes by its rights.

It is a beautiful creature, this Great Dane, and gives the impression at once of both power and activity, and its temper—look at its small keen eyes—is exactly what one might expect from a dog of war and of the chase, venerated with the elegancies of civilization, for it is equable and (de haut en bas) good-tempered, but woe to the object that irritates it. The conciliatory stranger who goes to pat one as if it were a lapdog finds a great blunt rozzle, thrust forcibly and roughly into his hand, or perhaps into his ribs, as who should say, 'All right, old fellow, I'm not going to hurt you; you needn't pat me and call me good dog.' He never awaits your permission to make your acquaintance, but introduces himself without formality if he wishes to know you. Going through a narrow passage, a Great Dane will take up more than half the room. He does not drop behind like the elegant-mannered St. Bernard with a polite 'men before dogs' sort of air, but hustles you robustly for equal space. Not that he is a dangerous dog. He is simply a boarhound, a creature of immense strength and infinite courage, and courteous only out of condescension.

FACTS ABOUT RHODESIA.

A RESIDENT DESCRIBES LIFE IN BULAWAYO, AND SAYS SOMETHING ABOUT ITS PROSPECTS.

A resident in Bulawayo writes to a friend in Canada in the following manner:—

'As to Rhodesia I can say practically nothing worth knowing, except this, that if I had known one-half of what I now know as to climate, the cost of living, the want of the comforts and decencies of civilized life, I should never have come here. Living costs at least three times what it does in England, and even at that one cannot live frugally, but yet comfortably. Its future is all 'in the air,' and may be anything, or nothing. It is being 'boomed' for all it is worth, and as far as I can see for a great deal more. The recent 'Times' article upon Selous's Toronto address very fairly points out the position, I think. Gold there is undoubtedly, but whether in payable quantities is a matter of the future, and will not be known for at least a year. Pastoral and agricultural pursuits depend, from an economic point of view, entirely upon the production here of gold in payable quantities, and so we get back to the question is the gold to be found in payable quantities, which, as I have said, no one yet knows. So far as I have been able to ascertain in the few months I have been here, the country has been grossly mismanaged in the past, and I should be very sorry to be a shareholder of the British South Africa Company, even if I had bought at par. Almost the whole of Matabeleland has already been given away to the pioneer force, or those who bought the pioneers' rights—sometimes for a mere song, e.g., a right to a six thousand-acre farm for twenty-five pounds. Every white member of the pioneer force was entitled to peg out such a farm, and you can imagine the result. The gold industry is under a tax of fifty percent of the vendors' purchase money, and generally speaking the imposts of the company are very much heavier than anything I have heard of elsewhere. A great fuss is being made about the opening of the railway on the 4th prox., but after what I saw of the manner of its construction I shall be very much surprised if it survives a heavy fall of rain. There must be great wash-aways, and we are probably relying on it too much, both for our supplies, and as the harbinger of our prosperity. This is a land of great expectations—and advertisement, but as yet, of little fulfilment, and I cannot help thinking that if there is all the gold in the country that there is said to be the companies should before now—even after making allowances for the disadvantages they have

labored under, have been able to give tangible evidence of its supposed great wealth.

'In a capitalist's country (as this is) one's only chance of making money is by speculation.'

VALUABLE DOGS IN ALASKA.

HOW THE FAITHFUL ANIMALS RENDER GOOD SERVICE TO THE KLONDIKE MINERS.

Robert Krook, the Swedish Klondike miner, tells the San Francisco 'Examiner' that Esquimaux dogs will draw two hundred pounds each on a sled, so that six dogs will draw a year's supplies for one man. He, however, puts in the proviso that the sleds should not have iron runners, because the snow sticks to the iron and increases the friction so much that the dogs cannot haul more than one hundred pounds apiece. With brass runners this drawback is obviated. Last winter Esquimaux dogs cost from seventy-five to two hundred dollars apiece, and he does not think the price will increase materially, because when the demand is known the supply from other parts of Alaska will be plentiful at Dyea and other points along the Yukon. Sometimes the feet of the dogs get sore, and then the Indians fit moccasins on them; as soon, however, as the tenderness is gone from their feet the dogs will bite and tear the moccasins off. In speaking of the dogs he said that they need no lines to guide them and are very intelligent, learning readily to obey a command to turn in any direction or to stop. They have to be watched closely, as they will attack and devour stores left in their way, especially bacon, which must be hung up out of their reach. At night, when camp is pitched, the moment a blanket is thrown upon the ground they will run into it and curl up, neither cuffs nor kicks sufficing to budge them. They lie as close up to the men who own them as possible, and the miner cannot wrap himself up so close that they will not get under his blanket with him. They are human, too, in their disinclination to get out in the morning.

Where sleds cannot be used the dogs will carry fifty pounds apiece in saddlebags slung across their backs, pannier fashion. Nature has fitted these dogs for their work, and so mastiffs and St. Bernards are not so serviceable. The two latter breeds cannot stand the intense cold so well, and, though at first they will draw the sleds cheerfully, their feet cannot resist the strain, and begin to bleed so freely that the dogs are useless. The pads under the feet of the Esquimaux dogs are of tougher skin.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Why Consumptives Lose Flesh.

Extracts from Dr. Hunter's Lectures on the progress of medical science in lung diseases.

The health and strength of the body depend on the perfection of the lungs. No quantity or quality of food can add one grain's weight to the flesh of the body beyond the power of the lungs to make new blood.

Most people suppose appetite and digestion are all that are required to make patients hold their own, at least, but such is not the fact. The stomach has little to do with the making of new blood. It is a mill, that grinds, dissolves and separates the food eaten, forming from it a white fluid called chyle. Before the chyle can impart its nutritious elements to the body it must be carried by the lacteals to the lungs and be endowed with life and changed into blood. This change is what is meant by the term 'assimilation.'

The moment our lungs become diseased their capacity for air is lessened by the swelling of the lining of the tubes and the mucous secretion which obstructs them, and in exactly the same proportion their power to assimilate food is reduced. A loss of flesh and strength must follow. If the disease in cases, the breathing space in the lungs also lessens, and the waste of flesh and strength goes on more rapidly, and no food or dieting can prevent it.

This is a natural law of the human organism. It was first discovered by me, and is now fully recognized by the best minds in the profession as one of the most important discoveries of medical science of our age. I have studied and observed its operations in thousands of cases without one exception. It is a great scientific truth, vital to our being. It was stamped upon us as a Divine Law by God when he 'breathed into the nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul.'

In the glorious light of this revealed law of science how pitiable seems the ignorance and quackery of those who propose to cure consumption by tonics and diet, while the cause of the patient's weakness and wasting remains untouched in the lungs. The only way the body can be 'built up' is to remove the disease that is wasting it, by a treatment applied to the lungs capable of restoring the breathing. Do that, and the lungs will quickly rebuild the wasted and enfeebled body. Fail to do it, no human means can save the patient's life.

(To be continued.)

(Signed), ROBERT HUNTER, M.D., 117 W. 45th street, New York.

Dec. 26. Note.—Readers of the 'Witness' who are interested in Dr. Hunter's views can obtain his books free by addressing him as above.

A CHANCE

For Machinists, Newspaper proprietors and Manufacturers, if they will study carefully the undermentioned list of articles for sale:

IRON PULLEYS.

Table with columns: No., Pulleys, Diam., Face, Bore. Lists various sizes of iron pulleys.

IRON SPLIT PULLEYS.

Table with columns: No., Pulleys, Diam., Face, Bore. Lists various sizes of iron split pulleys.

IRON CONE PULLEYS.

Table with columns: No., Pulleys, Diam., Face, Bore. Lists various sizes of iron cone pulleys.

DODGE WOOD PULLEYS.

Table with columns: Diam., Face. Lists Dodge wood pulleys.

FOR NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS

One Attachment Folder for extra fold, Mailing. Two Forsyth Folding Machines. One Chambers Folding Machine. One Stonemets Folding Machine. These machines will cut, fold and paste, and will be sold for \$100 each. One Stereo Casting Box, 1 ft. 7 in. by 2 ft. 6 in. Address or apply to J. BEATTY, 'Witness' Office, Montreal.

FAVORABLY KNOWN SINCE 1826 THE J. BEATTY & CO. MANUFACTURERS OF PAPER MACHINES, STATIONERY, AND PRINTING MATERIALS. WEST-TRAY, N. S. BELL-METAL, CHIMES, ETC. CATALOGUES & PRICES FREE.

NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS CAN HAVE A first-class Folding Machine; will cut, paste and fold to a suitable size, for \$100, being about quarter the cost of a new one. Address or apply to J. BEATTY, 'Witness' Office.

THE CHINESE MISSION—A QUARTETTE.

other churches who filled up the room to and beyond the overflow point, as the ante-rooms and hallways adjacent had to be utilized for the accommodation of late comers.

The Rev. Dr. Mackay occupied the chair, and with him on the platform were the Rev. A. J. Mowatt, Dr. Barclay, Dr. Campbell, George, J. Fleck, Jas. Patterson, Principal MacVicar, together with Dr. Thomson, the medical missionary, and Messrs. J. C. Holden and Walter Paul.

It was a revelation to many present to hear how well Chinamen were able to



READING THE TESTAMENT.

sing hymns, time and tune both being alike correct. Their readings of scripture, too, were wonderful considering how difficult they must have found the learning of a language so totally dif-

ferent in all respects to their own as entirely of

ARABS, NEGROES AND ANNAMENSE from the French colonies in Africa and Indo-China, the criminal whites being invariably sent to the other French Botany Bay in New Caledonia. There have been an enormous number of escapes from Noumea during recent years, and about six years ago it was felt that a temporary sojourn in a paradise of the Pacific, with the certainty of an unauthorized return to Paris within two or three years, was not the sort of punishment calculated to deter the more desperate class of Anarchists from their little diversions. So it was decided that Anarchists should therefore be sent to the Isles of Safety.

When it became necessary later on to find for Dreyfus a home from which there was absolutely no chance of escape, the authorities naturally turned to the Devil's Island, the most northerly and isolated of the Safety group. Innocent or guilty, there he is now, with half a dozen of the most desperate Anarchists for neighbors.

For the colored convicts it has to be said that they are fairly tractable, and work with resignation, if not with pleasure, during their time of two, three, or five years. But the whites are a desperate lot, and they are constantly making endeavors to escape.

The most sensational attempt at escape was that of the assassin Lupi, which is detailed by M. Paul Mimande. Lupi, who was stationed at the time on Royal Island, had on several occasions assisted at the obsequies of

DEAD COMPANIONS IN MISERY and enjoyed a certain amount of liberty. He managed to get some nails, tar, and cotton, and one dark night he got into the coffin shed, chose a large coffin, and fastened the lid, in order to turn it into

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Advertisement for Malignant Growths, featuring Stott & Jury, Bowmanville, Ont. Text: 'At first you think it's only a wart or pimple. Doesn't seem to be of much account. Then it begins to spread and extend its roots. Gives pain, reduces the strength and undermines the health. The doctor tells you it's cancer, says there is no cure. We can submit indisputable proof that our VEGETABLE CANCER CURE does cure Cancers, Tumors and Malignant Skin Troubles. Full particulars in plain envelope sent on receipt of 6 cents in stamps. STOTT & JURY, BOWMANVILLE, ONT.'

# HOME DEPARTMENT

SUNDAY AFTERNOON WITH THE CHILDREN.

Lady Somerset and the W.C.T.U.

PUBLICITY FURTHERS NO GOOD END.

SHOULD SET THEMSELVES RIGHT—NOT RESIGN, BUT PROTEST—BEAUTIFUL WRINKLES—CHARACTER LINES IN FACES.

## MAKE YOURSELF A STORY TELLER

(First Prize Junior Essay, by Miss P. M. Chandler, Coaticook, Que.)

First of all, let me plead with parents to think well of the sacred trust which has been committed to them in the shepherding and tending for the great home over yonder the precious children charged to their care. Remember that louder than the cry from all the wayward world, the fallen world, the heathen world, comes the cry for guidance and help from those little ones you call your own. Enter into your closet, and with the door shut, promise on your knees before God, that by his grace, you will guide those little feet into the heavenly way; then gather your children around you. Thrill their young minds with the stories of those grand old bible heroes, David and Moses, Joshua and Daniel. Let them hear the music of the Psalms, and trace the hand of God in the life of Joseph and the going forth of the children of Israel. Tell them of the gentle and loving Jesus who went about doing good; of the home in which he loved to dwell; of the children he delighted to take in his arms and bless; of the lessons he taught by example and precept; of obedience and trust and truth. In connection with this I would say: Do not tell some story which comes to your mind in a vague indefinite way, but plan a series of stories or lessons. Plan to give them in a clear, interesting and forcible way. But some one may say: 'I am not a good story-teller.' Then make yourself one. Remember what is at stake. You would be ashamed to go about in a whining way, saying that your family was ill provided for, because you did not take to work—that it was not natural for you. You know very well that you must provide clothing and food for your little ones; that you must furnish them with a suitable education and some sort of entertainment. Oh, do not provide for every need except the greatest need of their lives and leave that to any chance influence that may come in their way.

Having inspired them with effective bible stories, let time be spent in committing to memory portions of scripture. I would like to emphasize this most strongly. If they are to go out to meet the snarls which will beset their pathway, and to face the enemy of their souls, they must have along with them the darts of the Word by which to ward off the enemy. Even the little ones who are unable to read should be taught from Sabbath to Sabbath to repeat at least a verse or sentence. Along with scripture verses should come the committing to memory precious hymns and the like which embody grand and noble truths. Then

### SING.

Never mind that in society you do not sing. Sing in your home; sing with your children. All sing. I would also encourage little experience talks. Let the children tell of some verse they have liked to think about during the week; of some little temptation which has met them in their small world, or of some little thing they have tried to do for Jesus's sake. Tell them of your own experience. Do not be afraid to confess that you were wrong when you spoke that angry word, or that you are sorry that you neglected the duty which they know, and you know should have been performed. You will not lose your dignity this way, and, oh, how much of love and confidence you will gain, and how you will help and be helped by this bond of family guardianship. We would hear less about hypocrites in the church could more children say with confidence, 'There are no hypocrites in our family. By my father and mother, I know it is possible to live a noble, godly life.'

Above all pray. Not in the somewhat hurried way in which you may feel yourself almost forced to do at morning prayers, when the children must be off to school, and you to business, but make the children feel the sacredness of the hour and the presence of God as you enter with them into the holy of holies, pleading for their soul's salvation and the keeping power from on high.

I fancy I see a smile play across the lips of some as they read these lines and think, 'You are old fashioned.' Old fashioned I am I grant, and so were my father and mother before me, but as I sit in the quiet of a home from which most of the loved ones have fled, a home which was not exempt from heavy trials, the petty annoyances and sometimes painful privations of life in days gone by—there floods my soul the memory of those sacred lessons learned at mother's knee, and the reverend, trustful, searching prayers, which fell from father's lips. I feel the inspiration of that sturdy confidence which has helped to keep me in the battles of life, and the holy influence which to-day enriches and permeates my whole being. How largely have the holy Sabbath hours figured in the upbuilding of character and the overcoming of temptations. The Sunday school is a good institution, but do not leave for the Sunday school teacher the work which God has

given you to do; nor for the pastor to do what God meant you to do yourself. God bless the homes. God bless the fathers and mothers, the sons and daughters, and make them strong and sturdy and true. God bless the Sabbath hours.

PUBLICITY FURTHERS NO GOOD END.

Dear Editor Home Department,—May I ask space for a few remarks relative to the letters which have appeared so frequently recently in your columns relative to Lady Henry Somerset, and her election to the office of vice-president of the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and her attitude towards the C. D. Act in India. I would state that she was elected in accordance with the constitution, and by-laws of the organization; therefore, she was legally elected, and I am at a loss to see, or understand, what good end is to be attained by these letters. How is the temperance cause to be benefited by them? Shall we give the particulars and details of this controversy, to the boys and girls, whose curiosity has been aroused by reading these letters? Is this the best that can be done to equip the White Ribbon host of this Dominion for the coming contest? Are the letters calculated to secure the respect of friend, or foe, by the exposé of what may, or may not have been, an error in judgment?

I am grieved to the heart that these letters should have been penned, threatening division and making personal attacks, and that, not because I coincide with Lady Henry Somerset, in her views, for I am, and have been ever since the C.D. Act was first enacted, opposed to it just as fully, and strongly, as I am to any degree or form of the legalized liquor traffic, but because I hold as sacred and inalienable, the right to form my own judgment, and to act under all circumstances, as my conscience dictates. Therefore, I would accede to Lady Henry Somerset, and each individual member of the White Ribbon army, the same privilege. It is not my purpose to champion Lady Henry Somerset or defend her views, but to express my humble opinion that the letters are a mistake, tending to no good, and pregnant with harm. If the writers of these division-breeding letters think they have a cause of offence because of the election, why not go direct to the executive for redress, and if the by-laws and constitution will not afford it, agitate among the members, for new laws or methods. Lady Henry Somerset did not elect herself, and a more excellent way of righting the wrong, if one there is, could be found outside the public press, although I have a profound respect for the latter.

If union is strength, then these letters make for weakness. In an organization of such magnitude, and having so many departments of work, it is impossible for each member to see eye to eye in every detail. Take for example Sabbath observance. How many of our ministers, or professedly Christian men or women, would acknowledge that they are breaking the fourth commandment when they ride in the street-car on the Lord's Day, and so flinch from the street railway employees their God-given right and liberty to rest and worship him on that day? The 'Thou shalt not' of the seventh commandment is no more binding than the 'Remember' and 'Thou shalt not' of the fourth. Shall all officers of the W.C.T.U., who do not so believe, be requested to resign, or shall they be ineligible for election? No, we need the aid of every good total abstainer to fight the dread evil of intemperance. If we would cast our eyes over the history of the past, and see how many battles, which were on the eve of being won, were lost because of division in the camp, it would surely be a warning to us. Let us concentrate our thought and energy upon the coming Plebiscite, which concerns us most at the present time, in this our beloved Canada.

We are each units in the grandest, and most unique army the world has ever seen, and fighting not for territory, or self-aggrandisement, but for principles. Dear sisters, let us come up to the level of our high purpose, and rally round our beloved chieftain, and strengthen her hands. She has given the best years of a busy and beautiful life to the uplifting of poor fallen humanity, and can we for a moment suppose that she would approve a step that she did not believe to be for the best interests of the cause she has given her life to?

With regard to Lady Henry Somerset, her work and life are thoroughly known to her own countrywomen, and they re-elected her as their president, and surely they are in a better position to know all the pros and cons of the case than we are. Let us hope and pray, however, that one who has made such great sacrifices, and given so lavishly of her time, thought, and means, to the furtherance of the work so dear to us all, may yet live to realize that state

regulation of vice in any degree is a delusion and a snare, and that there is no hope of betterment, except in 'A white life for two.' Let me say in conclusion, that the principles as held by the W.C.T.U. on purity, were clearly defined at Toronto, and gave out no uncertain sound. Threats are weak weapons to use against veterans, and if a member here and there sees fit to resign, because an officer in a whole army, holds opinions differing from all the other members of it, I should be sorry, but lovingly and solemnly would urge them to prayerfully consider these words, 'Woe unto them by whom divisions come.' Yours in humble work for God, and home and every land.

JANE RADFORD.

60 University street, Montreal, Jan. 5, 1898.

### SIGN YOUR FULL NAME.

Correspondents will please understand that all communications on this subject must be signed with the full name and address of the writer.

### SHOULD SET THEMSELVES RIGHT.

To the Editor of the Montreal 'Witness'.—As a life-member of fourteen unions in different parts of the world, and the first life patron of the World's Union our members no doubt would like to know how I voted at the late convention in the re-election of officers and the stand I take in regard to the C. D. Act. Unfortunately, because I am not a woman I can not vote, but some day hope to see our union give equal rights to all in this respect regardless of sex. It is said that silence gives consent, but the silence of my vote (for I have none) in this matter does not give my consent. I will not compromise with this sin or any other for the sake of any woman; no, not even Queen Victoria.

The World's officers elected themselves, and delegates had no voice in the matter, and consequently are not responsible for the action of the officers, but they owe it to the cause they represent as well as to the world at large that they should set themselves right on this question and this should be done without delay.

J. HALE RAMSAY.

Westmount, Jan. 2, 1898.

### ANOTHER LOCAL UNION PROTEST.

At a meeting of the W.C.T.U. of Peterborough, on Dec. 13, 1897, the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, that this union feels that the views and principles of its members and of the W.C.T.U. generally, were not represented in the election of Lady Henry Somerset as World's Vice-President at the late World's Convention in Toronto; that the members are unanimously of opinion that no woman upholding licensed sin can rightly represent a society which is fighting against it, and that we protest against that election, and ask that a copy of this resolution be sent through the Dominion officers to the World's W.C.T.U. executive.

Resolved, that in our opinion, and because Lady Henry Somerset was unanimously elected, the only right course at present open to the Canadian Union is to withdraw its affiliation from the World's W.C.T.U. till such time as the latter has executive officers who represent and carry out the objects and principles of the society, and that we hereby ask that our provincial officers take steps to ascertain the sentiments of the local unions with a view to this action.

MRS. GEORGE PATON,  
County President, Peterboro.

### BEAUTIFUL WRINKLES.

It is a mistake, says Harriet Hubbard Ayer, in the New York 'World,' to suppose that all wrinkles indicate old or advanced age.

It is a fallacy to suggest that wrinkles and lines are not sometimes indications of beauty of temperament.

There are certain lines, and, indeed, wrinkles, in the countenance of the aged that are revelations of patience, resignation and outward evidence of a beautiful and



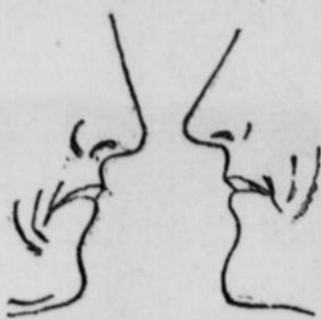
THE LINES OF PATIENCE.

most lovable nature. There is nothing more disagreeable than the face of a middle-aged man or woman which is smooth, shining and devoid of lines or wrinkles, because such a face always indicates a hypocrite and one who is dishonest and unprincipled. After thirty years of age it is to no one's credit if he or she bear no outward sign in the lines of the face of an acquaintance with joy and sorrow, sympathy and reflection.

We are each one accountable to ourselves, as well as to our friends, for the lines and 'crow's-feet' we so dislike, for they are the

most faithful and unerring records of temper and temperament.

The muscular contractions of the brow or cheek which cause these lines, if per-



THE LINES OF RESPONSIBILITY. THE LINES OF BENEVOLENCE.

sistently indulged in, will eventually make a mark which will mar the face as well in repose as under emotion.

The lines that indicate a sense of humor are easily enough recognized. They are frequently called 'crow's-feet,' and are found at the corners of the eyes, even in early youth. They are never unpleasant. On the contrary, there is nothing more friendly than



THE PETULANT LINES.

the expression about the eyes of the men and women whose sense of fun is never disagreeable at any time, but, on the contrary, is always suggestive of the spirit of mischief, which no truly hardened sinner ever possessed.

I often think that a woman's face is like a roadway.

I recollect faces that have made me think of paths cut in rocks, and I have seen women of fifty whose countenances might have been moulded an hour before of putty for



THE REVENGEFUL LINES.

all the signs of thought or humanity they evinced.

Time is the great engraver of our faces. If we live and think he is bound to make the reflection of life and thought appear. Time indeed is the engraver, but it is you and I and the lives which we lead that guide his hand.

It is absolutely impossible for a woman of



THE CYNIC'S LINES.

charity, benevolence and humanity to look like the avaricious and spiteful woman.

The human face is a mirror and reflects our emotions.

The lines that indicate a love of gossip are very readily recognized. There is a certain droop to the mouth which a woman's face will always take on just after she has asked 'if you have heard the latest about Mrs. So and So.' There are certain little lines also about the nose which are shown in the illustration of the gossiping type, and it may also be said that women who love to talk about their neighbors, more often than not, are thin-lipped, and frequently have round, convex eyes.

It does not need any explanation to me to describe the lines that tell the story of an irritable, fretful nature. They are always drooping lines, just as mournful, happy lines are curves. If there is anything in the world, it seems to me, which should cause a woman to think several times be-

fore losing her temper, it is the price she is to pay for it in the course of a few years by the most repellant lines that mark the peasant face.

The lines in the face that indicate revenge are always drooping and malicious looking. There is usually a line from the nose to the lower corner of the mouth, and several fine oblique lines upon the sides of the nose in these subjects.

The cynical face is marked by an upward, sneering line at the mouth corners, and usually by a network of small lines which



THE GOSSIP.

indicate a general contempt for persons and things.

The executive wrinkles lie horizontally. These wrinkles are several. There are usually two across the nose at its root, and frequently three deep furrows running horizontally across the brow. I have never seen a man or a woman of great executive ability who did not possess them.

The talker's wrinkle differs from the gossip lines. The talker is the natural orator and has something to say. This wrinkle commences in and near the lower cheek, and runs down under the chin from side to side. It is caused, as all wrinkles and lines are, by the use of the muscles of this part of the face so constantly that they



EXECUTIVE WRINKLES.

form a wrinkle. This line is a sure indication of a natural talker.

The straight up and down lines furrowed in the brow denote sternness and sharpness, according to physiognomists. I have found, however, that they often indicate tremendous perseverance, and that they are formed by the contraction of the muscles which accompanies great concentration of thought and intensity of purpose.

Horizontal lines across the forehead, which fate seems to mete to many of us, and which I often see upon the brows of young children, denote care and anxiety always, the eternal battle for existence, the never-ending, soul-wearing endeavor to accommodate weak shoulders to heavy burdens.

All premature wrinkles may certainly be obliterated. The treatment, I do not hesitate to say, is partly a moral one.

For example, I do not believe it possible, by any external agency, to eradicate malicious wrinkles until after the subject has reformed her ways. Nor do I think revengeful lines will yield to massage alone. In fact, I have seen the lines in a woman's face fade away under the influence of a change in the woman's own life.

In other words, it comes to this, that a good woman cannot look like a bad one, and a bad one of over thirty-five cannot possibly look like a saint.

The general external treatment for wrinkles, which have been induced by illness, and care and anxiety is great cleanliness, nutritious food, out of door exercise, and the internal cultivation of an equable temper and a happy spirit.

Whatever tends to promote the general health and to increase the deposit of fat in the skin tissues of the face tends to obliterate lines and wrinkles and to increase the firmness and beauty of the skin. Attention to the diet is of the utmost importance, and massage, if not administered too heroically, is of great benefit.

The skin is kept smooth and firm by it. padding of fat, and this should not be forgotten. With the loss of flesh and the softening of the muscles, from whatever cause, the skin loses its support and falls into folds and wrinkles. These wrinkles will often appear in young faces after an illness. The treatment should consist of frequent ablutions in warm water, friction and any one of a number of lotions.

The wrinkles and lines which appear under the chin of most women who are at all inclined to embonpoint usually mark the shady side of the forties. They may be in many cases entirely removed and in every case much lightened by the use of dumb-bells, massage and light gymnastics. Voice culture is also excellent. I know of nothing really more effective, for hardening the muscles of flabby, wrinkled throats, necks and arms than the simple dumb-bell exercises. Let those of my readers who are naturally dismayed and disheartened to see the flaccid flesh under the jaw and the softening of the under part of their beautiful arms take heart of grace. Let them stand before a mirror while practicing the first four movements of the dumb-bells and watch the enforced play of the muscles of

the throat and arms. This exercise, if persisted in and taken regularly, cannot fail to harden the muscles which have become soft and relaxed, and as the muscles support the flesh, and the flesh the skin, the result will be the building up of the whole structure and the total disappearance of the flaccidity which all women dread and deplore.

It is well to remember that the lines produced by laughter and by kind and gentle emotions are always pleasant, often beautiful, and that the contrary lines usually mean a sour and crabbed creature, who takes comfort in his own and other people's misery.

### THE NEW CANTONMENT RULES FOR INDIA.

We copy the following from the Madras 'Mail,' India, of Nov. 30:—

A meeting, convened by the Moral Reform Union, was held on Nov. 19 in the lecture room of the Baywater Y.M.C.A., under the presidency of Mr. G. W. E. Russell, formerly Under Secretary of State for India, for the purpose of considering 'the immoral bearing of the New Cantonment Rules for India in the light of native and English opinion.' The following resolution was carried:

'That the recent measures of the government of India as regards the Cantonment Rules, deserve the unqualified condemnation of all right minded people for the following reasons: 1. Because no humane, civilized, and, above all, no Christian government should regulate vice. 2. Because the action of the Indian government is an encroachment on the privacy of Indian women. 3. Because the Indian people are themselves opposed to the measures enjoined by the aforesaid rules, and think most seriously that they are calculated to engender discontent and disaffection. For these reasons, we, as a professed moral nation, having a high respect for the purity of our own family, feel it to be our bounden duty to join our Indian fellow subjects in a solemn protest against the immoral tendency of such government measures, and to embody such protest in a memorial to Her Majesty's ministers.'

It was further decided to send copies of the resolution, together with a memorial, to the Marquis of Salisbury and Lord George Hamilton.

### READING MATTER WANTED.

Dear Home Readers,—Last year I made an appeal for some religious reading matter for 'Mushaboon School.' We received quite a large amount, which has been circulated and has done some good. If any persons feel disposed to send a few papers they will be thankfully received by the poor people in this section.

WM. M. GEDDES, Teacher,  
Mushaboon School,  
Spry Bay, N.S.

Dec. 27, 1897.

### GAMBLING AMONG WOMEN.

The Rev. Joseph Parkin says that there is as much gambling among English women as among English men, and more drunkenness.

### A DEALER IN WORDS.

The late Hon. Henry Erskine, meeting his acquaintance, Jimmy Balfour, a barrister, who dealt greatly in hard words and circumlocutions sentences, and perceiving that his ankle was tied up with a silk handkerchief, asked the cause. 'Why, my dear sir,' answered the wordy lawyer, 'I was taking a rural, romantic ramble in my brother's grounds, when, coming to a gate, I had to climb over it, by which I came in contact with the first bar, and have grazed the epidermis on my skin, attended with a slight extravasation of blood.' You may thank your lucky stars,' replied Mr. Erskine, 'that your brother's gate was not as lofty as your style, or you must have broken your neck.'—'Household Words.'

### THEOLOGY IN GERMANY.

Recent statistics show that the total number of theological students in Germany has diminished very rapidly of late years. In 1890 the number in the various universities was 4,527, while in 1896 it was 2,956. At Berlin, where the most famous professors are usually to be found, the decline is nearly fifty per cent. This has been attributed by some to the very meagre salaries paid by the state. 'The Living Church' cites the foregoing facts and gives what it considers a better reason for the declining number of students. It says:—

At the majority of the great universities, the theology taught by the faculty is hardly any longer worthy of the name of Christian. At Griefswald and Erlangen, however, the old orthodoxy is still maintained, and it is precisely at these two universities that the number of theological students has increased instead of diminishing. This can hardly be without significance. The learned professors who distinguish themselves by undermining the religion they represent at first attract students and gather followers through the very novelty of their position; but as time goes on the natural result follows, namely, that as not enough is left of Christianity to distinguish it from the world, such teachings lose their interest. Men do not see any reason why they should make it the business of their lives to be telling people that they need not believe, what they have hitherto supported; they ought to believe, and that they are going on very well as they are, and have no need to trouble themselves. Of course, if there are good livings to be had, there will be candidates for them. In this case there are neither good livings, nor is there any reason why men should starve in poor ones, so long as other walks of life are open to them. Men will be willing to starve or sacrifice themselves for a great and noble cause; but it would be insane to do so for no cause at all.

The Rev. Dr. Mathews, general secretary of the Pan-Presbyterian Alliance, has just returned from attending officially the Nestorian Synod in Southern Persia. He was absent from London four months, and his health has suffered somewhat from the fatigues of the journey, as he had to traverse mountain passes, four thousand feet above the level of the sea during a blizzard.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON.

Jan. 23, 1898.

BY JOHN R. WHITNEY.

THE BEATITUDES.—Matt. v. 1-12.

Golden Text.—Ye are the light of the world.—Matt. v. 14.

Apparently Jesus withdrew from the multitude, and again 'went up' into the mountain, accompanied by his disciples. There he sat down, after the usual manner of a teacher, and they gathered around him. He needed rest, and they, apparently, did not weary him with any questions. But St. Luke says, 'He lifted up his eyes on his disciples,' and St. Matthew says, 'He opened his mouth and taught them.' Blessed privilege conferred only on them! Others may have joined them later, for St. Matthew speaks of 'the people,' as present at the close of the instruction, but it was not addressed to 'the multitude.' They could never have appreciated or understood it. It was addressed only to 'the disciples.' When it was finished they were edified and strengthened, but 'the people' were only astonished.' (vii., 28.)

And yet, 'the multitude' to-day look upon this sermon on the mount as setting up a standard for their conduct. They say that if men will live up to its teaching they will need nothing more. Perhaps not. But who ever lived up to its least requirement, even to his own satisfaction? The fact that it says nothing about repentance, or faith, or atonement, or the renewing by the Holy Ghost, is in itself a witness that it was addressed to those who were already united to the Divine Teacher, and who gladly sat at his feet as his disciples. To them he offers a high and blessed standard for conduct, but he offers no standard by the attaining of which any one can become his child. All through this matchless instruction there runs a clear line of separation between those who are his and those who are not. It opens upon the declaration that all who are upon one side of that line are 'blessed.' Upon all who stand on the other side there rests only unutterable 'woe.' (Luke vi., 24, 26.) It closes with the declaration that on the one side are the 'wise,' who build upon a rock, and on the other side are the 'foolish,' who build upon the sand. On the one side stand all who are 'in Christ,' on the other all who are 'in Adam.' This is a very important point to consider in studying this matchless sermon as a whole, or any part of it as a specialty.

In the opening verses of this sermon eight characteristics of the child of God are brought before us. He is 'poor in spirit,' he 'mourns,' he is 'meek,' he 'hunger and thirsts after righteousness,' he is 'merciful,' 'pure in heart,' a 'peacemaker,' and 'persecuted.' To each one of these belongs a peculiar and special blessedness. Moreover they are not characteristics belonging, some to one believer and some to another. They are all to be possessed by each one, and belong to him simply because he is a child of God. They mark his position as such. As the seven primary colors together make a pure white, so the first seven in this list are the elements of a perfect Christian character. The eighth marks a condition, but it is a condition which our Lord says belongs to all of his children—in the world—they 'shall have tribulation.' (John xvi., 33.) 'There is no man,' he says in another place, 'that hath left house, or brethren or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake and the gospel's but he shall receive an hundred-fold now in this time—houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers and children, and lands—but he adds, it will be 'with persecutions, and in the world to come eternal life.' (Mark x., 29-30.)

These characteristics are not, however, qualities which a man can acquire by an effort of his own. He cannot make himself 'poor in spirit,' or 'meek,' or 'hungry after righteousness,' any more than he can make himself tall or short, white or black, and it is not expected of him that he should. Men sometimes think that it is, and they strive by fasting, and prayer, and self-denial, and holy discipline, to become more and more 'pure in spirit,' more 'meek,' more 'pure more religious—verily believing that by so doing they will become more and more blessed. But there is not a hint of anything of the kind in what our Lord says or implies.

Moreover, he does not even say that any man is 'blessed' because he possesses any or all of these characteristics. It is not written here, 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, because they are poor,' any more than it is written in St. Luke's narrative, 'Woe unto you that are rich, because you are rich.' Neither the blessedness nor the woe are inherent in the character, or in the condition, and our Lord nowhere says that they are. He says, 'Blessed are the poor in spirit,' not because they are poor, but because 'theirs is the kingdom of heaven.' And so in every case, the blessedness is not because of the character, but because of the promise; and the 'woe' is because there are no promises to those who are satisfied with the present.

What now is to be understood by these various characteristics of the child of God? 'The poor in spirit'—all scripture testifies—are those who know that they are spiritually poor, utterly bankrupt and impoverished. Unlike the 'medicines,' they do not say, 'I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing,' but they confess with sorrow that they are 'wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.' (Rev. iii., 17.)

So 'they that mourn' cannot refer simply, or even chiefly, to those who are bereaved, or troubled through any temporal distress. It goes to the root of all sorrow, and that root is sin. The true mourner, therefore, is he who feels the burden of sin, and grieves because of it, crying out with Paul, 'Oh, wretched man that I am; who shall deliver me from the body of this death?' (Rom. vii., 24.) But the promise to all such is, 'they shall be comforted.'

'Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.' They have learned of him who was 'meek and lowly in heart,' and they shall be partakers of his glory when 'the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ.' (Rev. xi., 15.) 'They shall inherit the earth.' All things are theirs. (I. Cor. iii., 21.)

So with those who 'hunger and thirst after righteousness they shall be filled.' He who knows his spiritual bankruptcy—who mourns over his sins—who walks humbly before God and men, because he is a sinner, is never satisfied without both the righteousness of Christ, and the sanctifying of the Holy Ghost.

In the remaining three characteristics the believer stands before us more particularly as related to men, he is 'merciful,' 'pure in heart,' and a 'peacemaker.'

Unlike the ungrateful servant whose lord forgave him a debt of ten thousand talents (Matt. xviii., 23, 35), the child of God, having obtained mercy, shows mercy in all his dealings with his fellow-men, and showing mercy, he obtains mercy through Jesus Christ his Lord. And 'the pure in heart' are blessed because 'they shall see God,' even in the world that is full of corruption. They see him now by faith, and hereafter they shall see him face to face. So also with 'the peacemakers.' They go in and out among men, not only casting the oil of divine grace upon many troubles between man and man, but they are ambassadors to draw men to God through the reconciliation of his dear son. (II. Cor. v., 20.)

Such, in brief, are some of the characteristics of God's true children. But the world in which they live neither appreciates nor understands them any more than it did their Divine Master. And it is just as true to-day as it was eighteen hundred years ago, when Paul wrote to Timothy, that 'all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.' (II. Timothy iii., 12.) But what then? What is the promise? 'Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.' It is the same promise of inexhaustible riches and peace, which is given to 'the poor in spirit.' Man cannot ask more—'God cannot give more.'

HOME READINGS.  
Mon.—Mark i., 21-34.—A Sabbath-day's Ministry in Capernaum.  
Tue.—Mark i., 35-2:14.—Other incidents in Jesus's Galilean Ministry.  
Wed.—Mark ii., 23-3:6.—The Story of the Galilean Ministry, continued.  
Thu.—Mark iii., 7-19.—The Choosing of the Twelve.  
Fri.—Matt. v., 1-12.—Sermon on the Mount.—The Beatitudes.  
Sat.—Matt. v., 13-32.—Ye are the light of the world.  
Sun.—Matt. v., 33-48.—Be ye therefore perfect.

DEPARTMENT.  
TOPIC—Jan. 23, 1898.  
PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF THE BEATITUDES.  
Matt. v., 1-12.

'We all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.'—II. Cor. iii., 18.

If it were possible for a man to have all the virtues mentioned in the first eight beatitudes and still be without a saving faith in Jesus Christ, that man might not enter heaven, for only the saved are there. But it is not possible for a man to really hunger and thirst after God and not be filled with his love as manifested in Christ Jesus. It is not possible for a man to be constantly merciful or perfectly pure in heart without the strength of God manifested in Christ Jesus the sinless One. It certainly is not possible for a man to rejoice in suffering persecutions, slanders and revilings for the sake of a name he does not love more than his own life. They who truly possess these qualities can only possess them through faith in Jesus Christ; therefore they are the true heirs of the kingdom.

Let us be practical in this matter; let us be heart-searching. Let us take up these tests separately and individually and see whether we are properly qualified citizens of the kingdom of heaven. Note the absolute opposition to all that the world counts happiness. Yet the world has been so greatly leavened by the thoughts and precepts of Christianity that it has some ideals of righteousness and mercy, purity and peace. But take for instance a heathen who has never heard of the living God, what ideals of righteousness has he? What are the virtues he ascribes to his own poor deities of stone and wood? Justice and mercy have no place in his mind. Peace-making is an uncommon attribute. Purity and honor are very little thought of. It is hard to find cases in which common honesty is ascribed to the idols by their worshippers. These ideals of happiness are utterly foreign to the natural mind of man. In what degree are we, enlightened worshippers of the true God, better or more fitted for the kingdom than the heathen who knows not God, or the worldling who cares not for him?

Is our ideal of greatness, humility? Do we know what it is to be poor in spirit? Do we consider it our greatest happiness to be humble and lowly? The kingdom of heaven is composed of the humble-minded ones who delight in God's will rather than in their own.

Do we know what it is to mourn? To mourn not only for our shortcomings, but to mourn as Jesus did, over a lost world, over the nations that sit in darkness, having no knowledge of the true

Light? Do we remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them (Heb. xiii., 3), or do we forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death? (Prov. xxiv., 11, 12.) Christ is not willing that any should perish, and to those who truly mourn with him over the lost world will come the blessed comfort of his sympathy. Theirs will be the comfort of prayer and the comfort of working with their utmost powers for the salvation of lost ones.

Do we count meekness an honor, or do we think it a little more honorable to let every one understand that we are quite able to order our own ways and make our own plans? Do we take advantage kindly? Do we hate every form of pride and self-arrogancy? Are we patient and sweet under provocation? The soul that hungers and thirsts after righteousness (and this is no overdrawn figure; the soul needs food and drink as constantly as does the body) must come to God for satisfaction. The wakened soul cannot feed on husks; Jesus is the Bread of Life and the Water of Life; he alone can fill and satisfy the soul. The bliss of soul-hunger is that it brings us closer to God and teaches us how to feast on Jesus and his word.

Mercifulness we are too apt to think of as a quality to be exercised only toward inferiors. God is merciful to us; we should be merciful to our debtors and to all animals. This is a narrow use of the word.

There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea. And there should be the same wide mercy in our hearts. Another name for mercy is charity, love. How often we allow uncharitable, unmerciful thoughts of our neighbors to fill our hearts. How unmerciful that thoughtless criticism is. How unmerciful, unchristlike is that cutting sarcasm. That cruelly thoughtless word, that unkind glance, that cold disdain, are these samples of the mercy we wish to receive?

The pure heart is as a clear, calm lake reflecting in its waters the image of him who has purified it. Perfect purity can only be in the heart that is filled with God. Man cannot see beyond the outward appearance and deeds; God looks only upon the heart. He has set our secret sins in the light of his countenance. Those who make peace, loving, gentle, forgiving and tender, smoothing the rugged pathway of life, extracting the thorns, kissing the bruises, binding up the wounds with the healing balm of Gilead, these are blessed, these are a blessing. This is the work of the children of God, to take up the song of the angels, proclaiming peace on earth, good will to men.

Blessed, happy are they which are persecuted! Could anything sound more paradoxical? Yet we find that the apostles actually did rejoice that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the name of Jesus. (Acts v., 41.) Paul and Silas praised God in the midst of persecution. (Acts xvi., 25.) To all those who suffer persecution for the name of Jesus is given the joy of seeing Jesus as the first Christian martyr did. (Acts vii., 55.) The testimony of the Church throughout all ages is strong as to the blessing of suffering for Christ.

How do we measure up in these things? Are these our ideals of bliss? Are we properly qualified citizens of the kingdom?

SUGGESTED HYMNS.  
'More holiness give me,' 'Lord, as to thy dear cross we flee,' 'Jesus, the very thought of thee,' 'There are lonely hearts to cherish,' 'Not I, but Christ,' 'Moment by moment,' 'Scatter the sunshine.'

WHEN THE ROLL IS CALLED IN NASHVILLE, I'LL BE THERE.  
(By L. L. Rice, Nashville.)  
Tune—'When the Roll is Called up Yonder.'

When the Army of Endeavorers shall gather far and wide, And in ninety-eight hymns in Dixie fair, When shall peal forth hymns of loyalty from hearts so true and tried, And the roll is called in Nashville I'll be there.

Chorus.  
When the roll is called in Nashville, When the roll is called in Nashville, When the roll is called in Nashville, When the roll is called in Nashville I'll be there.

Let the winds catch up the strain and bear it straight to every land, Let the zephyrs tell it softly everywhere, When Dixie speaks her welcome to the great Endeavor band, And the roll is called in Nashville I'll be there.

From the Northern climes they'll come, and from the West and from the East, Thrice ten thousand hearts a Southern welcome share, When the moment comes that bids me to the great Endeavor feast, And the roll is called in Nashville I'll be there.

This is the great '98 Convention song. Copies can be had by addressing Mr. B. G. Alexander, secretary of the Committee of '98, Room Endeavor, Tulane Hotel, Nashville, Tenn.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORERS.  
(Published by request.)  
Endeavor to be,  
Not merely to seem;  
Endeavor to do,  
Not idly to dream;  
Endeavor to think  
High thoughts, pure and good;  
Endeavor to work  
As a real Christian should;  
Endeavor to plan  
What is wisest and best;  
Endeavor to leave  
All doubt and unrest;  
Endeavor to speak  
Glad words, sweet and true;  
Endeavor to give  
As God prospereth you.  
Endeavor, through love,  
To sweet sympathy show;  
Endeavor to hate  
All things mean and low;  
Endeavor to hope  
For the triumph to right;  
Endeavor to trust  
In life's darkest night;  
Endeavor in patience  
Your task to fulfil;  
Endeavor, by prayer,  
To do always God's will;  
Endeavor in peace  
Your life to pursue.  
Endeavor by faith  
To live it all through;  
Endeavor to make  
Each day a glad whole.  
Forgetting yourself  
In helping some soul.  
Thus Endeavor will be  
The keynote of your life,  
And your crown of rejoicing  
When freed from the strife  
And temptations of earth,  
You shall hear from the Son,  
'Well done, faithful servant,'  
Endeavor has won!  
'The Golden Rule.'

THE 'DAYSRING' REALLY NEEDED.  
Some of the New Hebrides missionaries and their supporters, strongly opposed the building of the new 'Dayspring,' asked for by Dr. Paton, on the ground that a trading company did the work more effectively and at less cost. The Foreign Missions Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, now, however, unanimously report in favor of the new vessel, having been driven to this decision by the force of facts. The Melbourne correspondent of the 'British Weekly' says:—'During the past year the Australian New Hebrides steam service has proved quite unsuited to the purposes of the mission. It may be taken for granted that the General Assembly in November will endorse and carry into effect this opinion of its Foreign Missions Committee, and that thus the fretted feeling caused by the opposition of a minority to Dr. John G. Paton's scheme, will cease. It has been already hurtful to the mission; and all the mission's friends should now unite in a vigorous effort to secure an adequate steamer free of debt.'

The 'Faithful Witness,' of Toronto, says:—'The more we read of the matter, the more our sympathy goes out towards the New Hebrides missionaries, in their desire for a new 'Dayspring.' It is not to be expected that the trading steamers will do any better once they are assured that no new missionary steamer will be put on the route than at present, when they are seeking to control the trade, and yet, letters tell of the steamer refusing to take time to land much-needed provisions and medicine for the missionaries with the following results, which speak for themselves:—'The last two months have been very trying ones to us—we have all been down again and again with the fever—generally two of us at a time! Our quinine and flour ran short, and we were getting very weak, when a report came that the steamer had been sighted off North Tanna. This put new heart into us, and we looked forward to quinine and bread once more. How we prayed that the report might be a true one. But the days passed, and no steamer came. Then we found that it was a French steamer. On hearing this, Toussi and Kometa undertook the long journey over to Weasivi, and got some medicine from Mr. Macmillan; also some oatmeal. The same day Mrs. Worthington came over to say that they could let us have some flour. This was the answer to our prayer for the steamer, and we thanked God for it. From that day we began to gain strength.'

CRIME IN CHICAGO.  
Chicago is grappling with its usual winter problem, namely, how to check the epidemic of crime. Clergymen are talking publicly of the advisability of people carrying arms to protect themselves from footpads and sandbaggers, and citizens are organizing vigilance committees for summary vengeance upon burglars and their ilk. The most sensible suggestion, however, comes from the Chicago 'Record.' 'Why not close their all-night headquarters?' it asks. The cartoon which accompanies this very pertinent question pictures a saloon rendezvous of these criminals, placarded with such invitations as 'Take two drinks of our whiskey and you feel ready to kill a whole family'; 'Revolvers and masks furnished free to regular customers'; 'Check your sandbags,' etc. The Chicago public admits that saloons are the hatching places of the organized bands of thieves and thugs which periodically terrorize the citizens, yet year after year it goes on providing some seven thousand of them. We wonder how many of the heads of families and protectors of homes, who now advocate lynch law, walked complacently into the polling booth last election day and said, 'Saloons must stay.' We wonder how many Chicago ministers help to throw legal protection around these hotbeds of vice and crime. And we would like to have the newspapers explain why in one breath they stigmatize the saloon as the 'breeder of crooks and thugs' and in the next pronounce it a 'necessity.'—'Union Signal.'

RELIGIOUS NEWS.  
The Bishop of Chester, preaching in London, urged the conferring of more power on the laity in accordance with the practice of the early Church.  
For the Bethell Baptist Church, built as a memorial of the late Mr. C. H. Spurgeon, Mrs. Spurgeon has received about £2,275 out of the four or five thousand pounds wanted.  
'One of the sights of Burmah,' writes a lady there, 'is Mr. Brayton, a Baptist missionary, who has worked there for sixty years. He told us that he was "eighty-nine years young."'  
A clergyman who is totally blind has been appointed to the incumbency of Belgrave Chapel, Pimlico, in succession to the late Rev. Marcus Rainsford, sr. This is the Rev. Herbert John R. Marston, late rector of Icomb, Gloucestershire.  
The Bishop of Newcastle, while advocating Sunday closing, declared that with it must come earlier closing on Saturday nights. He described temperance effort as spiritual work—trying to cast out devils from their fellow-man.

In December General Booth wrote to the (London) 'Christian': 'I have just closed a wonderful campaign in Lyons, Nimes, Geneva, Neuchatel, Berne and Basle. I hope to leave for Canada and the United States of America early in January.  
A mitre, the only one of its kind in the world, has been presented to the Bishop of London. It is of burnished ivory, with gold orphreys. On the plaques or plates are written in gold the words 'Holiness to the Lord' in Hebrew, Greek, Latin and English.

The Zanzibar authorities seem to be putting every obstacle in the way of carrying out the recent decree abolishing slavery, and thereby reducing it to a dead letter. The British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have memorialized Lord Salisbury on the subject.  
Canon Gore, in one of a series of mid-day addresses, delivered by him in Manchester, dwelt on industrial problems. The formation of a limited liability company, he said, did not in the least solve the individuals who constituted it from the obligation to see that the employees were fairly paid and properly treated in other ways.

Mr. James White, of the United Kingdom Alliance, once again publishes figures to show that the claim put forward that non-abstainers live longer than abstainers is a pure delusion. He lays stress on the fact that the death-rate of the Rechabites and of the Sons of Temperance is only one-third of the general death-rate of men of the same age.

At a recent meeting, held under the auspices of the Women's Union of the Church of England Temperance Society, Mrs. Creighton, wife of the Bishop of London, said that she had a very special quarrel with some of our public school doctors, who ordered port wine for boys when ill at school, though at home they had been treated in sickness on a different principle.

The 'Indian Witness' points out that there is a growing expectancy in missionary circles of an outpouring of the Holy Spirit in India. It is believed that the troubles which have fallen upon the people will prove a preparation of the heart. The Calcutta Missionary Conference has called for a day of united prayer in mission circles throughout the whole empire.

The Earl and Countess of Carlisle have cleared out all the liquor shops from their extensive estates. The advantage to the people is very great. In one of the villages, before the public-house was closed, a direct vote of the inhabitants was taken, and by four to one they decided that intoxicating drink should not be sold in their midst. The public-house was forthwith transformed into a useful place of business. Peace and prosperity now prevail in Hallbankgate.

The London Missionary Society steamer, 'John Williams' (Captain E. C. Gore), has rescued from the Island of Nanomea, one of the Ellice group, eight persons, the survivors of twenty-two who left Tutuila, one of the islands of the Samoan group, in a large-sized native boat, for a trip to the Island of Tau, the most easterly of the Samoan archipelago. The

boat, before being wrecked, had drifted a distance of eleven hundred miles. Captain Gore had the pleasure of restoring the castaways to their friends.  
At a missionary meeting in Chatsworth Road Chapel, Norwood, England, the newly-settled pastor, the Rev. A. G. Brown, related the following incident: Soon after his daughter had decided to go out as a missionary to China, an old lady called upon him and stated that the Lord had told her to give him 'that,' offering him successively five hundred-pound notes. The old lady then took her departure. 'Thus,' said Mr. Brown, 'I made the gift of my child, and the Lord found the money for her support.'

The Protestants of France are looking forward with intense interest to next year, which completes the third centenary since the Edict of Nantes. A fortnightly review, 'La Foi et la Vie,' will shortly appear in Paris. The circulation of the sacred scriptures, under the auspices of the Societe Evangelique de Geneve, is being carried on with much encouragement. At one place a priest boldly tore up a New Testament, and forbade his parishioners to buy the book. His denunciations were in vain, for the colporteur's stock was soon exhausted, such was the determination of the people to read for themselves.

'St. Pancras Caution! Within the last five months, eight deaths (more or less sudden) of comparatively young persons, suffering from alcoholic poisoning on admission, have occurred in the workhouse of this parish, all of which were due directly to the effects of excessive drinking.' The above caution was published and posted outside the St. Pancras workhouse, by order of the guardians, upon a report of the medical officer on Oct. 12. It was subsigned, 'Alfred A. Millward, clerk to the guardians.'—'Alliance News.'

The 'Union Signal,' speaking of the young lady from Iceland who came to the Toronto W.C.T.U. convention, says:—'Cheering news comes of Miss Olafia Johannsdottir's work in Canada, where she is speaking for the W.C.T.U. and the Good Templars. This young woman, full of enthusiasm for the cause which needs just such assistance as young women of every land can give, went to Manitoba immediately after the conventions, and finding opportunities so numerous and invitations so pressing she has decided to remain there until March.'

A portable church was shipped from New York to Jamaica on the British steamer 'Barnstable,' which cleared the custom house a few days ago for Port Antonio. It was built of wood, put together here, to make sure that the parts were right, then taken down and stowed in sections in the hold of the 'Barnstable.' This vessel, a fast fruit carrier, trades between Philadelphia and the West Indies. Down in Jamaica churches are few in the interior of the island, where the fruit grows, and the Americans, who do the greater part of the export fruit trade, decided to build a church which could be moved about as they deem proper to the places where the most good could be done with it. An American mechanic designed the edifice, and with it goes a bell to summon the worshippers. Books and a complete outfit of furniture accompanied the church.

The friends of the London Society for the Promotion of Christianity among the Jews, says the 'Evangelical Churchman,' will be glad to learn that an influential deputation will visit Canada in the early part of the ensuing year, and will make a tour of the several dioceses. The two gentlemen whom the committee has selected are the Rev. Frederick Smith, M.A., rector of Woodchester, and the Rev. C. A. Fladd. The former has been for thirty years one of the most able advocates of the society's work, and the latter has for about the same length of time been the society's missionary in Tunis and other provinces in North Africa, as well as in some of the Oriental spheres of work for the evangelization of the Jews. They will bring with them a number of illustrations of missionary incidents, together with lantern views of scenery and localities of deep interest. The visit of these gentlemen will mark a new era in the work of the society, especially that in connection with the Canadian Auxiliary.

ADVERTISEMENTS.  
"I Earn More Money Than My Girl Friends Who are in Business"

A young lady in Indiana, an invalid and confined to her room, writes: "No 'shut-in' need complain of being unable to earn money so long as your generous plan remains in force. It might appear as if I were working under great disadvantage, for I do all my work by correspondence, and rarely see my people personally. Yet I earn much more money than the majority of my girl friends, who are pursuing the ordinary avocations open to women."

The Ladies' Home Journal wants agents to obtain subscriptions and to look after newals. What this girl, who has done, surely a healthy girl can do—and more.

The Curtis Publishing Company Philadelphia

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 " " 10 copies and over to one  
 address, 25c per copy.

All the above papers sent free of postage to the Dominion, Newfoundland and United States.  
 For Great Britain add \$1.04 for postage on "Weekly Witness," "Northern Messenger" add 25c; "Daily Witness" add \$3.00.

**ADVERTISING RATES.**

WEEKLY WITNESS.—Casual advertisements 20c per line per insertion, including cuts and large type. Contract Rates—1 year, \$7.50 per line; 6 months, \$4.50 per line; 3 months, \$2.25 per line. "Farms to Rent," "Farms for Sale," can be inserted for 1c a word per insertion from subscribers. The lowest rate for non-subscribers is two cents per word. When replies are to be addressed in care of the "Witness" Office, an additional charge of twenty-five cents is made. In all cases the full price must accompany each order.

DAILY WITNESS.—10c per line first insertion, and 5c per line each subsequent insertion on order. CUTS OR LARGE TYPE, double rates. Contracts on favorable terms. "Employment Wanted," "Situations Vacant," etc., 10c per insertion, up to 20 words. Money must accompany order, as this quotation is reckoned on a cash basis.

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Contracts payable quarterly in advance.  
 Five is the minimum number of lines for which an advertisement is charged.

**NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.**—When remitting be particular to give the correct post-office address and the Province or State, and either register your letter, which will cost 5c in addition to the regular postage, or procure a post-office or express money order which protects the sender. Post-office orders can be obtained at the following rates: \$2.50 and under, 3c; \$2.50 to \$5.00, 4c; \$5.00 to \$10.00, 6c. Express Money Orders are issued up to \$3.00 for 2c; \$3.00 to \$5.00, 4c; \$5.00 to \$10.00, 6c. Subscribers in the United States can remit by Post-Office Order or Rouse's Post, N.Y., or American Express Company, payable at Montreal. When wishing to have your address changed from one post-office to another, it is necessary to give the old address as well as the new. If this be not done such changes cannot be made. Address all letters containing subscriptions or advertising: JOHN DOUGALL & SON, "Witness," Montreal.

When stamps are sent to make up a remittance, the only denominations we accept are 1 and 3 cents.

Any subscriber of the Montreal "Witness" who would like to have a specimen copy of the paper sent to a friend can be accommodated by sending us on a postal card the name and address to which he would like the paper sent.

**RENEW FOR 1898!**

We are much cheered by the large number of subscriptions received during the New Year week. Our hope is that the number may go on increasing. Large numbers have not yet renewed; and we are sure that if each will give the subject a moment's reflection each will see that our reminder is reasonable and our request for immediate renewal reasonable. Do not lose a copy, but please send the renewal at once.

The offer is still open to our subscribers of two copies of the 'Weekly Witness' for \$1.50, provided the renewal subscription is accompanied by a new name.

To each subscriber who remits one dollar the choice is open from several premiums.

**The Witness.**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1898.

**THE LONDON HORROR.**

It seems to be the time for sympathy with a neighbor city in mourning rather than for criticising those responsible for what has happened, but it is only when the calamity occurs that criticism is either possible or effective, and even sympathy finds ever its readiest vent in finding some one to denounce for the evil deplored. The London City Hall floor which gave way beneath the strain of an enthusiastic and crowded political meeting is said to have received some recent propping, implying that before that it was counted unsafe. It is said also that even after the propping it was not considered safe for dancing. Dancing is specially perilous for buildings owing to the oscillation produced by keeping time, but as between the number of people who can dance in a hall and the number who can pack into it sitting and standing, and there stamp and cheer, as is to be expected when

there is a crowd, the odds of danger seem largely against the political meeting. The lesson of the calamity that has thrown London into mourning is that no room, great or small, should be used as a public hall whose floor is incapable of supporting all the human weight that can be put upon it, and a heavy iron safe besides, and as no one but an architect or a builder can possibly know beforehand whether a floor is safe or not, the architect and the builder should be held jointly and severally responsible for a reasonable number of years for all the evils which may result from collapse. It is always distressing to invoke such a rule at the moment when the stupendous nature of the responsibility it devolves is so vividly before the people, but it is evident that the only time at which the accountable parties can be brought to book at all is when a disaster occurs. It should also be a rule that before the period for which the original architect and builder are held responsible expires it shall be the duty of the owners of the hall to have a new and responsible inspection of its trustworthiness by an inspector who shall assume the liability of which the original constructors are relieved. Should a new builder be called in to interfere with the original work he should be held by law to take over the original responsibility.

**BRITAIN'S CHINESE POLICY.**

Great Britain's policy in regard to the Chinese empire is to preserve its integrity and to maintain the equality of all nations to share in the trade and commerce of the whole empire. It is in accordance with this policy that the demand has been made by the British Government that if the ports of Kiaochau and Port Arthur are opened to the trade and commerce of Germany and Russia respectively, they shall be opened to the trade and commerce of all other nations on exactly the same terms and conditions. The British Government in taking this strong position which should range behind her the moral influence at least of all neutral powers, is justified by the record of her own acts in China. Great Britain, with some aid from France, but principally at her own cost in blood and treasure, compelled the Chinese emperor and people to open certain ports in the empire to the trade of the outside world. She did not reserve any special privileges for herself, being quite content to trade on equal terms with all other nations. Not having selfishly secured any special privilege for herself, she now protests very strongly against monopolies in China being established by force of arms by nations, to the injury of her trade, established in open competition with the world. Great Britain would not object very strongly, perhaps, to Russia and Germany securing naval stations on the China coast, so long as no special commercial or industrial privileges in regard to trade with the surrounding country were given in addition.

And if the ports were open to the commerce of all nations alike Great Britain would care little about securing concessions of territory on lease at these ports as a foothold for her traders under the protection of consular courts, as these concessions are now found to be all but valueless. At Shanghai, for instance, where the British, United States and French governments have each a territorial concession, the great foreign warehouses and manufactories which once enriched the European traders and enabled them to live in palaces and dispense lavish hospitality, have mostly fallen into the hands of Chinese merchants, who now buy up at any price demanded all the land within the concessions which comes into the market. The Chinese traders soon learned European methods, and very quickly appreciated the advantages of the security of property and light taxation which obtained within the concessions under European administration of justice, and they have rapidly entered into possession. The great trading and manufacturing corporations of Shanghai and other free ports are for the most part Chinese, both as to proprietorship and as to management. The Chinese can, on account of their less costly mode of living, compete more than successfully with the Europeans. Exactly the same change in the condition of affairs took place at the free ports of Japan before the consular jurisdictions of foreign powers were removed after the war with China. Consular jurisdictions are therefore of doubtful value nowadays; so long as the Chinese merchants of the free ports have the power of trading with all foreigners alike, it matters very little whether law and order and justice are administered by Russia, Germany, Great Britain or France. As a

matter of fact, in Shanghai the British and American concessions are jointly administered.

**INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.**

The Indian National Congress, which has just concluded its meeting at Bombay, appears to have made itself remarkable by sympathetic resolutions indicative of united empire tendencies. It is to be regretted that, considering its place of meeting and the inflammable nature of a large portion of the inhabitants, as well as the urgent need of social reforms among them, the leaders of the congress did not see fit to follow the sage advice of Lord Dufferin, when retiring from the viceroyalty, to eschew political agitation and devote themselves to bringing about the essential preliminary of all progress—social reform. It would, however, have been contrary to the established custom of the congress had it refrained from stereotyped criticism of the government. It is gratifying to read that it was decided to erect, at the cost of a thousand pounds, a memorial of gratitude in London for generous aid during the famine. It may in this connection be mentioned that previous congresses have not been illiberal in the matter of voting money for various purposes, but outside of the verbal donation, there has been hitherto a ludicrous failure of fruition. It may not be generally known that the Indian National Congress was organized by an Englishman, Mr. Allan Octavius Hume, a gentleman who resigned his position in the Indian civil service in order to carry into effect his projects for the social and political regeneration of the Hindu. The first congress was held in 1884, and was presided over by Mr. Hume, and while this and succeeding ones contained no small leaven of European and Eurasian members, it has been characteristic of all that the native population is almost entirely represented by Hindus of Bengal, a fact which goes far to explain the indifference with which the congress is regarded by the more martial races of Hindustan, who hold the scheming, unwarlike Bengalee in small esteem.

The congress of 1887, held at Allahabad, was the most important of the series, no fewer than twelve hundred and forty-eight delegates being present, representing many races and creeds. Since this event the number of delegates has decreased year by year, and in 1891 there were fewer than eight hundred present, many of them having no credentials as representatives at all. The 1892 meeting was so disappointing that Mr. Hume, who had dissipated his private fortune in financing the affair, and who could not induce the local associations to contribute anything to carry out the work, felt compelled to resign the presidency. Matters cannot be said to have improved since then, nor has the congress risen in popular esteem. The value of its political opinions is of the smallest, while not one measure of social reform, direct or indirect, can be traced to its influence. In 1891, it was proposed that the next meeting should be held in London, and an eminent and progressive Brahmin, who argued in favor of this suggestion, demanded as an essential preliminary that the costly and degrading penance imposed by religious custom upon all making a sea voyage or residing in a foreign country should be abolished. This daring proposition was submitted to a special congress, but although supported by an eloquent and influential pative magistrate, it and its advocates were howled down, and a resolution condemning any and every effort to interfere with caste or religious customs was overwhelmingly carried.

**MATTE.**

The Ontario Government is being urged to prevent the exportation of nickel matte. An American company which supplies the United States Government with eight hundred tons of nickel a year for armor for arming warships, draws all its raw material from the mines near Sudbury. In mining and smelting the ore the company expend about three hundred and thirty-six thousand dollars a year in Canada, while in refining the matte it spends at its refineries in the United States about a million and a quarter of dollars. Before the Ways and Means Committee of Congress the managers of the company declared that the only reason for refining the matte in the United States was to create an American industry and give employment to American labor. This is patriotic on the part of the shareholders of the company, all of whom but one are Americans, but the one Canadian member, presumably also from patriotism, is in rebellion against his colleagues, and wants the Canadian Government to

compel the company to refine as well as smelt in Ontario. Certainly, it seems rather just that Canadian industry should be guarded as far as is consistent with the general public interest by Canadian patriotism against American patriotism. But unless the nickel lands are extremely limited and the American company possesses a monopoly of them, we do not see why a flourishing Canadian mining, smelting and refining industry should not be established alongside the American mining and smelting one. The British Government has ordered the use of nickel armor for a number of battleships and cruisers, and the British demand for nickel is likely to result in the rapid development of the Sudbury mines, apart from the operations of the American company, which are confined to supplying the American Government alone with nickel. It is not within the power of the Ontario Government to place a duty upon the export of ore or matte; that power resides in the Dominion Government alone. It is probably within the power of the Provincial Assembly to require the refining in the province of all nickel mined in it, unless the fact that the American company owns its mining lands in fee simple, in some way relieves it from the operation of regulations governing mining upon crown lands under license. The question is analogous to that of the export of saw-logs, which has been settled by the act passed making the manufacture in the province of pine logs cut under license in the province compulsory.

**IN DARKEST AFRICA.**

It is strange how often white races in their dealings with barbarians outdo these barbarians in barbarity. Instead of imposing their own moral standards, they adopt those of the most degraded races. Neither the virtue nor the life of a black counts for anything with the pious Dutchman of South Africa, except in so far as some Dutchman gains or loses by him. The vanguard of American civilization counted the only good Indian a dead Indian, and acted accordingly. We have heard the most disgusting stories of the conduct of the whites towards the 'black fellows' of Queensland and Western Australia. A gentleman calmly boasts of the dinner table how in the latter province, in retribution for some injury done to his brother, he had gone and potted blacks by the dozen like so many grouse, and no one thinks it a crime. We have read, but this is years ago, how some whites, after a shooting excursion among the blacks of northern Queensland, brought off as prizes a couple of women handcuffed, but being disturbed by some alarm saved their handcuffs by chopping off the women's hands and leaving them there to bleed. Yet we think on the whole the attitude of our own race towards barbarians is exemplary as compared with that of others. As a rule, the official Englishman insists on justice, and as a rule he is trusted by the savage; and no British official has anywhere been accused of either being guilty of or wilfully tolerating cold-blooded murder within his jurisdiction.

The French in the western Sudan have had now about twelve years to reflect upon the impolicy as well as unrighteousness of the outrageous conduct which arrayed Chief Samory, a previously friendly ally, against them. Since that event the history of French relations with this redoubtable chief has been an unbroken record of disaster to the aggressors. In German Africa the systematic cruelties and immoralities of the imperial commissioner, Dr. Peters, were notorious, and, after being ignored as long as possible, were recompensed with a very moderate punishment, although murder was one of the commonest crimes charged against him. The Belgian officials administering the Congo Free State have been accused, on apparently excellent authority, of practicing and conniving at the worst possible crimes towards the natives whom they governed. An incident reported from Brussels will go far to give countenance to these allegations, and at the same time serve to emphasize the wholly inadequate measure of justice meted out to a monster in official guise. A Belgian agent at Boma, in the Free State, has been tried and condemned for the murder of a black woman perpetrated with all the ingenuity that savagery could suggest. He bound his victim to a tree, smeared her body with honey, and left her to the attacks of insects. After three days of this torture she expired. Yet in this glaring instance of maladministration and degraded crime, the majesty of the law and, presumably, justice were regarded as vindicated by the infliction of a sentence of two years' imprison-

ment. That, apparently, represents the Belgian measure of the enormity of an aggravated murder, one of many, probably, which accident has brought to light. Between official agents of this standard on one hand and rum traders on the other, it is hardly surprising if the missionary should fail to accomplish all that is expected of him.

The story of the Soudanese revolt in Uganda, which has been received in England through letters from the missionaries and despatches from the British officers, shows it to be a far more serious matter than before reported. It appears that the Soudanese soldiers of one station formed the idea of massacring the British residents and founding a Soudanese kingdom in Uganda. The rebellion in the south-western province of Budda and the confusion arising from the flight of the King Mwanga seemed to offer a good opportunity for carrying out the design, and the Soudanese of the station referred to, near the capital, Mengo, made their transfer to another station the occasion for an outbreak, and, seizing the arms and ammunition of both stations, they took possession of a third one on the eastern bank of the Nile, at Lake Victoria. There they were joined by two thousand Mohammedan Baganda, as the people of Uganda are called. The Christian Baganda, both Roman Catholic and Protestant, who had stuck by the British against their king, adhered to them against the Soudanese, and these, under the leadership of two of the missionaries, marched against the Soudanese revolters at Juba. In the meantime the mutineers had been attacked and pretty badly hauled by a small force of Baganda and Sikhs under Major Macdonald, and on being surrounded in their fort by the combined forces, the Mohammedan Baganda deserted them. At the time the letters left the British forces were awaiting the arrival of a Hotchkiss gun, expected within a few days, when they hoped to smash the Soudanese. Despatches written and forwarded a month later from Fort Juba showed that the Soudanese still held the fort. A great deal of anxiety exists, as there are eighteen hundred Soudanese, all well trained and armed, with plenty of ammunition, scattered in garrisons all over the protectorate, and they have had time to combine. Some of the Soudanese garrisons, however, had already declined to join the revolt. The Soudanese revolters captured the armed steamer, and are consequently masters of the lake, and are able presumably to communicate with the different stations around it. An East Indian regiment from Bombay is now half way across British East Africa to Uganda, and it is not improbable that the whole province will hereafter be garrisoned by the East Indian troops, the few Sikhs already in Uganda having fought magnificently in the encounters with the Soudanese.

One feature which more than any other surprised the experienced eye of the London "Times" correspondent, in travelling from Massowah to Kassala along a road which had been opened through African barbarism by Italian civilization, was the picturesqueness of the civilization which had settled down upon a country that surpassed oriental romance in its natural beauties and fruitfulness. Had it been German civilization that had made its way there, there would have been a wearisome monotony of Philistine officialism. Had it been English civilization everything would have been marked by vulgar and nature-destroying utilitarianism. Being Italian, it was all poetry. Every guard-room, every coffee stand made a picture which fitted into the frame of the surrounding landscape as though it had grown there. We well know in Canada how different from this ideal pioneer conditions are with us. Nature untouched is as beautiful in Canada as it is everywhere, but the beginnings of civilization are marked by ravage and by ugliness in every structure of man. The axe of the settler seems to take delight in expressing its contempt for nature's charms, and the board shed with a stovepipe sticking out of it, which forms the principal object of the landscape at the railway stopping place, seems the work of a race which bore no relation to this beautiful world, instead of being the race that bids fair to inherit it all. It is a question whether on the average our more advanced structures are really more beautiful than the primitive ones. The ugliest shed flanked by a pile of boards, if only a little weathered, would certainly be more tolerable to an artist than our average respectable residence or store. While superior to all other peoples in energy and self-reliance, we perhaps have naturally the sense of beauty in lower degree than any other

people. The one characteristic may be the result of the other, but there is no reason why the aesthetic sense should not grow in us. The best thing we can do is to surround our homes and our roads and public places with elegance and beauty. If we think we cannot afford to, let us remember that it pays. But it is a mistake to think beauty expensive. A thatched cottage in England covered with woodbine is far more beautiful than the tawdry villa of the city man that puts it out of countenance. The Indian's canoe is more elegant than the petroleum launch of the man who has too much money. In fact, beauty is a thing that cannot be bought.

Almost daily we read in some newspaper of a man who has killed himself by hanging, with the remark that no explanation is given of the rash act—rash act used to be the invariable phrase—and it is conjectured that it was done in a fit of insanity. When a nation strangles itself, as the United States is doing just now by prohibitive tariffs so high that the revenue is defective, and by all sorts of navigation and alien laws, all to prevent its own people pursuing their own comfort in the natural and easiest way, or to shut people out who might be inhabitants, the same remarks and surmises seem to be in order. The American newspapers are discussing the deficit which the Secretary of the Treasury has announced as a thing to be calculated on. The papers which support the administration in its ultra-protectionist policy take different lines. Here is the Chicago "Inter-Ocean," which says the treasury may show a deficit, but the nation is prosperous. Here, on the other hand, is the Philadelphia "Press," which sees in the deficit a chance for more protection. It mounts the moral rostrum and declares that a premeditated deficit is a calculated dishonesty, a disgrace to the nation and destructive to its credit, and that the nation, which is honest at heart, will demand that new taxes—that is to say, new duties—be immediately laid on. The fact is, the increases in the tariff were not intended to increase the revenue of the nation, but to take the earnings of the people to make up the deficit caused by manufacturing at a loss, profitable perhaps to a few, but for the most part a pure waste all round. The heavy expenditures which have caused this deficit have been deliberately incurred so as to render a high tariff necessary. The only reason why the United States is not killed by suicidal asphyxia is that it is naturally far too big and too wealthy to be destroyed. Were all other continents submerged, it would still go on and prosper. But in so far as it is able, it has done its best to place itself commercially where it would be if all other continents were drowned.

Since Lord Beaconsfield bought a great block of Suez canal shares, and so got a cinch upon Egypt, there has not been so clever a political stroke as that made by Russia when she offered to borrow in France and lend to China the money needed to pay China's war debt to Japan. She not only got the good will of China as being her friend in need, but the only security China could give was to put the lender in charge of her revenues, customs and inland, that is practically a mortgage of the whole country. The difficulties about this plan seem to have been two, one that Russia and France between them have not been able to raise the money, and the other that China boggled about the security. It would appear from the latest news that England has now undertaken this task. There is nothing England avoids more carefully than a war, but when it comes to rivalry in a financial deal she is a great fool to let any one get ahead of her, for she has far the most money. She seems, however, to have lost nothing by biding her time. Why should China have more confidence in Britain in this matter than she had in Russia? Because she has good reason to believe that Britain does not want to extend her responsibilities by ruling new territories, while she has equally good reason to believe that that is just what Russia wants. Because Britain can be counted on to do all she can to keep China open to all the world, while Russia can be counted on to close up for her own exclusive use any country she can control. The Chinese have the guarantee of Britain's 'splendid isolation' that she will not depart from this policy. While she maintains it she will have the cooperation and moral support of countries that are outside of the squabble, particularly of the United States, the most potential factor of all. Indeed, it would be a splendid stroke of policy if Britain could in any way asso-

ciate the United States with her in this money-lending scheme.

When Dr. Lucas challenged Dr. Grant to a platform duel in Toronto on the question of prohibition, Dr. Grant said he was too busy to go to Toronto, but would meet Dr. Lucas in Kingston. This was a reasonable response were it not that the change of venue would bring the pleading before a packed jury. Such is the 'esprit de corps' in every university, such is Dr. Grant's deserved popularity in his own, such is the natural preference of students for the side which opposes restraint, that it is a moral certainty that an audience will gather that will not only be powerfully predisposed to one side of the question, but boisterously demonstrative of their preference. That Queen's University sides with Dr. Grant may be gathered from an article which we quote from the 'Queen's University Journal,' complaining somewhat petulantly that Principal Grant's critics assume that because he is against prohibition, he is in favor of the drink traffic, and says that this assumption begs the whole question, taking it for granted that there is no other remedy for the evils of the drink traffic but prohibition, and that because Dr. Grant is against that he is against all modes of dealing with it. We have not noticed this attitude on the part of Dr. Grant's critics. They do hold that he is giving great aid and comfort to the drink traffic, and that the drink traffic will certainly account him a friend and hail him as an ally. The 'Witness' forestalled this objection when Dr. Grant's first letter appeared by saying that Dr. Grant would, no doubt, set forth the system that he would substitute for prohibition, and show its superior morality. This he has not done, and until he does his vindicators are at a disadvantage in finding fault with those who may assume that the question which Dr. Grant is discussing is that between prohibition as asked for and the system which now exists.

The great gifts to education which have characterized the past fifty years are nothing new in the world, as the many and magnificent foundations at Oxford, Cambridge, Bologna, Salamanca, Leyden, Upsala, St. Andrew's, Prague, Cracow, Heidelberg and more than a hundred other places all over Europe prove. The best of these gifts were made long before the Reformation and the Renaissance. In fact, the curbs of the light which largely flowed from the seats of learning seems to be marked by a decrease in gifts to educational institutions. The last century and the beginning of this had also many noble foundations, as this continent bears witness. Nor are great foundations of prizes for literary and inventive merit a new thing, as the many scholarships held by the universities prove. So great, however, have been some recent foundations of this character as to erect them into a separate class. Singularly these come from the same sources as the world's great destroyers. There were the endowments by Armstrong and Krupp, the greatest English and the greatest German gun-makers. And now there is this splendid bequest by Nobel, the great Swedish chemist, who owed all his fame and much of his wealth to the discovery of a high and most destructive explosive. This bequest will render possible an annual distribution of five prizes of ten thousand dollars each. These prizes are open to the whole world, and are so great that they will not only be rewards of merit but a great aid to further research. A very interesting feature considering whence the gift comes is that of a prize to the person who shall have done the things most conducive to the cause of peace throughout the world.

In view of a bill now before the Quebec Legislature, we commend to the present government the ambition indulged in by that of Mr. Mercier to abolish the toll-gate system altogether. The bill in question, which is being promoted in the interests of a turnpike trust beyond Lachine, on the lake-side road, proposes to make that system more obnoxious than ever, inasmuch as the features which it introduces follow the lines of the ancient kings of the earth, who took tribute only of strangers. It is a scheme for making the casual travel and summer residents pay the cost of the road, and largely to release the farmers of the burden. It is said that some of the summer residents who have carriages when they go out for an airing very naturally turn before passing a toll-gate, and thus use the road very largely without paying for it at all. Apparently to catch these it is proposed to lay a special tax on all

horse-owners who are not farmers, but to make this burden lighter for local carters. It is generally thought that, whatever becomes of it, there is far more money taken at toll-gates than is spent upon the roads, and for this reason the gates are the more offensive. Indeed, the cost of collecting this road tax must be almost as great as that of keeping the road, miles of which are kept by a couple of cheap men and a horse and cart.

No toll road company should be granted the extraordinary right of taxing the chattels or property of the people of a community. That should be simply out of the question. The state should not delegate its taxing powers except to communities of the people who may be empowered to tax themselves. Instead of granting the toll road companies new and extraordinary privileges and rights, the government should rather adopt the policy of the late Mr. Mercier in regard to this matter and encourage the municipalities to take over the roads and maintain them. For a time, no doubt, the present toll roads would not be as well kept by the municipalities as by the toll companies, but the municipalities would soon have the benefit of good roads and would learn to keep them in good condition at less cost to the inhabitants of the municipalities than under the present system. There would then be some prospect of the better road-making of the main highways being extended to the side roads now under the care of the municipalities, and which are mostly mud roads, almost impassable in wet weather and full of ruts or paved with loose rocks, which impede or obstruct vehicles. The Ontario Government has introduced a bill into the Assembly providing for the appointment of commissioners for arbitrating the price to be paid by the municipalities taking over toll roads and giving the commissioners the necessary authority and power. It is rather in this direction of encouraging the municipalities to take over the care of the roads than in the direction of creating new vested rights in them that the legislature of Quebec should proceed.

General Wade, who was the great opener of roads through the Highlands of Scotland, is remembered as one of the great benefactors of that country, even though the primary object of the roads made was to render complete the subjugation of the clans and the extension of the reign of law throughout regions in which only the warring wills of chieftains had been previously acknowledged. A statue awaits Judge Lynch if he shall be recognized as the guiding spirit of the movement for good roads in the Province of Quebec. There is no part of western Europe, unless it be Spain and Portugal, in which the roads are not almost as nearly perfect as intelligence and attention can make them. To this all North America presents an unpleasing contrast. There is little doubt that the reduced cost of traction and the increase of traffic would pay for any amount of expenditure that may be needed to make our roads thoroughly good. The difficulty is to make our people willing to cooperate with each other to secure this end. Such cooperation, to produce the best results, must be voluntary and enthusiastic, and must therefore be the result of a strong public opinion on the subject. It need not be supposed that only countries with military governments can achieve such fine results. There are no more democratic communities in America than there are in Switzerland and Norway. There are no countries in America in which road-making is anything like so difficult as in these two, yet in both, under farmers' governments, the roads are faultless.

A child who had made a railway journey and been driven from the station to the house she was visiting, was asked on arrival if she had come in the cars. She replied that she came a little way in the cars and all the rest of the way in the wagon. This child's computation was really far more correct than that of older heads would have been. The short jolting journey by road was really the greater part of the enterprise. What boots it to have easy communication between a railway station and all the world if we are separated from the railway station by a toilsome road adding unnecessarily to the cost of all traffic over it. The good which the nineteenth century has brought the world has almost all taken the form of improved communications between man and man. All the energies of invention and enterprise have been governed by a controlling, though for the most part unconscious, impulse which has made men desire more than all things else to get nearer to each other. Well has the century done its

work with steam communication by land and sea, with the newspaper and cheap postage, with telegraph and telephone, by the extension of languages and the assimilation of manners, and in many other ways. There is just one finishing touch needed to complete its task in Canada, and that is good roads. Roads that will bring the farmer nearer to the market, the station and the store; that will bring neighbor nearer to neighbor, that will bring in the tourist, the cyclist, the traveller and the sojourner, and the capitalist with his eye ever open for investment.

It is a good thing for mankind that Duran's singularly bad life is ended. If ever there was need of the supreme penalty of the law it was in the case of this man, who was professing piety while he was murdering girls, who, while throughout the search for his first victim, he was successfully pretending the most affectionate concern, started the vilest insinuations about her character, and who to the very scaffold brazenly asserted his innocence. It is the story of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde over again. We are full of horror at the possibility of such a double life. All the more so as we instinctively realize its possibility. Who will say that there is nothing in his observation of men and nothing in his own nature which answers to these strange contradictions? 'Je vois deux hommes en moi,' said a French king; 'I see two men in me.' The only way to keep the old man down, or, in modern phrase, to let the ape and tiger die, is to cultivate the new man, or rather give place to the indwelling God. Outside religion may throw safeguards around a man's outer life, but without inside religion will make the real life worse and not better.

There has been an outcry throughout the United States over the appointment by Mr. McKinley of his Attorney-General, Judge McKenna, to the Supreme Court bench. The objection comes from the bar, and even from the bench, and especially from Oregon, where Judge McKenna is best known. Mr. McKenna is plainly charged with ignorance and incompetency, a charge borne out by his record as judge in a very much narrower sphere, in which he was notorious for his success in avoiding giving judgment. In the Cabinet his vacillation is illustrated by his contradictory administration of that clause of the Dingley Act which imposed, or was supposed to impose, ten percent extra duty on goods imported through Canada. On the twelfth of August he exacted this impost upon ninety thousand dollars' worth of diamonds, and on the twenty-first of September he held that the act did not apply to goods so imported. Some of his critics attribute this somewhat to party exigencies rather than to ignorance. The straight party papers of course defend the appointment by such arguments as they can find, a charge of similar maladministration against Mr. Cleveland of course figuring among them, but their defence is practically a confession that the appointment is in harmony with the rest of President McKinley's record, a purely time-serving and political one, and, as such, a degradation of a tribunal which has enjoyed the respect of the whole world.

A cashier without control of the cash box is an anomaly even in such a land of contradictories as Corea. Yet that appears to be the position of M. Alexieff, the gentleman who by agreement between the governments of Russia and Corea has been selected to supersede Mr. McLeavy Brown, the British Korean financial agent at Seoul. M. Alexieff, however, like a much more famous character, finds his 'occupation gone' by reason of the Korean cash-box, metaphorically speaking, being deposited in Mr. Brown's name in the British bank at Shanghai. Now, even the average financial agent, destitute of finances, would be reduced to 'the level of a very ordinary mortal, but when the agent is a Russian official, whose very reason for existence is the control of funds, strictly, of course, for the advancement of Korean interests, with a strong Russian flavor, his plight is pitiable indeed. Meanwhile his wily rival, with his cash at Shanghai, and the moral support due to a British squadron riding off Chemulpo, the nearest port to Seoul, behind him, unfeelingly 'maintains a firm hold on his position.' As matters stand, it looks as though M. Alexieff would have to apply for another situation.

The American press seems to be genuinely in sympathy with Great Britain in the China matter, as we presume the press of Britain will be genuinely in sym-

pathy with the United States in the Nicaragua matter. These nations are destined to be co-operators in the development of the world, and the sooner they realize it the better for each of them and for all the world besides. Indeed, the entente has only to be thoroughly understood to put a stop to the marauding which is just now going on in China. It is the jingo flouts which cross the Atlantic that make all this swagger possible. There is no need of a formal alliance or bond. All that is needed is that the world shall plainly see that the two nations are friends. When the United States shall have adopted the policy which she now frankly admires in Great Britain, that of opening all the territory she controls to the commerce of the whole world, this alliance will have been practically accomplished, as the interests of the two powers will then be identical and equally world-wide, and anything but mutual aid against monopolizing militarism would be absurd.

The press of Germany has been passing through a paroxysm of glee over the imperial robbery in China. They regard the port seized, without the shadow of an excuse—for China refused Germany no satisfaction, however unreasonable—as stolen from Britain and not from China. How great a bugbear Britain is to the rest of the world is shown in the expression of a leading Austrian paper, which says all civilized nations ought to be grateful to the Emperor William for having destroyed the myth of Great Britain's universal domination. And all the time the Emperor has never touched Britain. It is evident that the Germans and Austrians think that Great Britain owns China and all the world. The more intelligent German papers are, however, beginning to see what the Emperor has really done, and that Britain holds the winning hand. One of these thinks it is not desirable that the Chinese loan should be guaranteed by one power only, and would like to cooperate. Another thinks the time has arrived for a better understanding between England and Germany.

Men of to-day, when they think of the wonders the nineteenth century has wrought, and what a fairyland the present world, with its railways, telegraphs and telephones, would appear, say, to Sir Walter Scott or any of his contemporaries could they re-visit it, are apt at New Year's time to cast a longing look ahead and wish they could step for a day into the evening, or even the noon, of the twentieth century to see what the days to come should have brought forth. No one doubts that the times in which we live will seem to those of half a century hence to have been singularly rude, and that the things which will be in that day would be to us full of marvel and delight. Wondering dreams of what may be some day rise in the mind, for instance, at the sudden apparition of some fairy palace of electric lights like that with which the Lachine Light & Power Company glorifies Victoria square. When our building stone is all solid glass our very houses will glow at night with the effulgence of that fabled stone which lit up Noah's ark.

At last we have a vivid account from one of themselves of the French filibusters who are going to arrest the progress of the Anglo-Egyptian armies on the Nile. There are twenty-three white men, whom we may presume to be French, at least for the most part, though what sort of Frenchmen let their own spokesman tell. Their country will hide its face from them when it reads his brutal record. Dr. Livingstone travelled Africa for a lifetime without ever shooting at any one. British expeditions pass to and fro in Africa without bloodshed. These so-called Frenchmen call the natives of the countries they invade brutes because they do not willingly act as slaves to them. So far as their own record goes, if the blacks are brutes, there is no name in the animal kingdom for the whites. It is interesting to be told how these twenty-three desperadoes, in cooperation with the Russian adventurer, Leontieff, working wonders in Abyssinia, are going to hold equatorial provinces and the Nile valley against the whole might of Egypt and Britain.

The years of the present decade have got the name of 'fin de siècle,' from a painful likeness that is seen in them, not in France only, to the loose manners of the days when the French Revolution seemed to have wiped out all faith in everything that had been revered and to have replaced the restraints of Christian morals by the nudities of classic heathenism. There certainly has been everywhere a great forsaking of the old

landmarks not only in dogma but in morals, and not all for the better. Judge Brewer, of the United States Supreme Court, probably the greatest of living American jurists, addressing a gathering of New Englanders on Forefathers' Day, the twenty-first of December, at Charleston, in South Carolina, perhaps the most un-Puritan of the old centres of the nation, spoke in earnest terms of the need of a return to the healthy home life of Puritan times.

West Australia at least among the Australasian nations has not yet reached that standard of civilization by which life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are not only held in law, but in the administration of law to be the sacred right of the law-abiding individual, black or white. Just before Christmas a man named Ernest William Anderson was tried on a charge of murder before the supreme court of the colony, and the evidence showed that he had flogged six 'apprentice' aboriginals so severely that three of them, one man and two women, had died. Apprentice seems to be a nice name for slave. Three of the victims of this inhuman cruelty were mere girls. Though the Chief Justice described the crime as particularly heinous, atrocious and deliberate, a verdict of manslaughter only was returned. In spite of the leniency of the jury, the judge sentenced the murderer to imprisonment for life.

The whole press of the United States is jibing at the commission delivered to Prince Henry of Prussia by that 'Consecrated Person,' the Emperor. One paper represents him as backing the mandate to the yellow men to buy goods 'made in Germany' with a Krupp gun. Another represents him as spreading Christianity by the same method—just as the good St. Olaf is said to have done long ago, offering the heathen the alternative of baptism or a nick in the throat. The American papers note with obvious satisfaction how the imperial squadron, with the 'mailed fist' on board, has on its way to China to call at half a dozen British coaling stations and pass through the Suez canal. They acknowledge that Britain is in China fighting their battle and the battle of civilization by insisting on keeping the ports of that great people open to all the world, and their hearts are with her.

Is Mr. Blake, of Toronto, right in saying that the Canadian press is much worse than the English in the matter of the publication of morbid reading matter in the shape of criminal and social details? We do not think so. The British newspaper is far less fussy in its get-up and far less hysterical in its headings than that of Canada, but for steady, coll-blooded recital of criminal details when legally exposed, and for total depravity in connection with the gambling instinct it would be hard to excel the British press. Even in the invasion of privacy there is a certain class of society papers that cannot easily be outdone. The Canadian press is bad enough, however, and it is certainly easy to trace a good deal of crime, as Mr. Blake has done, to the evil communications of the press.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

THEIR LETTERS OF APPRECIATION OF THE 'WITNESS' ARE ENCOURAGING.

Among many letters received during the past few days were the following:—  
Owen Sound, Ont., Dec. 29, 1897. Messrs. John Douglal & Son:

Sirs,—In renewing for your much esteemed paper, which has become to me a necessity, I take the opportunity to thank you for your liberal offer of the Bagster Bible.

I sent for one with my last renewal, and I cannot express to you how much I prize it. I now send for another to present to a member of my family.

That the 'Witness' may long prosper and continue to vindicate truth and right is the wish of

Yours truly,  
ROBT. CRICHTON.

ALL ARE WELL PLEASED.

Mr. A. G. Mackintosh, La Canada, Cal.; Mrs. W. Scott, Arundel, Ont.; Mrs. T. D. Ramsay, Summerside, P.E.I.; Mrs. S. L. Johnson, St. Elmo, Ont.; Mrs. Cooleidge, Whitby, Ont.; Mrs. J. Telford, Seneca Falls, N.Y.; Mr. John Walker, Goderich, Ont.; Mrs. J. Snw-don, Sault Ste. Marie; E. Harper, Uxbridge, Ont.; and Mr. G. E. Elder, Somerville, Mass., all write concerning the receipt of the Bagster Bible, and of their pleasure and profit from its perusal.

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Mrs. H. M. Neville, Cottonwood, Assa., N.W.T., says: I cannot express my surprise and pleasure. . . The Bagster Bible arrived just in time for me to present it as a New Year's gift to my husband. He is delighted with it, and with the different helps it contains. I am sure you must be doing a good work in distributing these grand copies of the Word of Life throughout the length and breadth of our land. This one is to take the place of a worn out one that has been in constant use for family prayers twenty-seven years.

'NEWSIEST, BRIGHTEST WEEKLY.'

'The newsiest, brightest and most original weekly on the continent. Send to the same address as heretofore, 137 Summer avenue. Wishing you continued and abundant success, I am, yours truly,  
J. GORDON.  
Brooklyn, N.Y.'

A THIRTY YEARS' RECORD.

Mr. Joshua Bull, of East Farnham, writes: I believe it is now thirty years, or more, since I first subscribed for the Montreal 'Weekly Witness,' and I have been a continuous subscriber and constant reader of your most excellent paper ever since. It has always come to me with almost invariable regularity. Although I lived twenty-two years out of the thirty away out in Wisconsin, yet I can remember only one instance when the 'Witness' failed to reach me in its regular weekly visit. It was my friendly visitant from my native land and was always warmly welcomed.

Two years ago my subscription was changed from the 'Weekly' to the 'Daily Witness,' and it seems needless for me to say that I have been more than pleased with all your publications. I expect to continue to be a fast friend and constant reader of the Montreal 'Witness.'

SALVATION ARMY WISHES.

Mr. John Complin writes from the Salvation Army headquarters, Toronto, Ont., Jan. 3. I hope it is not too late to wish the Montreal 'Witness' and its editor the best and most prosperous year of their existence.

PLEASED WITH EDITORIALS.

Mr. W. P. Chittick, of Canso, N.S., writes:—'No paper is more highly valued and esteemed than yours. It is refreshing amid the limitless number of toad-eating partisan newspapers to find one honest and fearless enough to rebuke when necessary, even though it may stand alone in doing so. I do not know of any Canadian paper whose editorials I read with greater pleasure and edification than those which appear in the 'Witness,' for which I hope a large measure of prosperity in the new year.'

A SCHOOL TEACHER'S WORD.

Mr. Aaron Perry, school teacher, of Penobscot, King's County, writes:—'Send me the 'Daily Witness.' I was a subscriber for your paper in 1896. Many times during 1897 I was tempted to renew. I take the ————, but find your paper much more interesting, and concise, in any news, foreign or home. I am a school teacher, as when I subscribed before. Kindly send daily when you get the amount.'

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS A READER.

The Rev. W. H. Watson, of Hamilton, Ont., says: 'This is my twenty-fifth year of the 'Witness,' and I like it as well as ever—a pure family paper. A happy New Year to the 'Witness.'

A PLEASURE FOR LIFE.

Mr. John Woolcott, Kennicott, writes: 'The bible came to hand all right and I am more than pleased with it. In fact, I never received any gift that I think so much of. It will be a pleasure to me for life. We have taken the 'Witness' for more than twenty-five years, and I will do all I can to increase its members.'

'WITNESS' THE BEST DAILY.

Mr. Charles H. Hope, St. Paul, Que., writes: 'Allow me to wish you a happy and prosperous New Year. I am proud of the stand the 'Witness' takes on most of the important questions of the day, and consider it the best daily I know of for clean and authoritative news, and worthy of every one's confidence.'

FROM DR. CRAFTS OF THE REFORM BUREAU, WASHINGTON.

The Reform Bureau,  
Washington, D.C.,  
Dec. 31, 1897.

A happy New Year to the 'Witness,' the only successful metropolitan daily paper in the world that does not invite its readers to races and to rum! There is no other daily from which I get so much of the world's really important news for my 'Monthly March of Reform' in the 'Ram's Horn.' Even so far away as this its news is not discounted because it is not chiefly or largely made up of local trifles and honors. Mrs. Crafts, who enjoys the paper greatly, joins me in wishing you all true success. Yours in the body way,  
WILBUR F. CRAFTS.

THANKSGIVING DAY

With Poor Italian Children in New York.

SCENES IN THE OLD HAMILTON HOME WHICH ARE HAPPY THOUGH NOT ARISTOCRATIC.

New York, Dec. 18.—Away down on Beach street is an old house with a quaint, dignified entrance. The stately pillars and wrought iron railings and ornaments look mournful enough under the broken panes of the arched light over the heavy door, and the door itself is scratched and bruised, as though an army had besieged it.

Now, how were all these children to be educated and turned into good American citizens who could read and write English and earn their own living? The public schools, with their cast-iron rules, could not reach children most of whom could not speak English.

We went down on the day before Thanksgiving, and found a dinner in progress. The wide old halls were deserted, except by a policeman, who looked amiably at us as we turned into the big double drawing-room, now the kindergarten.

Behind her sits a big boy fifteen years old, but weak-minded. He is trying to and she is now; but two years ago the teacher, hunting up stray children, found her in the corner of a bare attic room, playing with a few coals from the ashes. No fire, no furniture, no bed.



'WHEN I AM ANGRY I COULD KILL.'

and she is now; but two years ago the teacher, hunting up stray children, found her in the corner of a bare attic room, playing with a few coals from the ashes. No fire, no furniture, no bed.

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'All Go Down to the Kitchen and Have Bread and Syrup and Great Mugs of Coffee.'

big and little ones had begged to go out into the hall and see the smell of the big chickens cooking. Yet the bright young teacher told us not one child had touched his or her dinner till all were served. On ordinary days at half past eleven they all go down to the kitchen and have bread and syrup and great mugs of coffee; but this was different.

By half-past twelve there were only a few still eating, and we saw them bundled up in thin little shawls and sent off, clasping their candy close and trying

make up the hundred days' schooling which is necessary before he is allowed to work and finds it hard, for he must even now go out after wood and help his mother.

A cultured woman with wide knowledge, she spends year after year working among the waifs preparing them at the most for the second primary, so far as mere book knowledge goes, but teaching them infinitely more than they or any outsider can possibly grasp.

soon, and runs away.



WINTER IN THE FRENCH LANDES—THE RURAL POSTMAN ON HIS ROUNDS.

—London 'Graphic.'

Between Bordeaux and Bayonne lies that stretch of open country known as the 'Landes.' A great part of this tract, which was formerly waste land, has been now partially reclaimed and planted with pine trees, which are cultivated for the sake of the resin which is extracted from them.

and in order to traverse the wide extent of the plains with ease, the inhabitants use stilts, which are tied to their legs. Mounted on these the shepherds watch their flocks in the brushwood, and can cross pools, marshes and peat without difficulty.

inconvenience and to enable him to get over the ground without loss of time, the postman has lately taken to fit to his stilts a kind of thin wooden skates, which enable him to walk on the top of the snow without sinking in.

When I do get down again there is not one but remembers and is glad to greet me. I take pencil and paper and try to make some sketches, but one must be a lightning artist for they are never still. It is preparation for the Christmas festival now. They have just got through with their examinations and the day is to be given to recitations and practising of Christmas songs.

Presently in steps a slight, bearded man who is the doctor. It seems that every school is now inspected daily. In this case he had just got through vaccinating the children, and says it is the best school he has been in.



'A COUPLE OF LITTLE IRISH NEWCOMERS.'

resisted. There is just one thing at the bottom of that, and it is their perfect trust in Miss Satteree.

Downstairs the babies are doing kindergarten work and learning English quite unconsciously as they play. The six-year-olds were really working, the smallest babies threading big wooden beads on a shoe string.

One of the teachers being absent, a boy has been sent down to help, and he moves around among the babies settling their small disputes, keeping them in their places, showing them how to play, in a very business-like way.

presses the fight into which Rocco and Eddie got over their shells. One would never suspect it, but this is the lad



'THE SQUIRREL AND THE HOLLOW TREE.'

whose temper makes him dreaded by his family and teacher. He says himself: 'When I am angry I could kill; my head buzzes and my eyes see red, and I must hurt something.'

When I went out on to the wide old verandah overlooking the yard at recess time, three of the little girls came rushing up and threw their arms round me, and at once all followed suit.

After dinner the babies are gathered into a big circle in one room and play delightful games. In one, eight little

girls knelt down on the floor, while two boys scrambled round barking at a third who tried to bite the small girls, while the class sang, 'I've eight white sheep, all fast asleep,' and much more about the wolf and the trusty dogs.

Then there is the song about the tiny brown sparrows who gather round to be fed crumbs, and then flutter away, and the one in which the little girls curtsy to each other.



'THE TINY BROWN SPARROWS GATHER ROUND TO BE FED ON CRUMBS.'

while the others tumble all over their own feet.

As I sat watching and trying to sketch them I felt a soft touch on the hand that held my block, and, looking up, found that one of the boys who had been sweeping, had stopped to watch me, and waiting to thank me, yet not willing to disturb me, he stooped to kiss my hand, and then went quietly on with his work.

I stayed till they all put on their wraps and went home, and then picked up my papers and came away, feeling rather as if I had been trying to draw a constantly turning kaleidoscope.

WAY SNAKE HUNTING.

HOW MENAGERIES ARE SUPPLIED

(London 'Daily Mail,' Dec. 15.)

Menageries are always in need of snakes, and as India abounds in these reptiles, perhaps to a greater extent than any other country in the world, to India look the managers when their stocks begin to run low.

Snake hunting in India, unless one understands the trade, is a perilous business, for a larger percentage of the Indian serpents are poisonous than in any other part of the globe, and even a Hindoo has no desire to die of snake-bite, nor within the crushing folds of the constrictor.

Besides the demands from the menageries, the Indian Government pays a bounty on snake heads, so there is a double incentive to Indian snake-hunters, and when there are sufficient orders on hand from the menageries a hunt is organized. Preparations are made by ascertaining from the natives a promising snake district, which is usually a tract of jungle with a thick bamboo or grass undergrowth.

Several hundred natives are assembled, and on a day when the wind blows from the right quarter they surround the district chosen, and, at a given signal, set fire to the jungle. After the fire has fairly started, the natives are called behind the netting, as there is no need of their services on the other sides, for every snake tenant of the brush flees in the same direction toward the fatal netting.

But snakes can climb almost as well as monkeys, and so the men at the wings are kept busy killing those that endeavor to escape over the ropes. After all the smaller reptiles which can work their way through the meshes of the net have been killed, attention is turned to the larger ones that remain.

In various parts of the netting there are loops which can be untied and then refastened, and, after the slaughter of the little snakes has been finished, the work of capturing the most promising specimens begins. The superintendent points at an anaconda that will bring a good price, and, as the animal thrusts its head against the netting in fruitless efforts to escape, a stick with a wire loop at the end is introduced, the snake is lassoed immediately back of the head, the wire is tightened, and the future occupant of a menagerie cage, hissing and writhing, is dragged through and seized by a dozen natives at once.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

FITS OR EPILEPSY CURED

To the Editor:— I have a positive Remedy for Fits, Epilepsy or Falling Sickness. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been cured.

So proof-positive am I of its power, that I will send a Sample Bottle Free, with a valuable Treatise on this disease, to any of your readers who are afflicted, if they will send me their Express and Post Office Address.

H. G. ROOT, 186 Adelaide St. W. Toronto, Canada.

PLAIN PITHY POLITICS

COMMON SENSE FROM ATTORNEY-GENERAL LONGLEY ON POPULAR GOVERNMENT.

The Hon. Attorney-General Longley lectured here on Tuesday, Dec. 23, on 'Politics and Political Duties.' He said that few realized the important fact that the people were really sovereign, that upon them rested the true responsibility for good and bad government.

Party government was, however, responsible for the disagreeable fact that hundreds of good Christians and men of undoubted morality combined to keep in office some of the greatest rascals in the country.

THE 'WITNESS' WANTS.

Each of our readers might get a new subscriber by Christmas Day. Will you each make an effort to do so?

A KINDLY DEED.

Many odd and amusing stories are told of the clever French critic, Jules Janin, and his friends. None is more pleasing or more to their credit than one in which Janin, Theodore Burette, the historian, and Leon Satayes, the composer, author, and critic, figured.

SCRAPS.

A KEY WITH A HISTORY. (The Strand.)

The key to Loch Leven Castle is still in existence. It was found in the lake, and is supposed to have been the one thrown in by the young Douglas when Mary Queen of Scots made her escape.

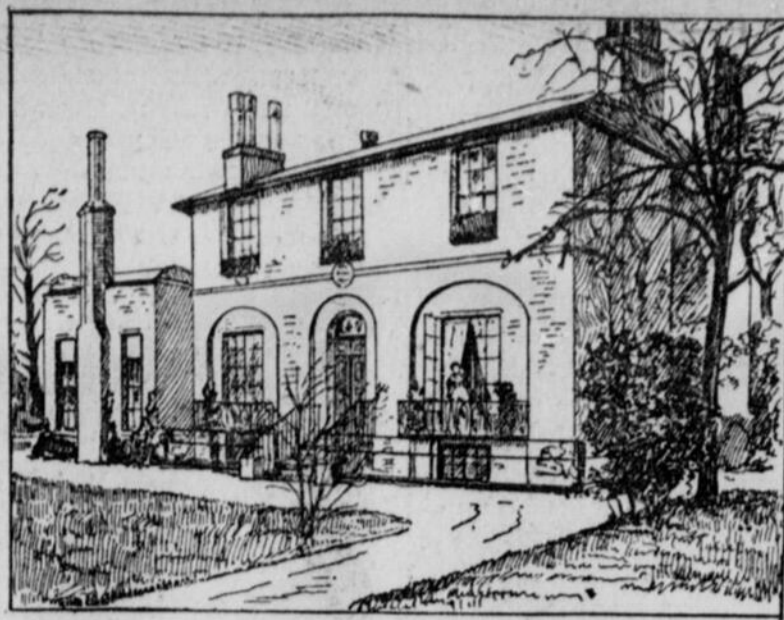
On March 25, 1567-8 she attempted to escape from thence in the disguise of a laundress, but was frustrated. On Monday, May 2, 1568, however, while the family were at supper, the boy, William Douglas, secured the keys of the Castle.

COMMERCIAL INTEGRITY.

So much has been said of late concerning the defalcations of unscrupulous companies and capitalists, that a glance at the other aspect of these things may not be inappropriate.

An interesting incident in proof is that told of the late Mr. Neville, the great baker, who died in 1889. Like many other men who afterwards amassed wealth, Mr. Neville made a false start in life, for his first venture culminated in bankruptcy.

Another right noble example of commercial honor hails from Yorkshire. The well-known proprietors of the mills at Keighley, who failed in 1879 for a large sum, and were released from their obligations on paying a composition amounting to 13s 6d in the pound, have since called their old creditors together and presented them with the balance and interest, representing a collective amount of £10,214.



THE HOUSE OF JOHN KEATS AT HAMPSTEAD, SHORTLY TO BE PULLED DOWN.—St. James's Budget.

The house in John street, Hampstead, near Hampstead Heath, where Keats lived with his friend Charles Brown, and where he wrote his 'Ode to the nightingale,' and his letters to Fanny Browne, is in danger of destruction.

Wales. One of the best-known building societies had come to grief owing to defalcations by an official in whom the directors had placed unlimited confidence.

The secretary of the society, a gentleman occupying a high position in Cardiff, was almost broken-hearted at the discovery, and in order to save the credit of the society, he volunteered to give up the whole of his hard-earned savings.

A Manchester merchant failed in business, owing many more thousands than he could hope to pay, with no assets but health, hope and inviolable integrity.

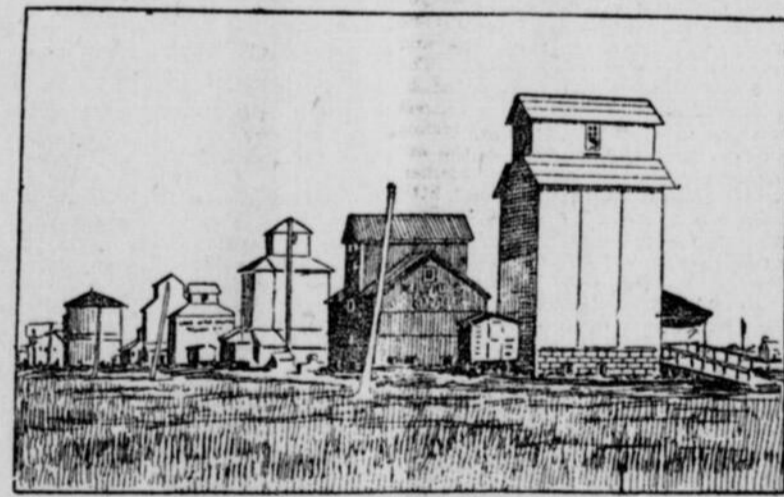
Some years later this creditor died, and all the evidence of the debt died with him, his children having no knowledge of it.

Lawn Bank, was identified by Mr. H. Burton Forman, and is described in the appendix to the 'Letters of John Keats to Fanny Browne,' published in 1878.

The German review, the 'Grenzboten,' in a recent article, seriously deprecates the use of the barbaric cry of 'Hurrah' when used on social occasions.

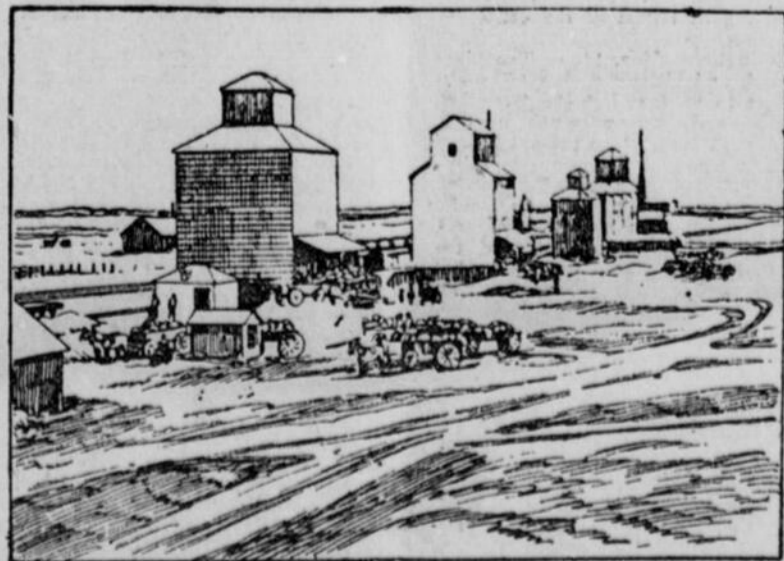
THE ORIGIN OF 'HURRAH.'

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ROW OF GRAIN ELEVATORS.

This is a familiar scene in Manitoba. The cut shows the row of grain elevators at Plum Coulee Station, and is an indication of what may be seen at almost every railway point in Manitoba.



WHEAT BLOCKADE AT INDIAN HEAD, ASSA.

In the above illustration there are 140,000 bushels of wheat in the elevators and 6,000 bushels on the wagons. This scene occurred every second or third day during this fall.

of 'Hourrah,' expressing thereby a desire that their enemies might be 'abolished,' as Rudyard Kipling would say.

ARISTOCRATIC PREACHERS.

The recent experiences of Prince Max of Saxony in the ranks of missionaries in the east end of London have drawn attention to the fact that he is not the first, even in modern days, of princes who have taken to the ministry of the Church as their life's work.

Prince Max of Saxony comes from an old Catholic family, and came to work amongst the large band of German Catholics in the Whitechapel district.

There is an example of an English prince becoming a clergyman. Cardinal York, the eminent Roman Catholic prelate, who died in 1809, was the son of the Old Pretender, James Edward Stuart, and hence the grandson of our James II.

One of the most effective royal preachers of to-day is Prince Oscar, nephew of the King of Sweden, who has joined the Salvation Army division in that country.

That famous man of many parts, the German Emperor, is said to have more than once 'preached' to his own private family, though there is no record of his having done so publicly from the pulpit.

Of English peers there are several well-known members, the heads of famous families, who are either clergymen or who frequently address religious meetings.

Lord Radstock has long been known for his deep interest in all kinds of evangelistic work. He has had a wide experience of mission work in large towns and in slum districts in many parts of the country.

Lord Overton's name is well known in Scotland, and no Scottish peer has more practical experience of preaching than His Lordship.

Country did not suit him.

The following anecdote is related of Bellachini, the renowned conjurer. He had travelled over almost the whole world when he sought to try his fortune before the Sultan of Morocco.

Pardon, your most gracious Majesty, my apparatus to-day is only arranged for pigeons, and not for men. I require at least fourteen days to prepare for the desired performance.

UNINTENTIONAL INSULTS. A short time back a complaint was received by the authorities through the Chinese Legation, that the gentleman representing Her Majesty in China had

been guilty of conduct unbecoming an Ambassador and a gentleman—that he had insulted the Chinese Cabinet. Investigation, however, showed that the only conduct of which he had been guilty was thumping the table at which he was sitting, to emphasize a remark!

Again, there are two ways of pouring out wine in France, as everywhere else. One of these is to hold the bottle so that whilst pouring the thumb is facing the table-cloth.

Germany has some curious forms of insult. To begin with, to offer a rose, or any other flower, without any green or leaves with it, to a lady, is to deeply insult her, though why this should be so is not known precisely.

The German students are formed into corps, some of which are fighting corps, and others not. Each corps has its distinctive cap, and when a member of one meets another in the street, it is etiquette for each to doff his cap.

There is one worse, and that is spilling or flicking beer over another student purposely. No apology will wipe out this offence, nothing will, except a duel to the death, or a duel which is continued until one of the combatants is too badly wounded to continue the fight.

We might finish with two Spanish examples of curious insults in South America. The first of these is to refuse to smoke a cigarette which another man offers you after he has had it in his mouth; and the second is to refuse drink out of the same glass that a man has just drunk from, or, worse still, to wipe it before drinking.

THE PEAL OF THE PIPER. The incident of the plucky piper at Dargai has furnished the northern newspapers with a congenial subject—the praise of the bagpipes. It is generally supposed that an appreciative ear for that instrument is born, not acquired, and that such birth must take place north of the Tweed.

Lord Radstock has long been known for his deep interest in all kinds of evangelistic work. He has had a wide experience of mission work in large towns and in slum districts in many parts of the country, and there are few preachers of the aristocracy who are listened to by working men with more respect and attention.

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ADVERTISEMENTS. Hood's Pills. Cure all liver ills, biliousness, headache, sour stomach, indigestion, constipation. They act easily without pain or griping. Sold by all druggists. 25 cents. The only Pills to take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE.

Lung Troubles and Consumption can be Cured A CONVINCING FREE OFFER.

The Slocum Chemical Company, Limited, will send three free sample bottles (Psychine, Oxygenized Emulsion and Coltsfoot Expectorant) of the great discoveries and specifics of that distinguished scientist and chemist, Dr. T. A. Slocum.

They have on file in their laboratory hundreds of letters from those benefited and cured in all parts of the world, and they take this means of making known to suffering humanity their great specifics.

Persons in Canada seeing Slocum's free offer in American papers will please send for samples to Toronto. If the reader is not a sufferer, but has a friend who is, send friend's name, express and post address and the samples will be sent.

WHY THE WORLD LAUGHS LESS.

(From the London 'Chronicle'.)

There are plenty of reasons for thinking that the world laughs less as it grows older. One obvious reason is that, as the world grows older, it understands better, its range of sympathy is extended. Children laugh at the village idiot or at the 'funny faces' of papa in the agonies of toothache; when they are old enough to understand idiosyncrasy or toothache they no longer laugh.

The widening of our sympathies, then, tends inevitably to narrow the field of laughter, and, so far, to justify the belief that laughter is 'going out.' The two opposite stages of civilization are well exemplified in 'The Story of an African Farm.' When little Waldo was thrashed by his master, the old Boer woman, Tant Sannie, could not help laughing, it was always 'so funny when any one was going to have a whipping.'

No one that we know of has yet succeeded in putting the phenomena of laughter on a thoroughly scientific basis. One of the earliest attempts, Hobbes's famous definition of laughter as a 'sudden glory, arising from some sudden conception of some eminency in ourselves, by comparison with the infirmity of others,' obviously covers only a small part of the ground.

Yonge, (Caintown), Nov. 11.—Heavy rain and muddy roads; meeting thin in numbers, but the officers and collectors had been faithful in their work, because the secretary's report was good.

BIBLE SOCIETYS COLUMN.

The monthly meeting of the Bible Society was held on Thursday, Dec. 2, with the Right Rev. Bishop Bond in the chair. The committee placed upon record its regret at the resignation of the Rev. H. Gomery as district secretary, its appreciation of his services, and wished him Godspeed in his new field of work.

A special sub-committee was appointed to consider the question of revising the constitution, and to report.

Finances occupied the attention of the meeting for some time, and, finally, the question was sent to the Finance Committee for consideration. It was felt that something ought to be done in the way of unifying the collections.

The anniversary committee reported that this year the meeting will be held in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on the last Wednesday in January. On this occasion the colporteurs are to be brought into town with a view to discuss with the committee their methods and respective spheres of labor.

There had been four colporteurs in the field during the month of November. They had visited 1,625 families, and had sold and loaned 336 copies and portions of the scriptures. Two other colporteurs were engaged for one month, on trial.

As usual, the Ladies' Bible Association was voted \$240 towards its work in the city and suburbs, and a resolution was passed asking the parent society for its annual donation of a hundred pounds sterling. This association has eight bible women in the field. They have done an amazing amount of visiting during the month, and have read and prayed with a large number of families and sold and loaned a good number of the scriptures.

The report of the Rev. H. Gomery was received. It stated that his sales of scriptures had fallen off a little for the month, but that the free contributions had considerably advanced.

The following synopsis of his journal will supply hints as to places visited and meetings held:—

Moulinette, Ont., Nov. 1.—Heavy rain marred the success of our meeting, only a few were present. Mr. E. O. Winters reported that the collectors had worked diligently, but the contributions were somewhat behind those of last year. The W.C.T.U. had distributed some copies of Italian Testaments among the laborers of that nationality on the canal works near here.

Morrisburg, Nov. 2.—Rain still marred the attendance. The Rev. Messrs. Cameron and Timberlake set a good example by their presence and help. The report was not ready, but the officers engaged that the work should be commenced at once. Mr. H. Kilgour was elected president and Dr. Keyler secretary.

Iroquois, Nov. 3.—Faithful officers, under the presidency of Mr. T. S. Edwards, always take care that the town is thoroughly canvassed, and a good meeting may always be confidently expected here. The Rev. Messrs. McAlister and Pitcher were at their post; the business was conducted promptly, and a successful report rewarded the efforts of our friends, the little falling off last year being fully remedied this year.

Brockville, Nov. 4.—George Street Methodist Church was the scene of the largest gathering of friends I have met since I came here. The Hon. Justice McDonald presided. All the churches were represented by the pastors, and an excellent report from Mr. T. Patterson, secretary, was presented. The Rev. Messrs. Sycamore and Strachan were the speakers and they acquitted themselves well.

Gananoque, Nov. 5.—Fair attendance of the Epworth League and Christian Endeavor members, with a sprinkling of seniors. The Rev. Dr. Jackson and Mr. H. Gracey were present but there was no report. A new secretary was appointed, Mr. C. Wilson.

Moretown, Nov. 7.—Sunday morning. Through the courtesy of the Rev. W. Williamson, who responded liberally. Wilstead in the afternoon. Subscriptions had been taken up by our veteran secretary, Mr. Wilson, who, though seventy-seven years of age, still rejoices in being able to work for the bible cause. He was delighted at the meeting, which he declared to be the best in fifty years.

Maple Grove, the same day, had maintained its good reputation.

Lansdown, Nov. 8.—Another good meeting. Mr. J. Redmond presided. The Rev. J. Fairlie and the Rev. W. E. Reynolds gave good addresses and Mr. N. W. Webster read a capital report of the work.

Nov. 9.—Heavy fall of snow and rain. Reached Escott, but found church not open, therefore no meeting. Mr. Godkin gave me the subscriptions.

Mallorytown, Nov. 10.—Kind friends here always make things go, and this meeting, in the Presbyterian church, with the Rev. J. J. Wright presiding, was a good one, sympathy well expressed in hard cash. Considerable advance over last year was shown in the report. Rev. G. S. Reynolds gave a good address.

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Lyn, Nov. 12.—Good attendance in the Methodist Church, Mr. James Cumming presiding, and the Revs. R. Stilwell, J. J. Wright, and W. Barnett, were present, and took part. Mr. Omer Mallory, the secretary, gave an excellent report.

Fairfield East, Nov. 14.—Sunday morning.—Presided in Manhard's Church. The contributions showed a large increase. Drove to Algonquin, where there was a grand congregation. The Rev. J. Foster came, and brought his people with him. A good report and liberal contributions.

utions. The Rev. W. Wells helped our cause by his well-chosen words and earnest sympathy. The Rev. J. Foster very kindly drove me to Maynard, for the evening, where I had the kindest reception from the Rev. B. Pierce. Gave an address. I think that this place is now ripe for organization.

Prescott, Nov. 15.—Every officer and member of the committee here are personally interested in the success of our annual meeting. The best musical talent of the town is always forthcoming. The ministers also are equal to the occasion. The secretary's report is thorough, and well worthy of a place in our annual report. The people of Prescott recognize our work by their presence and liberality.

Cardinal, Nov. 16.—The present condition of this village, owing to radical changes in the canal, wrought by the government engineers, might have paralyzed the efforts of less determined officers; but the interim report of the village only, showed that excellent collections.

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Moulinette, Ont., Nov. 1.—Heavy rain marred the success of our meeting, only a few were present. Mr. E. O. Winters reported that the collectors had worked diligently, but the contributions were somewhat behind those of last year. The W.C.T.U. had distributed some copies of Italian Testaments among the laborers of that nationality on the canal works near here.

Morrisburg, Nov. 2.—Rain still marred the attendance. The Rev. Messrs. Cameron and Timberlake set a good example by their presence and help. The report was not ready, but the officers engaged that the work should be commenced at once. Mr. H. Kilgour was elected president and Dr. Keyler secretary.

Iroquois, Nov. 3.—Faithful officers, under the presidency of Mr. T. S. Edwards, always take care that the town is thoroughly canvassed, and a good meeting may always be confidently expected here. The Rev. Messrs. McAlister and Pitcher were at their post; the business was conducted promptly, and a successful report rewarded the efforts of our friends, the little falling off last year being fully remedied this year.

Brockville, Nov. 4.—George Street Methodist Church was the scene of the largest gathering of friends I have met since I came here. The Hon. Justice McDonald presided. All the churches were represented by the pastors, and an excellent report from Mr. T. Patterson, secretary, was presented. The Rev. Messrs. Sycamore and Strachan were the speakers and they acquitted themselves well.

Gananoque, Nov. 5.—Fair attendance of the Epworth League and Christian Endeavor members, with a sprinkling of seniors. The Rev. Dr. Jackson and Mr. H. Gracey were present but there was no report. A new secretary was appointed, Mr. C. Wilson.

Moretown, Nov. 7.—Sunday morning. Through the courtesy of the Rev. W. Williamson, who responded liberally. Wilstead in the afternoon. Subscriptions had been taken up by our veteran secretary, Mr. Wilson, who, though seventy-seven years of age, still rejoices in being able to work for the bible cause. He was delighted at the meeting, which he declared to be the best in fifty years.

Maple Grove, the same day, had maintained its good reputation.

Lansdown, Nov. 8.—Another good meeting. Mr. J. Redmond presided. The Rev. J. Fairlie and the Rev. W. E. Reynolds gave good addresses and Mr. N. W. Webster read a capital report of the work.

Nov. 9.—Heavy fall of snow and rain. Reached Escott, but found church not open, therefore no meeting. Mr. Godkin gave me the subscriptions.

Mallorytown, Nov. 10.—Kind friends here always make things go, and this meeting, in the Presbyterian church, with the Rev. J. J. Wright presiding, was a good one, sympathy well expressed in hard cash. Considerable advance over last year was shown in the report. Rev. G. S. Reynolds gave a good address.

Yonge, (Caintown), Nov. 11.—Heavy rain and muddy roads; meeting thin in numbers, but the officers and collectors had been faithful in their work, because the secretary's report was good.

Lyn, Nov. 12.—Good attendance in the Methodist Church, Mr. James Cumming presiding, and the Revs. R. Stilwell, J. J. Wright, and W. Barnett, were present, and took part. Mr. Omer Mallory, the secretary, gave an excellent report.

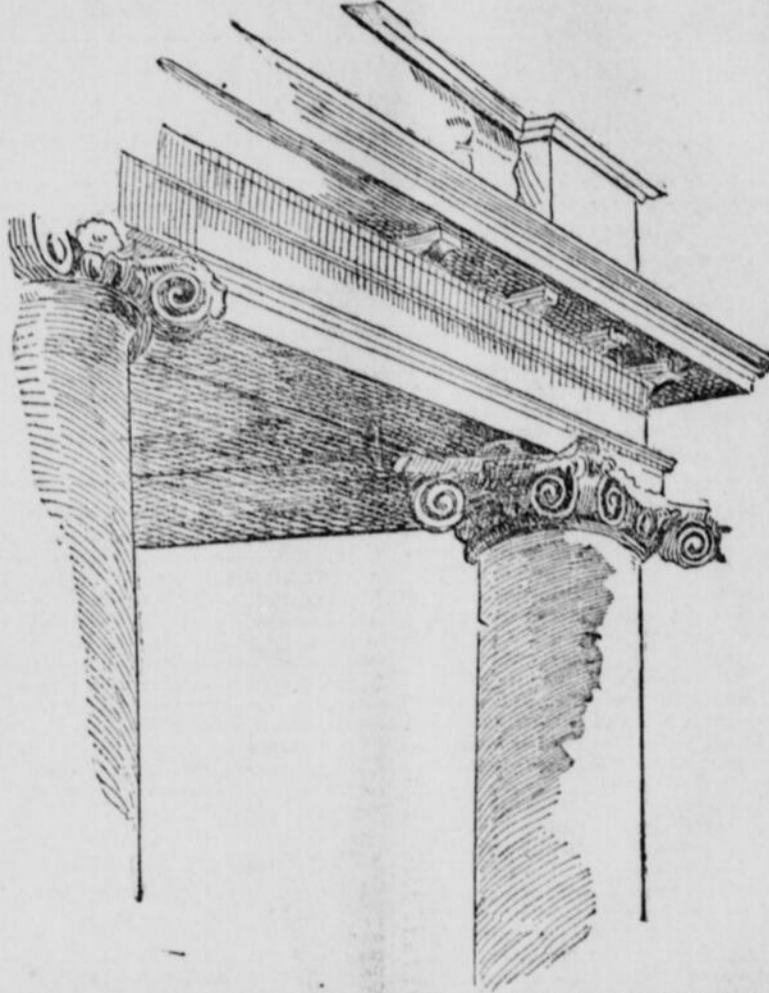
Fairfield East, Nov. 14.—Sunday morning.—Presided in Manhard's Church. The contributions showed a large increase. Drove to Algonquin, where there was a grand congregation. The Rev. J. Foster came, and brought his people with him. A good report and liberal contributions.

WRAITH OF SUNLIGHT

REMARKABLE SHADOW ON WHITE HOUSE ENTRANCE PILLAR SINCE MRS. MCKINLEY WAS STRICKEN.

(Despatch to New York 'Herald'.)

Superstition is rife in the White House, and from the day the venerable mother of the President was stricken all those who serve there anticipated nothing else than the calm drifting into eternity that ensued. Pathetically characteristic of the gentle life that has passed away, is the coincidence that influenced many of the household.



When a guard who received the bearer of the first sad telegram from Canton, had ushered the messenger up the stair-

THE SHADOW ON THE WHITE HOUSE.

It resembles a woman's face and was first observed on the day the President was summoned to his mother's death-bed.

tors had been at work, and that they had done their work well. Mr. Van Camp's report will show a marked advance. The Revs. G. McArthur, W. Craig, J. Hodgins, each contributed to the success of the meeting.

Aultsville, Nov. 17.—Aultsville did well in numbers. The Rev. J. B. Hicks took charge, and gave a capital speech on the 'Evolution of our English Bible.' Dr. Ault gave his report on the work of the year, showing results above the average.

Farran's Point, Nov. 18.—Meeting well attended. The Rev. N. A. McLeod taking part. Mr. J. Dafee presiding. Work well up to date.

Osmabruk Centre, Nov. 19.—Fair meeting, the Rev. J. S. Buro, assisting. The report was not yet completed, but Mr. S. H. Morgan stated that the income was now in advance of last year.

Northfield, Nov. 21.—Sunday morning—Large congregation in Methodist church. The Rev. J. S. Buro, with his people, swelling the numbers. Contributions in advance. In the evening drove to North Lanenburg church. The Rev. A. Russell had brought his people in good numbers. It was a very successful service—pastor and people being in touch with missionary work. Mr. Gillis gave a good report.

Wales, Nov. 22.—Met the Rev. N. A. McLeod, who had driven over to help. A good report was furnished by Mr. J. D. Colquhoun.

Cornwall, Nov. 23.—Pleasant meeting, though small. The Rev. Dr. MacNish and the Rev. T. Brown, are a host in themselves; so our work was done well. The secretary, Mr. J. P. Watson, presented a good report of the collectors' work.

Summerstown, Nov. 24.—The night was dark and bitterly cold, causing our members to be few, but the work had been done and the report was a fair one. The Rev. N. McKay was present to help on the business.

Martintown, Nov. 25.—Snowing all morning, turning later to steady rain, driving very unpleasant and attendance small. The report was good, and the Rev. P. Mathieson gave us an excellent address.

Williamstown, Nov. 26.—Rain continuing, seriously reducing the numbers here also. The collectors had done splendid work, however, and Mr. W. H. Smyth rendered a capital report; the Rev. A. Givan presiding, and the Rev. P. Watson briefly endorsed the noble work of the society.

Glen Gordon, (Lancaster), Nov. 28.—Once more the school-house in the grove rang with hymns of praise, from Christians who interested themselves in others less favored than themselves. They had contributed over fifty-five dollars.

When a guard who received the bearer of the first sad telegram from Canton, had ushered the messenger up the stair-

at Ulverton. He married Eusebia Stevens, by whom he had nine children, four of whom still survive him, one son and three daughters. His second wife was the late Jane Fletcher, widow of Mr. Stephen Wyman, by whom he had one daughter. A happy troop of grandchildren growing up about him, brightened and cheered his last years, and the joy of a great-grandson, born in his own home, was given him a few weeks before his death. At the ripe age of eighty-three years he was gathered to his fathers, leaving his mourning friends the comforting assurance that he had fought the good fight of faith and had gone home to receive the crown of life. An impressive sermon, on the subject of this memoir, was preached by the Rev. T. H. Wright, to a large gathering of the friends of the deceased.

A PAINFUL REVELATION.

An action tried in the Queen's Bench Division on Friday last, in which the wife of Mr. Andrew Barclay Walker, son of the late Sir Andrew Barclay Walker, the wealthy brewer of Liverpool, sued her husband for the recovery of jewels valued at £7,000, revealed the husband to be a very pitiable inebriate. The marriage took place in April, 1885, and the wife soon found that her husband was given to drink, so given to drink that he had several fits of delirium tremens. She was asked whether she did not know of his drunken habits before her marriage, but she only confessed to have once seen him the worse for drink. In August last his intemperance was so bad as to compel a separation, and she was awarded alimony at the rate of £2,500 per annum. Her husband took possession of jewels he had given her, claiming them as family jewels, but the court gave them back to her. As temperance reformers we often protest against drink being allowed to destroy character and wreck homes. This case gives us a striking illustration of how it destroys the character and wrecks the homes even of those whom its manufacture and sale have enriched. And we feel almost tempted to ask: What amount of drink-produced wealth can compensate for the wreckage revealed in this action at law for the recovery of jewels?—'Temperance Record.'

WHITE HORSES.

(Copyright, 1897, by Rudyard Kipling. From literature published by Harper & Brothers, New York.)

Where run your colts at pasture? Where hide your mares to breed? 'Mid bergs against the ice-cap Or wove Sargossa weed; By lightless reef and channel, Or craggy, coastwise bars, But most the deep-sea meadows All purple to the stars.

Who holds the rein upon you? The latest gale let free. What meat is in your mangers? The glut of all the sea. 'Twixt tide and tide's returning Great store of newly dead— The bones of those that faced us, And the hearts of those that fled.

Afar, offshore and single, Some stallion, rearing swift, Neighs, hungry for new fodder, And calls us to the drift. Then down the cloven ridges— Ten million hoofs unshod— Break forth the wild white horses Who seek their meat from God!

Girth-deep in hissing water Our furious vanguard strains— Through mist of mighty trappings Roll up the fore-blown manes— A hundred leagues to leeward, Ere yet the deep hath stirred, The groaning rollers carry, The coming of the herd!

Whose hand may grip your nostrils— Your forelock who may hold? E'en they who use the broads with us The riders bred and bold, That spy upon our matings, That rope us where we run— They know the wild white horses From father unto son.

We breathe about their cradles, We race their babes ashore, We snuff against their thresholds, We nuzzle at their door— By day with stamping couers, By night in whinnying droves, Creep up the wild white horses, To call them from their loves.

And come they for your calling? No wit of man may save. They hear the wild white horses Above their fathers' grave; And, kin of those we crippled, And sons of those we slew, Spur down the wild white riders To lash the herds anew.

What service have ye paid them, O jealous steeds and strong? Save we that throw their weaklings In none dare work them wrong, While thick around the homestead, Our gray-backed squadrons graze— A guard behind their plunder, And a veil before their ways.

With march and countermarchings— With press of wheeling hosts— Stray mob or bands embattled— We ring the chosen coasts: And, careless of our clamor, That bids the stranger fly, At peace within our pickets, The wild white riders lie.

Trust ye the curdled hollows— Trust ye the gathering wind— Trust ye the moaning groundswell— Our herds are close behind! To mill your foeman's armies— To lay his camps abroad— 'Trust ye the wild white horses, The Horses of the Lord!

— RUDYARD KIPLING.

AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL

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

FARM GLEANINGS.

The boys must be taught to realize that some lands are not always as barren as they seem; that skill and intelligence in tilling and fertilizing may wring a small profit from a field that will no longer respond to poor farming, while at the same time its fertility is being increased. We have found this possible, but it takes good management to do it.

As we polish our machine journals (when well oiled) and a reasonable amount of exercise strengthens the muscles, so our farms will grow better and better when we arrive at that degree of intelligence necessary to enable us to assist nature, rather than to try to compel her to yield to our dictations. Science and our experience on the farm prove that nature's laws must not be violated or we must suffer the consequences; hence the run-down farm.

Many agricultural societies will hold their annual meetings this month and next. The failure of these fairs to meet expenses, the low character of the attractions at such fairs, etc., are leading some societies to abolish their fairs altogether. We favor this plan rather than a continuance of mismanaged and disgraceful substitutes for fairs. Yet a straight-out agricultural fair, well located and properly managed, can often be made to pay.

There are many methods of saving seed corn, but there is one method only that never fails, and which can be depended upon to germinate a hundred percent regardless of the weather in the corn-planting season. Seed corn should be carefully selected in the latter part of September or early part of October, suspended or spread thinly upon a floor to prevent moulding, and dried by fire heat before cold weather. It should be kept warm and dry all winter, where changes in temperature will not affect it, and while some may specially furnish such conditions, with the great majority of farmers, an attic over the kitchen, with a register over the cook stove, allowing the heat to ascend, will prove the ideal place to keep seed corn from the time it is gathered in September until it is needed in the spring.

Why have cattle been averse to feeding upon dry cornstalk when it is proved that the nutritive properties in it are as great as the nutritive properties of the grain which has been gathered from it? Is not the reason made plain by the development of the Marsden process? The promoters have proved that the pith or cellulose when separated from the remainder of the stalk will absorb liquids to twenty times its volume. Has it not been the instinct of the cattle to avoid a material in which this cellulose absorbs the saliva and the gastric juices, thus clogging the intestines and preventing the digestion of the remainder, however rich in nutritive properties? It is proved in fact from the experiments at the Maryland Experiment Station that when the cellulose has been removed and the remainder of the dry cornstalk has been ground, the cattle eat it with avidity, it is readily digested, and it possesses nutrients more than equal to the best of hay.

When we see a farmer work early and late and eat the bread of sorrow that he may buy expensive machinery only to subject it to such treatment as will likely destroy it; when he winters his reaper in the field and gathers his grain into a roofless barn; when we see the kitchen and dairy utensils scattered about and put to improper uses, the horse drinking from the milkpail and the boys coasting in the best copper boiler, we rightly infer that there is a lack of system in the management of that household which entails in all of its departments slavish labor and ruinous waste. We see a similar lack of system in the present organization of the farmers' trade. Can it fail to bring similar results, and is it a more attractive exhibition in the one case than in the other? If the farmer will organize and himself assume control of his trade, a reform will speedily follow.

PLAIN FOOD.

What a contrast there is in this respect between farmers' families in Europe and in America. There the utmost frugality prevails and keeps the small farmer out of debt, free from worry and in perfect health. Plain food, plainly cooked, without extra trimmings and flavorings, no pie nor pastry, except plain, wholesome cakes on holiday or festive occasions; no tea, and only the weakest kind of coffee, and that often made of roasted barley, chicory, etc.; that is the way in Europe. Here our women-folks try to please the men-folks and children by filling them up with 'things good to eat,' especially with rich fries and all sorts of sweetmeats and pastry. Everything has to swim in butter or grease of some kind, and a meal is not considered complete, even if it consisted of the nicest meats, fried or baked, of fish, flesh or fowl, with salads, the very perfection of potatoes, splendid white bread, etc., unless followed by rich puddings, pies, various kinds of cakes, cookies, etc. These luxurious meals and dishes are never seen on the tables of the European small farmer. How can our ordinary farmers, with an income of a very few hundred dollars a year, expect to have them on their every day and still 'make both ends meet'? Why all this 'spread'? True, we like to make a little 'show.' But what our women-folks mean as a kindness to us is really one of the greatest injuries they can do

us, and this not only on account of the cost of these things. Meat and potatoes taste so good that we are tempted to make a good hearty meal of them, and then afterward the pies and rich cakes and preserves and all the other things are set before us and we cannot resist. Thus overloaded stomachs are the rule, and in consequence we have all sorts of ailments and constant need of the services of doctors, and must spend lots of money for all sorts of medicines. And the sick cannot work. In short, the mistaken kindness of wives and daughters ruins the health of those they love, and kills off farmers and members of farmers' families by the wholesale, and of course keeps even those poor who otherwise might go along very nicely with a moderate income.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Farmers in Fayette County, Iowa, have lately been losing a large number of fat cattle that they were feeding for the December market. It has been found that their death was caused by being fed dry corn stalks and new corn which was covered with poisonous smut.

If there be any one proposition in relation to which well-informed opinion is at one, it is that well-bred stock will afford a profit when no other kind will, and that when prices are so good that the growing of almost any kind is remunerative, well-bred animals are so much more profitable as to make it very unwise to grow any other kind.

With cattle in which the breeding has received attention and which has been liberally fed from calfhood, the weights of fourteen hundred or fifteen hundred can be made at an early age and the style and finish will sell the animal for a good price, as compared with the top of the market; but scrub cattle can be neither fattened nor finished early, and hence they cannot be turned quick, and must be maintained if they are to receive any fattening and finish worth speaking of for nearly twice as long as well-bred animals.

Few breeding horses were imported the past year. During ten months ended Oct. 31 the number was only 568 head duty free, against 922 in 1896. During the same period 5,054 horses came in, mostly from Canada, paying duty, against 6,441 in 1896. Exports meanwhile were 29,418 in ten months of 1897 against only 24,248 a year earlier. Most of our exports were to the United Kingdom, although a highly encouraging number, 5,448, were shipped to Germany, compared with only 3,170 to that country a year earlier.

DAIRYING DOTS.

In our work we have found that oats and corn ground in equal parts, with some oil meal added, some good clover hay and cut fodder, not only keeps the cows in good condition, but produces the best butter results.

A patent has been taken out in France for a new beverage, which is called 'champagne milk.' Skim milk is sweetened with syrup and flavored, then put into a closed vessel, where it is sterilized by oxygen gas, then 'champagneized' by introducing carbonic acid gas. The drink is said to be refreshing, nourishing, tasty and hygienic, and will keep for an indefinite time.

In the county of Otsego lives a man who has been called the 'butter king,' having succeeded in making an average of 465 pounds of butter per cow from a herd of nine cows, and in the same county another dairyman has made an average of over five hundred pounds per cow from three cows. Both men referred to are investigators. They have carefully studied cow individuality, and made themselves familiar with the latest and best methods in feeding and the manufacture of butter. From personal knowledge I know their tables are piled high with the best farm and dairy literature of the day.

The good old days of dairy butter are no more in this country. It is a rare exception now to find a farmer that makes butter. It is likely soon to be a lost art in the family. There are in some German communities of the state—conservative families that, while sending their milk to the creamery, still reserve enough to make butter for their own use. But in a short time that practice will be as much of a curiosity as the creamery article was twenty years ago. I look for even higher prices than are now being paid. 'Pioneer Press.'

POULTRY PARAGRAPHS.

A Cure for Roup.—Place seven drops of kerosene in a teaspoon, fill with molasses and give to the hen, which should be kept warm. Repeat every hour until better.—M. H.

Scientists tell us that every element necessary to the support of man is contained within the limits of an egg shell, in the best proportions and in the most palatable form. Generally speaking, farmers use too few eggs and too much pork on their tables. There is nothing in this world more nutritious than fresh eggs.

We will presume that all has been made snug for winter, and, indeed, this should have been done a month ago, and that our hens are laying, or at least showing signs of commencing to lay. Meat in some form is essential for winter eggs. We use prepared meat, 'Animal Meal,' not because it is the best meat food, but because it is ready to use at all times and stands next to green bone. If one has a green bone mill (and we should all have one), it is best to use that form of meat and feed it clear at noon every other day. In speaking of meat we will refer to prepared or ground meat and bone. Clover hay is the best and cheapest hen food we know of. We

gather up the fine that is left on the floor where hay is thrown down for the horses. If this cannot be had, then the clover hay should be cut up in quarter inch lengths with a clover cutter. This cut clover should form the basis of our soft morning mash.

Here is a little story that will illustrate the care fowls usually receive on the average farm. Two winters ago we had a very severe, cold snowstorm. It commenced during the night and lasted all the next day. Our fowls sang on and layed on as usual. A few days after a farmer visited here and commented on the red combs of our fowls. 'Why,' said he, 'all our hens had their combs frozen during that cold storm.' After a few remarks he said: 'I suppose you looked after your fowls the first thing next morning, while I looked after mine after I had attended to everything else.' Here is just the point: the fowls are the last of the stock attended to. The farmer was not far wrong. The fact is that several months before we attended to our fowls and made the houses warm and snug. So there was no need of fixing up when the storm came. After the fowls go to roost each house is visited and all made snug for the night. If the weather is mild we leave a window open or a crack (this crack varies with the temperature), when it is cold everything is shut up tightly.

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.

EUROPEAN SOVEREIGNS — BISMARCK — CZARS OF RUSSIA.

J. A. McK. Greenbank.—I. Please state names of all the rulers of Europe together with dates of birth and accession. 2. Does Bismarck rule over any country? T. R. P. Quebec. 3. Please state the names and dates of accession of the Russian Czars of this century. Ans.—1. Austria and Hungary—Emperor and King Francis Joseph, born Aug. 18, 1800; began to reign Dec. 2, 1848. Belgium.—King Leopold II., April 9, 1835, Dec. 10, 1865. Netherlands (Holland)—Queen Wilhelmina (under age); born Aug. 31, 1850. Denmark.—King Christian IX., April 9, 1818; Nov. 15, 1863. France, a Republic, ruled by President. Germany and Prussia, William II., Jan. 27, 1859, June 15, 1888. King of Prussia, Emperor of Germany, Subject Kingdoms and Grand Duchies of German Empire are: Bavaria.—King Otto, April 27, 1848, June 10, 1886. Saxony, King Albert, April 23, 1853, Oct. 29, 1873. Wurtemberg, King William, Feb. 25, 1848, Oct. 6, 1891. Baden, Grand Duke Frederick, Sept. 9, 1826, Sept. 5, 1856. Hesse, Ernest Louis V., Grand Duke, Nov. 25, 1868, March 13, 1892. Anhalt, Duke Frederick, April 29, 1831, May 2, 1871. Oldenburg, Grand Duke Peter, July 8, 1827, Feb. 27, 1853. Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Prince Alfred of England, Duke, Aug. 6, 1844, Aug. 22, 1883. Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Grand Duke Frederick Francis III., March 19, 1851, April 15, 1883. Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Grand Duke Frederick William, Oct. 17, 1819, Sept. 6, 1866. Luxembourg, Grand Duke Adolphus, Prince Frederick, Nov. 23, 1850, Waldeck Pyrmont, Prince Frederick, Aug. 18, 1851, May 12, 1893. 1837; 21 Oct., 1885. Great Britain, King, Victoria, Queen and Empress of India, May 24, 1819; June 20, 1857. Greece, King George, Dec. 24, 1846; March 30, 1863. Italy, King Humbert, March 14, 1844; Jan. 9, 1878. Norway and Sweden, King Oscar II., Jan. 21, 1829; Oct. 19, 1859. Portugal, King Carlos I., Sept. 28, 1863; Oct. 19, 1888. Russia, Emperor and Czar Nicholas II., May 18, 1868; Nov. 1, 1894. Spain, King Alfonso XIII., born May 17, 1886; is a minor, but the kingdom is governed in his name. Switzerland, republican or constitutional government. Adolphe Deucher, President, born 1831; elected Dec. 15, 1896. Turkey, Sultan Abdul Hamid II., Sept. 21, 1842; Aug. 31, 1876. The following countries formed part of the Turkish Empire. They are now independent, but are under the protection of the greater powers, as are Greece, Norway and Sweden, King Oscar II., Jan. 21, 1829; Oct. 19, 1859. Portugal, King Carlos I., Sept. 28, 1863; Oct. 19, 1888. Russia, Emperor and Czar Nicholas II., May 18, 1868; Nov. 1, 1894. Spain, King Alfonso XIII., born May 17, 1886; is a minor, but the kingdom is governed in his name. Switzerland, republican or constitutional government. Adolphe Deucher, President, born 1831; elected Dec. 15, 1896. Turkey, Sultan Abdul Hamid II., Sept. 21, 1842; Aug. 31, 1876. The following countries formed part of the Turkish Empire. 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Consumption

Not One Person in a Thousand Recognizes This Malady in Its Inception.

The great majority never feel alarm until a hacking appears. Consumption does a great deal of deadly work by means of a cough. Still there is hope, even when a cough has set in, if prompt measures are taken. These consist in toning up the digestive system, so as to enable the stomach to assimilate special nourishment, such as cream, raw meat extracts, and cod-liver oil. To soothe and heal the inflamed air passages and stop the cough, no remedy surpasses

Shiloh's Consumption Cure...

A medicine which has been on the American market nearly fifty years. SHILOH'S CURE has also tonic properties, it strengthens and firms the weak mucus membranes. Taken in connection with special nourishment, hygienic living, and clothing in pure wool, the sufferer from incipient consumption has every hope for a complete recovery. Every day, every hour is precious; you cannot too soon begin the work of repair. Give SHILOH'S CURE a faithful trial, and if it does not help you, return the bottle and get your money back. You could not have a fairer trial. Messrs. S. C. Wells & Co., Le Roy, N. Y. GENTLEMEN—To anyone having trouble with their lungs, I would recommend Shiloh; as I believe it cured my wife of what would soon have terminated in consumption. O. H. KEITH, Wyoming, N. Y.



LETTERS FROM READERS.

PROHIBITION—WISE OR OTHERWISE.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—A few years before the American civil war a very prominent and able Presbyterian divine from Kentucky visited Toronto. His eloquent advocacy of Southern slavery, based on Scripture authority, created no small sensation in his Toronto audiences. The learned gentleman was perfectly sincere, and he stopped the abolition of slavery as effectually as the distinguished and equally sincere Principal of Queen's University would stop the prohibition of the liquor traffic in his country. Canadians are proud of Dr. Grant, or if they are not they ought to be. He has done some good service to his country. He is going to do some more. If prohibition is discussed more thoroughly and more effectively than ever—and it will be—the credit will be in part due to Dr. Grant's letters against prohibition.

No millennium has yet come in Turkey or Armenia nor where Buddhism has been supreme for more than a thousand years, although Mahomet and Guatama—unlike Jesus—absolutely prohibited the use of intoxicating liquors. "Unlike Jesus." So Jesus never prohibited the use of intoxicating liquors! Jesus certainly prohibited every evil of every sort, and if he did not prohibit the use of intoxicating liquors then the use of intoxicating liquors is not an evil at all. If that is true, perhaps some one will tell us what our authority is for total abstinence, license laws or prohibition of any kind. Possibly Mahomet and Guatama had an idea that people were bad enough without intoxicating liquors, and might be a good deal worse with them. That notion is not quite extinct yet, as witness our Canadian prohibition of liquor among the Indians. Certainly prohibition—such as it is—has not brought in the millennium in Turkey or China, nor has the free use of alcoholic drinks introduced among those people by western Christians brought it in either. The millennium will never be produced by the prohibition of evil, not even the prohibition of lying and murder, which includes all these, nor will the millennium ever be produced without the prohibition of every great evil and of drink, which is one of the greatest of them all.

The happy hunting grounds of prohibition are in the United States, it seems. Those warm Southerners want seventeen gallons of liquor to keep them cool, while our frigid Northerners only take four gallons and a half each to keep them warm. If the United States had been the 'happy hunting-ground' of moral suasion instead of prohibition, how different the results! If, as in Canada, the Americans had only taken to 'sanitation, improving public opinion, better cooking, more refined amusements, and appeals to the religious sentiments of the people'—but they have stuck to prohibition and failed. If the American's prohibition has failed, so has his moral suasion, too, for no country on earth has had more moral suasion in this struggle than the United States has had. It is as true that the American has had prohibition only, and failed, as that we in Canada have had moral suasion only and succeeded.

We are not going to drop the 'well-tried swords' of moral suasion for the 'rusty razors' of prohibition, for there are no 'rusty razors' of prohibition to drop. Both moral suasion and prohibition—as far as it can be obtained—have been kept, in both countries, very sharp and bright by constant use for fifty years.

But prohibition has been so far a 'failure' in Canada. How can a thing fail that never has had an existence? Prohibition proper has never yet been tried either in Canada or anywhere else we know of. Our laws relating to the liquor traffic, whether license laws or local acts, like the Dunkin Act or the Scott Act, are all only restrictive or prohibitory measures in a very partial degree. National prohibition has yet to be tried, and it will be time enough to pronounce it a failure when it has been tried and failed.

The Maine Law is cited as proof against prohibition. The Maine Law is, also, only partial prohibition—that is, so far as the Federal law of the United States can allow a single state to act, and that is a long way off national prohibition. Whether their prohibition—such as it is—is a curse or a blessing to Maine, the people themselves ought to know. And they have taken a very emphatic way of telling the world that they do know. You can uproot prohibition from Maine as easily as you can uproot their convictions that drink is one of the most disastrous evils that can afflict any nation in the world. If the people of Maine think it worth their while to keep closing up every loophole of the law, through which lawless characters are ever ready to break in upon their statutory legislation, they must think their prohibitory law well worth the trouble to protect and perfect.

But there is a book, 'The Liquor Problem in its Legislative Aspects,' which gives the results of a careful, thorough, and impartial investigation, under the direction of the most eminent educational and social reformers in the United States, and this enables fair-minded men to form conclusions regarding what prohibition can, and what it cannot do. The gist of that book and its lessons against prohibition are before us in the Principal's second letter, and enlarged upon and illustrated in his third.

First, the evasion of the law—illicit stills, 'smuggling,' and the 'fascinating sweetness of stolen waters.' The tenta-

tive attempts at partial prohibition in the United States have produced, it seems, a crop of these 'evils.' Many evils were ripe while slavery was under restrictive laws, which have been absent since total prohibition put an end to that iniquity. The same thing might occur again in connection with the total prohibition of the liquor traffic. If all laws that prohibit evil arouse the depraved resistance of determined law-breakers—and they do—which is to blame—the law or the law-breaker? If prohibiting an evil is the occasion—not the cause—of further transgression, must we abandon the law as bad and judge it good to allow the transgressor to go on and do as he pleases? If that principle is adopted how many penal laws will remain on the statute books of any civilized nation in the world? 'Collusive selling,' and 'the infringement on British personal liberty.'—Yes, men will sell liquor, do what you will. So will they steal and lie and murder, no matter what your laws are. Our prohibitory law against these and other crimes are as constantly broken by the few, as they are constantly kept by the many. And that this might be the case with a national arbitrary law, there is no living man at the present time, competent to deny. British personal liberty can be stretched to cover a good deal—even if equal in capacity to Dr. Johnson's definition of 'patriotism' as the 'last refuge of scoundrels.' Prohibition will certainly antagonize that kind of British liberty. And so do a good many other prohibitory laws which are altogether British. British freedom is the noblest and best in the world, because it, more than any other, sternly refuses to permit one man to injure another, and that is the very pith and core of the genuine prohibition of the liquor traffic. 'Concomitant evils,' 'law defied,' 'habitual law-breakers, schooled in evasion and shamelessness,' 'perjuries and the miscarriage of justice,' 'officers of the law double-faced and mercenary,' 'legislators timid and insincere,' 'candidates for office hypocritical and truckling.' Then the rich liquor traffic can pay the fines, bribes, and hush money and assessments for political purposes. This corrupts the lower courts, the police, the politicians and the electorate. And so decent men shun the public service, etc. All this and the further black catalogue of evils so graphically depicted in the doctor's third letter read like an arraignment of the liquor traffic itself, and its abettors.

But no, indeed! It is not the liquor traffic at all that does all this mischief, but it is the American prohibitory laws! Prohibition is the corrupt tree that bears all this evil fruit—cut it down, why cumbereth it the ground. At any rate, it is not the national prohibition tree, for that is not yet planted. Perhaps, after all, it is the lack of more prohibition, and not less, that causes the trouble. Decisive measures are best if you are dealing with tigers. The 'concomitant evil' has a special liking for half measures and partial prohibition, for they afford a first-class chance for mischief, and when the mischief is done, to turn round and blame the half prohibition for it all. That is an old dodge of the liquor traffic. Southern slavery was good at that dodge, too, but it does not play at that now, for the very good reason that thorough national prohibition has killed it for ever. That national prohibition will not likewise kill the liquor traffic is something that no man, nor body of men, are at present competent to affirm.

JAMES C. SEYMOUR. Paisley, Ont., 1897.

DR. GRANT AND PROHIBITION.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—I ask for space to review Dr. Grant's last letter. There is one point in it to which temperance men have a right to take exception, viz., it abounds in very positive, dogmatic statements; meanwhile there is a conspicuous absence of facts, or direct proof of those assertions. Merely ex cathedra utterances on this important question will not avail on either side. What is needed is thorough investigation, a rigid and impartial sifting of facts.

There is something very objectionable in all that mass of defamatory matter with which the letter is filled in reference to the people of Maine, without one solitary vestige of proof in support of it. I have searched into the 'Acts and Proceedings' of the Presbyterian General Assembly; into the returns of Methodist conferences; and as far as I can find, the statistics of other churches in Ontario; and I have before me the Church statistics of the State of Maine. On the ground of those authorities, I make this statement. There is a larger percentage of the adult population of Maine, who are members of Christian churches and communicants at the Lord's table than there is in the banner province of Ontario.

It is not right for Dr. Grant to hold up the State of Maine as being an object lesson in infamy simply on the word of Messrs. Eliot, Low and Carter—all of them non-residents of the state; and, be it observed, these men do not give us one syllable of proof. They brand the people of Maine as being full-blown hypocrites—trained in lawlessness—full of bribery and corruption—a community of perjurers, etc. According to Dr. Grant's authorities the State of Maine must be ripe for perdition; and all from the prohibition of the whiskey traffic.

It is no doubt true that there are officials in Maine who are false and faithless in the carrying out of the law. And nobody denies that there is a certain amount of illicit sale in some of the large cities. But they have nothing worse along that line than we have in Ontario. I have in my possession a written document signed by a police magistrate in

Canada, that he had fined five men forty-three times for violation of the license law; and yet their licenses were continued all the same. What officials are there in Ontario who ever cancel a license, because of repeated breaches of the law? If those liquor sellers were in Maine they would be inside the prison walls within a month.

The whole teaching of Dr. Grant's letter, in a few words, is this:—We must license whiskey to make the nation law-abiding. In 1896 there were 5,258 persons convicted of indictable offences in Canada. Of these, fifty-four percent were moderate; thirty-eight percent immoderate drinkers; and only eight percent total abstainers. Whiskey does more to unman men, to produce crime, and to degrade the citizenship of a nation than all other agencies combined.

PARTY POLITICS.

The doctor tells us that 'the question of prohibition in Maine soon became a party one; and so it has remained.' That statement is perfectly true. Up to the year 1846 the annual expenditure for rum in Maine was fifteen millions; and the annual death rate from delirium tremens alone was over three hundred. It is hardly to be wondered at if temperance men determined to prohibit a traffic which produced such results.

Every great reform must of necessity become a question of party politics. The doctor's extensive reading and general knowledge of history will teach him that. How came the aniquitous laws passed in the time of the Stuarts to be swept from the statute books of England? Simply through the political struggles between Whigs and Tories.

Seventy years ago the lash of the slave-driver's whip might be heard all over the Southern States—down through our British West Indian Islands, and in the colonies of Western Africa. Since that time slavery has been prohibited. How did it come to pass? Why, men organized Anti-slavery—and Pro-slavery parties. They took it into politics. After a fierce struggle the right prevailed.

I remember in my boyhood seeing the workmen of Bristol, England, marching in procession carrying a loaf of bread on a long pole. It was soaked in blood. Over it a motto, 'Bread or Blood.' They and their families were starving. Wheat was four dollars a bushel. Bright, Cobden and others organized an Anti-corn law league. The thing got into party politics. It was a desperate battle. But the English laborer has had cheap bread ever since. The Liberal party in England has put a local option plank in its platform. The traffic is in party politics in England. So in Canada. The Liquor License Holders' Association is organized. Temperance men are organizing, and the more promptly and thoroughly they organize the better for them. The fight is upon us. History is repeating itself, and the ultimate result will be the same triumph for right.

The doctor deprecates the temperance cause being dragged into party politics. There is nothing to deprecate. It is rather a matter of rejoicing. The Parliament Buildings of the Dominion and the provinces are the arena in which the ascendancy of the whiskey traffic, or the principles of temperance will sooner or later have to be decided.

I am glad to find that the Presbytery of Kingston reports a growing belief in and desire for prohibition. The General Assembly in its recommendations with regard to the liquor traffic, says: 'We would urge on all our ministers and people to employ all lawful means by example, influence and the use of the franchise to bring about its speedy and absolute destruction.' (See 'Acts and Proceedings for 1896; Appendix 20.) But most assuredly all these things mean party politics.

TESTIMONY RESPECTING MAINE.

In addition to the evidence of Eliot, Low and Carter, the doctor quotes a very strong resolution passed at a convention at Waterville, April 20, 1896. That resolution was precisely of a piece with the sweeping invective of the men just named. To a careful reader it bears absurdity upon the face of it. It says that whole communities are compelled to consent to a shameful illegal traffic, that county officials work the law for purposes of revenue, etc.

Now, sir, those county officials are elected from year to year by those self-same communities. It is not a likely story that the intelligent, free and independent electors of Maine will vote for men to compel them to consent to an illegal traffic which they hate. The very language of that resolution is self-contradictory. Men do not consent to that to which they are compelled. If the doctor would give us the genesis of that convention, I suspect it was a gathering of red-hot Democrats denouncing Republican administration of the law. Personally, I would take as much stock in that kind of thing as I would in some Grit or Tory convention passing a resolution on the policy of the opposite party.

The doctor evidently regards it as essential to his argument that he shall hold up the State of Maine to ridicule. I propose to put in evidence on the other side. I submit for the judgment of the reader the names and the testimony of the following gentlemen:—

1. Four governors of the State of Maine, viz., Chamberlain, Perham, Dingley, Connor—who have declared that 'not one-tenth of the quantity of liquor was sold, as before the prohibitory law passed.'

The Hon. L. M. Morrill, Hon. James G. Blaine and Hon. H. Hamlin, United States senators, and the Hon. William P. Frye and the Hon. John Lynch, members of Congress, united in the following declaration: 'We can, and do, from personal observation, unhesitatingly affirm that the consumption of intoxicating liquors in Maine is not one-fourth as great as it was twenty years ago. The law has created a temperance sentiment which is

marvellous, and to which opposition is powerless.

The following five gentlemen, who were mayors of the city of Portland, signed this declaration: 'The traffic has fallen off largely. Many persons with the best means of judging believe that the liquor traffic now is not one-tenth of what it was formerly. We do not know but such an opinion is correct but we content ourselves with saying that the diminution of the trade is very great, and the favorable effects of the policy of prohibition are manifest to the most casual observer.'

Benjamin Kingsbury, Mayor; W. M. Thomas, A. Stephens, J. T. Cobb, Jacob McLeilan, ex-mayors.

The following resolution was passed unanimously by all the senators and representatives of the State of Maine in Congress: 'The use of liquors as a beverage is very limited. In a majority of the towns of the state none can be obtained except as provided by law. The law is now as easily and thoroughly enforced as that for the prevention and punishment of any other and similar crimes, and we can sincerely affirm that it is a success.'

Signed in the Senate Chamber, Washington, W. P. Frye, Eugene Hall, T. B. Reid, S. D. Lindsay, Llewellyn Power, H. Hamlin and J. G. Blaine.

It would be easy to fill every inch of space in the 'Witness' with similar testimony from the ministers of God, from thousands of heads of families. The election on the constitutional amendment, sufficiently proves what is the mind of the people on the question of prohibition.

STATISTICS.

We are favored in the doctor's letter with a small table of statistics, setting forth that Maine has more idiots, blind, deaf and dumb people than the Province of Ontario. The figures given refer to a very sad form of disease, known to medical science as cretinism. It is a purely local in its character. It exists in the valley of the Alps, in some sections of Peru and in certain districts of North and South America. It existed in Maine long before Neal Dow was born, or prohibition was thought of. It has no connection whatever with whiskey, nor patent medicines, nor prohibition. The existence of cretinism in any given district is no argument for or against prohibition.

If some man of very limited reading and a small measure of knowledge had advanced such an argument in favor of the whiskey traffic it would not be any matter of surprise. But coming from the learned Principal of Queen's it is a surprise. It shows that the worthy doctor has not given very minute or careful research to the subject of which he writes.

If I understand the argument from those statistics it means this, that if you put alcohol in a patent medicine it will make you blind, deaf, dumb and an idiot; but if you put the same alcohol in licensed whiskey it will not have the same effect.

The doctor sketches a fearful picture of what would happen in the Yukon territory if there were prohibition there. When the Canadian Pacific Railway was built, the company, knowing that there would be a large influx of navvies and roughs from all lands, passed stringent resolutions that no whiskey should be allowed on the works. And the road was built in peace. So if the government would pass a stringent prohibitory law for the Yukon the gold that is in it would be dug out in peace. As it is we shall be reading from time to time tragic stories of fightings, brawlings, stabbings, shootings and murders, and pretty much the whole of it from the licensed whiskey which will be sent into the territory. G. G. HUXTABLE. Dec. 27, 1897.

MGR. CLEARY'S MANDATE.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.')

Sir,—Having read an article by 'J. D. McG.' in the 'Witness' of Nov. 30, on Archbishop Cleary's mandate, and to decide a controversy as to the true meaning of his letter, will he please answer these questions:—

- 1. Is marriage dissoluble according to scripture for the cause of adultery?
2. He says, 'As vital the union is binding until death.' Does not the act of the guilty party for the cause above referred to dissolve the vital union?
3. Mr. 'McG.' says, 'When the state grants divorce on other ground, except desertion,' etc. Does he assume that marriage is indissoluble except for desertion?
SUBSCRIBER.

THE SWORD OF THE SHAH.

(From the Paris 'Messenger.')

A Sheffield firm has been by special firman appointed the goldsmiths, and silversmiths to His Imperial Majesty and to the Court of Persia. They are executing for the Shah an imperial sword designs of which have been approved. The blade is double-edged, of the finest steel, inlaid with gold. The weapon has a broad flute down the centre, and is of scimitar shape, terminating in a fine point or cliff. The scabbard is of royal scarlet Persian leather, with mountings in gold filigree, while the hilt is of ivory, inlaid with gold arabesques and inscriptions in Persian text. The cross-bar and head of the hilt is studded with diamonds, rubies, and other precious stones.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

Deserving Confidence.—No article so richly deserves the entire confidence of the community as Brown's Bronchial Troches, the well-known remedy for coughs and throat troubles. They are excellent for the relief of Hoarseness or Sore Throat. They are exceedingly effective.—'Christian World,' London, Eng.

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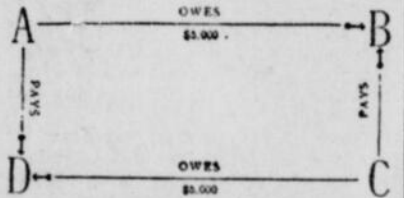
INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

HENRY D. PARMELEE IN 'BUSINESS.'

A most important question, and one of interest to all business men, is that of foreign exchange. It is strange that there seems to be so much mystery attached to this very simple expression, and yet it is so vaguely understood by many who use the term in their everyday life that an explanation of the operations which are implied in its meaning may not be out of place in 'Business.'

Exchange is the term applied to the settlement of accounts between persons living far apart and separated by natural boundaries. Foreign exchange and domestic exchange practically imply the same operation, but the one which we will take as an example is foreign or international exchange. For the sake of an illustration we will say that an American, A, owes an Englishman, B, five thousand dollars, who, without bills of exchange, will be obliged to send the money which, in foreign trade, is always gold. This, of course, implies the expense of transportation, which, for large sums of money, is quite an item. Now, instead of sending the money, which he would have to do under ordinary circumstances, he finds an American, D, who has money due him from an Englishman, C, and we will say that it is an equal amount, five thousand dollars. To obviate the transporting of specie, A pays D, and C pays B, and thus the transaction is completed. The claim which D has upon the Englishman, C, is put in the form of a written order directing C to pay B, the creditor of A.

This is practically all there is to a bill of exchange, the operation being readily seen from the following:



Very often, in commercial usage, bills of exchange originate in a different way, for example: a merchant sends wheat to England, but does not care to wait until the wheat arrives in England before he gets his money, so he makes out a bill, which, if he can present sufficient collateral, some broker accepts for him; the broker in turn sends it to his correspondent in England, who takes it to the man who purchased the wheat, and gets it cashed as soon as the wheat arrives. The American merchant pays a small sum for the use of the money he receives before the delivery of his goods, which is the broker's commission. The whole process is based upon an instrument of credit, the bill of exchange. The Englishman, B, sold woollen goods to A, so that A and C are the debtors, and their debts are measured in dollars and in pounds, which, in either case, are based upon gold, the standard and measure.

To sum up, we will say that D goes to the broker and says: 'I have sold C five thousand dollars' worth of goods, and they have been shipped. Here is the bill for those goods, which I wish you would buy.' Under certain conditions, which we will explain later, the broker buys the bill in hopes that he may soon sell it. A comes along and says: 'I owe an Englishman, B, five thousand dollars; have you any bills which I can buy?' The broker says: 'Yes, I have a claim upon C for just that amount.' A buys it and sends it to B, who in turn takes it to C and presents it; C recognizes his indebtedness to D, and pays it. Of course, just exactly this operation never occurs, but it is an analysis of an ideal transaction used simply by way of explanation.

The question of the rate of exchange is a very important one, and needs to be explained now. This form of credit instrument has a value apart from its representative value. It is a commodity, and, like all commodities, depends for its value upon the law of supply and demand. When there are a great many bills of exchange offered for sale, their value falls; that is, the broker will not give quite as much for them when he can procure all he wants as he would if there were only a few of them. When the offerings are many it simply indicates that a country is exporting largely and not importing; on the other hand, when bills of exchange are only a few in quantity, a broker will be willing to give a larger amount for them because the demand is great, and he is able to sell all he may get. This in turn indicates that the country is importing more than it exports. The supply and demand of bills of exchange determines their value as a first condition, and has a relation to the exports and imports of a country. At a time when imports are heavy and exports small, the demand for bills is quite large, and, of course, the natural result is the supply is small; in that case the exchange is high. As explained before, all foreign exchange must be paid in gold. The Englishman sends over pounds, and the American sends dollars where exchange is not used.

The expression 'par of exchange' simply means the relation between the gold value of an English pound and an American dollar. The English sovereign, the coin which is equal to a pound, contains 123.274 grains of gold eleven-twelfths fine,

in pure gold, therefore, 113.016 grains; the dollar contains 25.8 grains, nine-tenths fine, or in pure gold, 23.22 grains. To ascertain the number of dollars contained in a sovereign or a pound, it is necessary to divide 113.016 by 23.22. The result obtained is 4.860, so that 4.86 3-5 dollars is the par of exchange. Some have asked why \$4.44 2-5 is called the 'old par of exchange?' It is simply this, that in 1834 the gold dollar contained 24.75 grains, therefore the par of exchange was smaller, but this need not be taken into consideration at the present day. The only thing to be considered in computing the par of exchange is the amount of pure gold contained in the coin. If it were possible for all men who owed money in England to send that money at any time without expense, there would be no necessity of bills of exchange; in other words, \$1.86 3-5 would always remain the par of exchange, but in transporting gold to and from this country there are risks involved and expenses incurred.

The reason why A was anxious to buy a bill from the broker was that he did not care to incur the expense of sending gold, which would, most likely, cost him more than the premium to be paid in the form of a broker's commission. He does not do this unless the broker's commission is less than the expense of sending gold, hence we will see that the limit which foreign exchange can reach above par is the actual cost of transporting the gold. A merchant would always make a foreign payment by sending gold provided he had to spend his time in running about to find another merchant with foreign credit. What we gave as an example in the beginning of the article never really happens in a large community, for it would be very seldom that a man would be able to find another with precisely the same amount of foreign credit as his indebtedness to some foreign creditor. What he does, of course, is to go to a broker. In the case of the merchant who sold his wheat and then drew a bill which he in turn sold to a broker who bought it and sent it to his London correspondent, we must assume, which is almost always true, that the American broker has a stock of gold in the keeping of an English broker, his correspondent; therefore, all he does is to forward the bill to be collected. A broker may sell exchange to whomsoever he wishes up to the amount of his credit with his foreign correspondent. He does not sell the bill he bought, but deposits it with his correspondent, and draws his own cheque, which is 'exchange.' Whenever the stock of gold held by the correspondent of the American broker becomes low, and it is not easy for him to buy bills, exchange rises. The outflow of specie may be caused by exchange rising just a little, but the competition between brokers naturally keeps exchange from rising much above the cost of transporting gold. If the quantity of bills offered for sale is very large, the rates of exchange will fall. We all noticed this past year, when exchange was quoted very low, that is, at 4.82 in this country, that large amounts of gold were imported. It is ordinarily supposed that England pays us in the fall for goods which we export, namely, cotton and wheat; and we pay England in the spring for finished goods, and thus it very often occurs that during the spring of the year exchange in America is high, but during the fall it is low.

Many men who read the newspapers for information upon the rates of foreign exchange do so with one idea, principally to ascertain the condition of trade, as exchange is very much like the steam gauge on a locomotive, and indicates to those who thoroughly understand its operation, the condition of the country's trade. A bill of exchange is one of the many forms of credit instruments which are so largely used in the commercial relations of the modern world. One does not often think of the great expense and unnecessary waste of wealth which is involved in the transportation, to and from, of gold or bullion in payment of debts. The bill of exchange obviates our sending large sums of money to England in the spring only to be returned here in the fall. By its means the trade balance of two countries is easily adjusted, and clerks and accountants are given employment rather than ocean steamship lines.

ORDINATION AND INDUCTION.

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Glengarry, held at Avonmore, on Dec. 27, at seven p.m., Mr. Geo. Weir was ordained to the office of the holy minis-

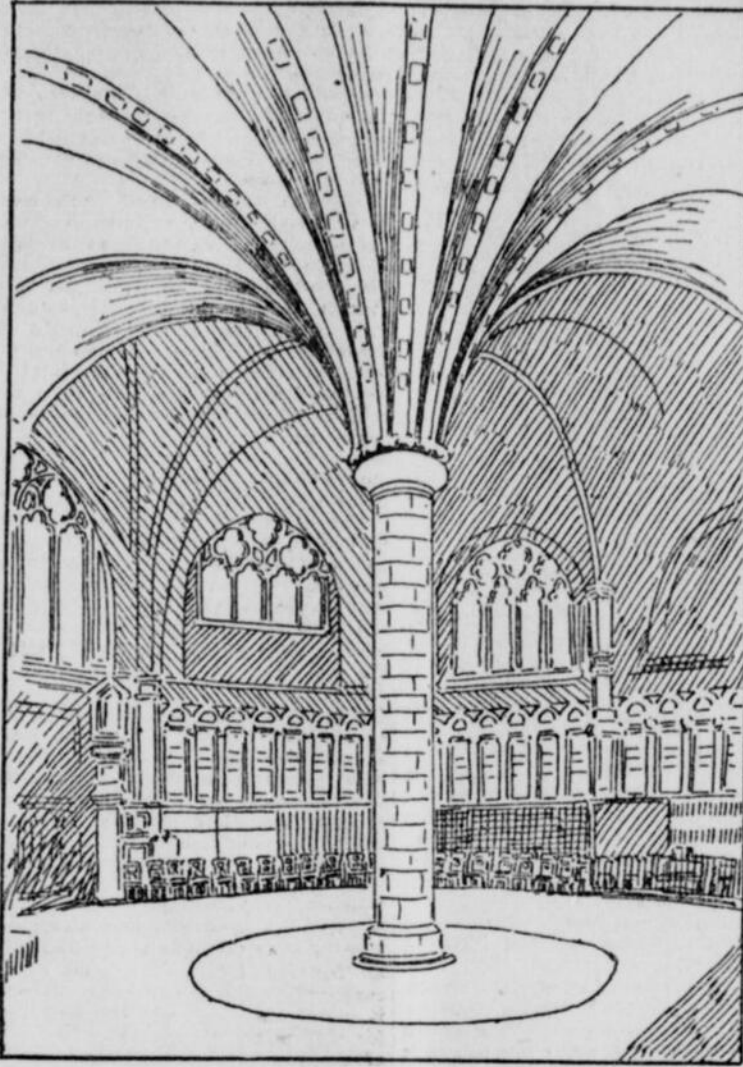


THE REV. GEORGE WEIR.

try, and inducted as pastor of the Presbyterian Church there. Mr. Weir graduated in arts from McGill University in 1895, and in theology from the Presbyterian College, Montreal, in 1897, and enters upon his work at Avonmore with the most encouraging prospects.

UMBRELLA CHAPTER HOUSE UNIQUE ARCHITECTURAL STRUCTURE IN A CATHEDRAL.

One of the most striking and beautiful features in the magnificent cathedral precincts at Worcester is the fine Norman Chapter-house, of which we give an illustration. The choir-boys, who use it as a vestry, have nicknamed it 'The Umbrella Room,' and certainly no name could be more appropriate. The beautiful transitional Norman roof springs from a slender central column, and is exactly in the shape of a huge open umbrella. The resemblance is far more striking than can be reproduced in any



BEAUTIFUL CHAPTER HOUSE BUILT IN THE SHAPE OF AN UMBRELLA.

— Sunday Companion.

photograph, owing to the impossibility of placing the camera sufficiently far away.

Around this beautiful circular room runs a graceful arcade, which formerly rested on the stone bench which originally stood at the base of the walls, and provided sitting accommodation for the monks in the days when Worcester Cathedral had a large monastery attached to it.

A second arcade runs round the upper part of the wall, but the perpendicular

windows were a later addition, having been inserted about the year 1400. Previously each compartment was occupied by a round-headed Norman window.

On the walls may be noticed many traces of the old frescoes which formerly completely covered them. In the Chapter-house are several glass cases containing relics, and the building is one of the greatest attractions to the numerous visitors who come to the cathedral every year.

COTTONSEED AS A FOOD.

Few things are more difficult than changing our habits of eating. The majority of us keep on using certain articles of food and drink because we have been brought up to do it. The nervous system is set so to say to their use and it requires an act of the will and perseverance

This led to experiments being tried in the kitchen, and one-third of the cottonseed meal was mixed with two-thirds of white flour or cornmeal and baked or treated in other ways. The mixture cooked well and possessed a rich, nutty flavor very pleasant to the palate. Cottonseed meal is very rich in albuminoids or the nitrogenous elements (flesh and blood formers) as compared with the starch and fat elements (heat producers), possessing a nutritive ratio of one to one; i.e., one of the former to one of the latter, while that of the whole wheat is one to six.

It is well known that Graham flour, which contains all parts of the wheat, is almost a perfect food, more nearly meeting all the requirements of the human

body than does any other natural product. The mixture of cottonseed meal with cornmeal and white flour in the right proportion gives a combination almost identical in composition and nutritive ratio to wheat, or if desired to make a more highly nitrogenous diet, more cottonseed meal may be used.

In many states cottonseed meal is produced in such quantities as to sell for a cent per pound. If the advantage of this food on further trial should meet with favor it would add one more to the large list of vegetable foods. Our vegetarian friends who have introduced so many good things to our tables might look into the virtues of this new article of diet.—'Journal of Hygiene'

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49 for Poultry and Game.
98 for Breakfast Dishes.
96 for Vegetables.
87 for Breads and Biscuits.
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70 for Custards, Sauces, etc.
119 for Meats.
117 for Salads, Catsups, etc.
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No French "stuffs," no fancy "fixins," no recipes from men cooks, in the Standard Cook Book. They are all tested recipes, known to be excellent for plain, wholesome delicious home cooking. With this book in hand it is an easy matter to arrange a splendid variety, which is one of the secrets of good cooking. It is printed on good paper, and valuable to every housekeeper.

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INDIAN FRONTIER TROUBLE.

NATIVE TRIBESMEN CONTINUE TO BE VERY ACTIVE.

Calcutta, Jan. 3.—The Zakka-Khels have blocked the road from Ali Mesjid to Lundi Kotal, preventing the establishment of communication with General Sir William Lockhart. The enemy is very active, and has fired on the Oxfordshire Regiment, which is engaged in convoy duty at Khyber Pass, wounding Col. Plowden and Lieut. Owen. Some of the men, being hampered by the task of removing the wounded, had difficulty in gaining shelter. Three men were killed and twelve, including Captain Parr, were wounded in subsequent fighting. Finally they were joined by another company, and retired into the walled enclosure, where they are awaiting reinforcements.

Calcutta, Jan. 2.—It is reported from Karam that the Afridis are assembling in tribal council with a view of concluding peace. While General Hammond was examining the enemy's caves near Lundi-Kotal after the recent fighting, shots were fired at the group of officers standing with him. Lieut. Hammond, his orderly officer, was severely wounded.

OFF TO THE WARS.

Toronto, Jan. 4.—Lieut. E. R. Street, son of Mr. Justice Street, of the Superior Court of Ontario, is about to leave for India to become second lieutenant in the First Hampshire battalion, under Col. Moberley. The young officer is a graduate of Toronto University.

THE SOUDAN TROUBLE.

Paris, Jan. 5.—A letter from an officer of the Marchand expedition (last summer massacred) says the French force consists of twenty-three white men and five hundred Senegalese riflemen. Describing the hardships endured, the writer remarks: 'The native carriers give much trouble. We seized them forcibly, and they attempted to escape at every opportunity. We vainly shot or hanged those who were recaptured, but others continued to escape. We were obliged to enter villages and seize all the men and women. Sometimes the whole population fled. We then burned a few huts, which generally induced them to return. We seized the chief and compelled him to give up his slaves to carry our loads. This is the only way to deal with these brutes, whom we have seen quarrel for the bodies of their shot comrades for food.'

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SOUDAN.

Valetta, Island of Malta, Jan. 6.—Four members of the Council have cabled to the Marquis of Salisbury renewing their offer to assist in the military requirements of Egypt by raising a thousand Maltese for general military service.

London, Jan. 6.—A despatch from Aldershot says that Major-General William Forbes Gatacre has been ordered to Egypt to assume command of the British troops in the Soudan.

SITUATION IN PERSIA.

Berlin, Jan. 5.—Advices received here from Persia show that that country is on the brink of revolution. In the districts where Russian and British interests most conflict a dissolution of the central authority and the conversion of the provinces into independent states are anticipated. It is asserted that the new Shah's rule has reduced the country to desperate poverty. The immense treasure accumulated by Nasr-ed-Din, the present Shah's father, has been dissipated, and the inhabitants of the country are heavily taxed.

The inhabitants of the Province of Shiraz expelled the governor three months ago and established an independent triumvirate of priests, who addressed an ultimatum to the Shah accusing him of incompetence and demanding reforms that his father promised.

DEATH OF GEN. YEATMAN-BIGGS.

London, Jan. 6.—According to a special despatch from Peshawar, Major-General



THE LATE GENERAL YEATMAN-BIGGS.

Arthur Godolphin Yeatman-Biggs, in command of the second division of the Tirah expedition on the north-west frontier of India, died on Tuesday of dysentery. The news is confirmed from various sources. Major-General Yeatman-Biggs was a son of the late Harry Farr Yeatman, of Manston House, Dorset, and was born in 1843. He entered the army in 1860, became captain 1874, major in 1880, lieutenant-colonel in 1882, colonel in 1886, and major-general last year.

He served in China in 1862, during the South African war in 1879, and with the Egyptian expedition in 1882. In 1876 he assumed by royal licence the additional surname of Biggs. He was created a Companion of the Bath (Mil.) in 1891 and from 1895 had commanded the presidency

district of Bengal. Some of the most effective work of the British forces on the north-west frontier of India during the campaign against the rebellious tribesmen was done by the troops of the second division. The most brilliant exploit of the punitive expedition was the storming and recapture of Dargal Ridge on the Samana range by the Goorkhas and the Gordon Highlanders of the Yeatman-Biggs brigade last October.

Simla, Jan. 8.—General Sir Bindon Blood has made a good beginning in punishing the Runerwals for joining the Swatis in their attack on the Malakand Pass. Without serious resistance, he has captured the Tanga and Porsai passes. The Afridis have deserted the Khyber Pass.

DR. ZACHARIN DEAD.

WAS PHYSICIAN TO THE CZAR ALEXANDER III. OF RUSSIA.

Moscow, Jan. 5.—Dr. Zacharin, the famous physician of Czar Alexander III., is dead.

Dr. Zacharin was one of the most eccentric men in Russia and many funny stories are told of which he was the hero. He had an absolute confidence in himself and believed his diagnosis of any case to be infallible. A Russian country gentleman imagined, probably with some reason, that he had heart trouble, and



THE LATE DR. ZACHARIN.

went to Moscow to be examined by and to consult Dr. Zacharin. After the examination he asked what his chances for life were.

'You may live one year,' was the professor's verdict.

Almost a year later the patient called on Dr. Zacharin again.

'Don't you remember, professor? About a year ago you said I had only twelve months to live. I have gained thirty pounds since, and hope to live many a year to come.'

Dr. Zacharin's face was a study. 'Did I predict it?' he asked.

'Yes, right here, in this office.'

'How long is it since you were here?'

'Just eleven months.'

'Well, sir, that leaves you still thirty days. You shouldn't have troubled me. Prof. Zacharin never makes a mistake. You'll die within the time.'

Next morning the gentleman was found dead in his bed.

Dr. Zacharin was a man of quick, sharp wit, and always fertile in expedients. A few years ago he was appointed investigating physician in one of the lunatic asylums in the vicinity of Moscow. While making his rounds he was approached by one convalescent patient, who complained of the quality of the food, especially the soup, which, he said, was unfit for gentlemen. Dr. Zacharin, followed by the patient, started for the kitchen. As fate would have it, none of the attendants were present. Approaching the huge cauldron in which the soup was boiling, he lifted the lid, took a spoon, tasted the soup and found it excellent. However, to humor the patient, he said: 'You are right, sir; the soup is very bad. I shall see the steward and tell him to discharge the cook at once.'

As he started to leave the kitchen the patient, a giant in stature and strength, bent over the doctor and whispered teasingly in his ear: 'You know, doctor, you are such a wise looking fellow that you would make a delicious broth, besides improving its nourishing qualities; don't you think so yourself?' As he spoke he seized him by the shoulders to hurl him into the boiling liquor. Quick as a flash, and with the utmost composure, the doctor exclaimed: 'What a capital idea! Why, sir, I couldn't think of anything better. But I fear that my clothes, which, as you know, are saturated with medicines, will spoil the flavor of the soup. Just let me go for a second to take them off.' To prove his sincerity the doctor began to unbutton his coat. The crazy man seemed to recognize that it was a reasonable request, and with a hearty laugh let the doctor go. Two minutes later the soup improver was confined in a cell.

A HYPOCRITICAL INFIDEL.

New York, Jan. 5.—One of the most remarkable wills ever filed in the office of the surrogate is that of Henry Morehouse Taber, offered for probate yesterday. In spite of the fact that Mr. Taber was president and treasurer of the board of trustees of the First Presbyterian Church, in the opening clauses of his will he denounces all religion as sham and as having its origin in superstition. He requests that no services be held over his body and that it be cremated. Taber died on Christmas Eve, at the age of seventy-three years. Children survive the testator and to them the entire estate valued at over a million dollars, is given absolutely.

SPAIN IS ADMITTED.

Ottawa, Jan. 6.—Spain, under Imperial treaty with the most favored nation clause, has been admitted to the advantages of Canada's preferential tariff.

DURANT EXECUTED.

He Died Protesting His Innocence.

San Francisco, Jan. 7.—Theodore Durant, the San Francisco murderer was executed at 10.35 this morning. His last words were, 'I am innocent.' Previous to being led out to the scaffold he was received into the Roman Catholic faith by the Rev. Father Lagan, who administered extreme unction.

William Henry Theodore Durant, who was executed at the State Prison, at San Quentin to-day was the murderer of two young women who were members of the church to which he belonged. While Durant was convicted of but one murder under the law, he was held responsible by public opinion for the murder of both Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams, and it is felt that his death expiates one crime as much as the other.

Durant's crimes were peculiar in their atrocity, from any point of view. He was reared in a Christian home, and until the time of his arrest was regarded as a model young man of industrious habits, who was trying to work his way through a medical college. The only characteristic that seemed marked in his nature was his piety. He had been a prominent member of the Emanuel Baptist Church for several years, and for a year previous to his arrest had been assistant superintendent of the Sunday-school. In this capacity he made the acquaintance of Blanche Lamont and of Minnie Williams.

Blanche Lamont disappeared on April 3, 1895, and was never seen alive afterwards. She left the home of her aunt, Mrs. C. C. Noble, on that day to go to school, and for ten days no trace of her could be found. Many members of Emanuel Church assisted in the search for the missing girl, and among others was Theodore Durant, who had often acted as Miss Lamont's escort. He seemed greatly distressed on account of Miss Lamont's disappearance, and at length expressed the belief that she had joined the ranks of fallen women. This theory seemed plausible to the police, and a search was made among the places where it was believed the missing girl might be found. Durant assisted in the inquiry, which came to naught.

Ten days had passed since Miss Lamont disappeared, and her friends had almost given up hope of ever knowing her fate, when a discovery was made which led to the finding of Miss Lamont's body. The ladies of Emanuel Church were engaged in decorating the edifice preparatory to the celebration of the Easter Sunday services, when the mangled body of Minnie Williams was found in the library. A number of ugly knife wounds and some rags that had been forced down the young woman's throat told of the unequal struggle she had made to protect her life.

Miss Williams's body was discovered in the afternoon, and late the same night the first clue to the murderer was obtained. From some of the young woman's friends it was learned that she had been seen the evening before with Durant, and although there was nothing else to show that he had any connection with the crime, the police decided to arrest him. Durant's home was visited late at night, but he was not there. His parents said that he had left shortly before midnight with the signal corps of the National Guard, to which he belonged, to make some heliographing experiments at Mount Diablo. The next train carried two detectives toward the mountain, and after completing their journey by stage, Durant was found late in the afternoon and arrested.

While these events were taking place on Mount Diablo, sixty miles away, a discovery had been made in this city which filled the streets with men and women crying for vengeance. From the first the police associated the finding of Miss Williams's body with the disappearance of Miss Lamont, and a search was at once begun in the church for her body. Men worked all night tearing up floors and breaking down partitions, and at ten o'clock on Sunday morning the body of Miss Lamont was found. A broken door knob and a turned bolt excited the suspicions of the searchers, and the door leading to the belfry of the church was broken down. Up the winding stairs the policemen groped their way, and at the third landing lying in the corner of the darkened belfry, the body of the murdered girl was found. No knife had been used to commit the crime, as was the case in the murder of Miss Williams, but the imprint of five fingers buried in her throat revealed the manner in which the young woman met her death.

When Durant was brought to San Francisco, such was the rage of the people that it was feared he would be lynched. Thousands of men gathered around the station. The police were prepared for an outbreak, however, and two companies of armed men were present. Durant was placed in a closed carriage surrounded by fifty men armed with Winchester, and driven to the city prison. He loudly protested his innocence, as he did to the hour of his death, but the evidence against him accumulated rapidly, and on April 21 an information was filed against him by District-Attorney Barnes, charging him with the murder of Blanche Lamont.

The trial, which began on July 22, and lasted until Nov. 1, was one of the most celebrated in criminal jurisprudence. Nearly one thousand two hundred witnesses were examined before a jury was secured, and six weeks passed before the taking of testimony was begun. The

evidence throughout was circumstantial, but when taken together formed a chain so strong as to admit of no reasonable doubt.

The case was submitted to the jury on the afternoon of Nov. 1, 1895, after having been on trial over three months. Twenty-minutes after they left the courtroom the jurors returned and rendered a verdict of guilty in the first degree.

Judge Murphy, a few days later, sentenced Durant to be executed on Feb. 1, 1896.

Then began a fight for delay, vigorously maintained for almost three years, not even ceasing with the execution of the death sentence. Appeals were taken to every court in the state, exceptions were taken to judges' decisions on technical points, writs of habeas corpus were asked for and in fact every possible thing that the smartest and shrewdest lawyers in California could think of was done to stave off the fatal day. When, at last, it was seen by the condemned man's friends that nothing could be done through the courts, an appeal for clemency was made to Governor Budd. This, however, was refused, and the sheriff was ordered to carry out the verdict of the Court rendered two years and nine months ago.

Durant was never tried for the murder of Miss Williams, but the evidence of his guilt was as conclusive as in the Lamont case.

The theory of the prosecution has always been that Durant murdered Miss Williams to conceal the murder of Miss Lamont. The two young women were acquaintances and Durant suspected that Miss Williams believed he knew something about the disappearance of Miss Lamont.

Greenfield, Mass., Jan. 7.—John O'Neil, jr., was executed in the jail yard here this morning. The crime for which O'Neil paid the penalty to-day was the murder of Mrs. Hattie Evelyn McCloud, a young widow, of Shelburne Falls, on the night of Jan. 8, 1897.

TREATMENT OF AN EVIL.

Kingston, Ont., Jan. 5.—The Queen's University 'Journal' contains the following, which sounds much like Principal Grant's opinion of his temperance crisis:

'It is not our intention to add anything, one way or the other, to the controversy that is now going on, re the subject of prohibition on the basis of the letters of Principal Grant to the 'Globe,' but the kind of criticism employed by those who take exception to the principal's position, as outlined in these letters, is worthy of note. It is assumed by almost all these critics that prohibition is the one and only means of dealing with the liquor traffic. Their criticisms plainly show that they believe that there are only two positions which any one can take, either he is in favor of prohibition, or else he is in favor of the liquor traffic, and supporting the liquor interests. That this is not the only alternative would seem to be a truth almost too obvious to be stated. Surely the question is wider than that, for if not, why argue further, if there is but one side to the question? If prohibition were the only remedy and the only means of controlling the passion for intoxicants, there would be some good ground for identifying prohibition with temperance. But to assume that prohibition is the only remedy is simply begging the question. It is to assume the very point that is required to be proved. Surely men may differ as to the method of treating a social evil without the advocates of one system calling in question the sincerity of the motives of all who differ from them, just as two physicians may diagnose the same case and each adopt a different line of treatment, each convinced that his treatment is in accordance with a right diagnosis of the case. It would manifestly be unfair for one to charge that the other was seeking to aid the disease, instead of preventing it, simply because his method of treatment was different. Yet, this is precisely the attitude taken by many clergymen from whom better things might be expected. Prohibition has too strong a case to require any illiberal treatment of opponents. Its true strength will be shown by fair comparison with other methods of dealing with the liquor problem.'

ONTARIO FORESTS.

Toronto, Jan. 5.—The report of the Commission on the Preservation of the Ontario Forests has handed in a descriptive report urging greater care in the demolition of the timber. The commissioners recommended: That the present system of fire-rangings be made compulsory with all holders of timber berths.

That the officials of the Hudson's Bay Company be asked to co-operate with the government in preparing and printing fire proclamations in the language of the Indians of the northern districts to be posted along the canoe routes throughout the territory.

That for all unworked limits on which the ground rent shall be in default on the termination of the present license year the license shall not be renewed, but that the berths be held by the Crown as forest reserves.

That license-holders be not allowed to cut any trees for logs smaller than will measure twelve inches across the stump two feet from the ground, unless under special forest conditions with the sanction and under the supervision of the district forest ranger.

That the government take power by order-in-council to withdraw from sale or allocation and set aside to be kept in permanent Crown forest reserves such areas of territory as are generally unsuitable for settlement and yet valuable for growing timber.

CHINA'S POSITION.

Germans and Their Demands for Chinese Territory.

PIECE OF RUSSIAN TRICKERY.

London, Jan. 3.—The Shanghai correspondent of the 'Daily Mail' says:—The Russians tricked China into consenting to an occupation of Port Arthur by representing that the British fleet were coming to capture it. They also asked the Chinese to prohibit the English from landing. The latter request was refused, but any Englishman going ashore at Port Arthur is shadowed by the Russians.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 3.—The 'Novosti' publishes an article strongly urging a Russo-Japanese alliance as the best means of guaranteeing their mutual interests and the maintenance of the political equilibrium. It is understood this view is favored in Russian official circles, in which it is felt that a Russo-Japanese alliance would contribute to avert serious complications in the Far East.

London, Jan. 4.—The 'Evening News' says it is reported in the city that the negotiations for a Chinese loan of £16,000,000 guaranteed by the British Government are practically concluded.

BRITAIN'S STRONG HAND.

London, Jan. 5.—Special despatches from Shanghai to-day say that Mr. J. McLeavy Brown, the British Korean customs agent at Seoul, maintains a firm hold on his position, and that M. Alexieff, the Russian agent, who has been endeavoring to supplant the Englishman, has been unable to obtain control of the finances, owing to the fact that all the funds are vested in Mr. Brown's name.



MR. J. McLEAVY BROWN.

in the Hong Kong Bank at Shanghai, which institution honors Mr. Brown's signature only.

London, Jan. 6.—A despatch to the 'Times' from Peking, dated yesterday (Wednesday) says that Germany has taken a lease of Kiao-Chau for fifty years. It says also reports are current there that a French occupation of Hainan Island is imminent.

London, Jan. 6.—It is learned on excellent authority that in the event of Great Britain guaranteeing the new Chinese loan, the concessions required will take the form of insisting upon the opening of new treaty ports, open to all nations alike.

The financial article of the 'Globe' says it is reported on the Stock Exchange that the British Government has arranged to guarantee the Chinese loan of £16,000,000 at three percent, the price of issue to be 110.

Peking, Jan. 5.—The Kiao-Chau difficulty was settled yesterday at a conference of the Tsung-Li-Yamun (Chinese Foreign Office), which made the necessary concessions.

London, Jan. 5.—There is a general feeling in England, and it is reflected on the Stock Exchange, that the situation in the far East is improving. It is believed the proposed Chinese loan of £16,000,000 (\$80,000,000), will be guaranteed by the British Government, although the final decision is not likely to be reached until the meeting of the cabinet on Monday next.

The 'Pall Mall Gazette,' this afternoon refers to the 'ascendancy of money over the mailed fist,' and says:—'Great Britain's vessels are anchored off Chemulpo and at Port Arthur. This is quietly implying that Great Britain will have a voice in the future arrangements. Further, the latest telegrams clearly indicate she has plenty of friends.'

Continuing, the 'Pall Mall Gazette' remarks: 'Aside from the Japanese, nations like the United States, whose interests are purely commercial, are well disposed towards our government, and are opposed to trade exclusiveness.'

London, Jan. 7.—The Hong Kong correspondent of the 'Daily Chronicle' says: 'The Russian occupation of Port Arthur completely blocks the entrance to Peking, and it is imperative that the court should be transferred to Nankin (the southern capital).'

Berlin, Jan. 7.—The German press is indulging in a tone of extravagant self-satisfaction over the success of German diplomacy in China. The fact that the Emperor William personally conferred the Order of the Red Eagle upon Baron Von Bulow, the German foreign minister, for his share in the affair, indicates that the emperor is delighted with the outcome of his policy.

The newspapers, with the exception of

the 'Vossische Zeitung,' are full of sneering remarks at Great Britain's expense. The 'Vossische Zeitung,' however, points out that there is plenty of room for everybody, and even suggests that the time has arrived for a 'better understanding between England and Germany.'

Vienna, Jan. 7.—The 'Deutsche Zeitung,' echoing German feeling, says:—'England has suffered a crushing defeat, but there is no fear of war. The British lion roars, but he does not bite. All civilized nations ought to be grateful to the Emperor William for having destroyed the myth of Great Britain's universal domination.'

Pekin, Jan. 8.—The Chinese universally resent the government's concessions to Germany.

PRINCESS BEATRICE.

Her Volume Published in Darmstadt.

(New York 'World'.)

London, Jan. 4.—The publishing house of Johannes Witz, of Darmstadt, has just issued a superb volume of one hundred pages, bound in white vellum, and with a deep black border, entitled: 'Comfort in Sorrow; the Fruits of a Mourner's Reading. From the English, By De B.'

It is Princess Beatrice of Battenberg's book, and consists of a preface and forty-five chapters.

It begins with the motto: 'A little while our time of waiting lasts, and then our work in this world is complete.'

The preface is signed by a German clergyman, Herr G. Vogel, who has been requested to explain that the thoughts and aphorisms of this book are translated by the authoress from the English.

The Princess Beatrice begins the first chapter thus: 'Death has touched with his hand and taken away a beloved one whom it was hard to give up. But you do not know the thousandth part of the reasons why this had to be. Where do they now abide who have been removed from our eyes? What are they doing? Was not the beloved one God's own from the beginning? May we not think that the Lord had need of him?'

'When a loved one disappears from our gaze it is wonderful how death gradually takes a more beautiful form, how the unknown world appears ever more familiar to us, and the goodness of God greater than ever before. . . . We say death reads asunder a family or friendly circle, but this is not so. The circle is not complete until some of its members are missed.'

In the tenth chapter the Princess says: 'If this had not happened we could better bear this misfortune. Oh! how often similar thoughts poison grief, make it harder to bear. There is nothing more unchristian than to meditate upon such useless things, because it is overlooking the Author of our lives, who doeth all things well.'

The Princess pens some fine thoughts like these: 'If God encircles us with darkness let us abide therein. In vain is it we seek to illuminate darkness with candles. It must remain dark. Perhaps we may discover then new beauties in the stars.'

'Do they pray in Paradise? Can we doubt it? As long as the spirit dwelt in the flesh it was quite taken up with prayer, and its power was its joy and support. It will pray again when once reunited with the body in the new, everlasting life. Shall it therefore only abstain during the state between death and the resurrection? If the soul lives on it must surely be able to pray.'

Discussing whether we may beg saints to pray for us in Paradise, the Princess says: 'We do not dare go so far that it would mean worshipping them; that is due to God alone. We dare not address prayers to any creature, even if we know that spirits departed could hear us. And we have no right to endow them with divine knowledge. We dare not ask their prayers.'

The Princess reasons that the saints in paradise are to us as grown-up people are to children. 'They are in the big people's rooms; we are only in the nursery and the school-room. They do not understand all perhaps, but we may believe they delight in watching every step we make forward toward the last great triumph. How they must smile sometimes over our blindness.'

LIFE LIKENED TO A TROUBLED SEA.

Life is spoken of by the Princess as 'a troubled sea. But all this is not dark to him who believes, for the Star of Bethlehem shines over him and leads him on to safety. But this star does not always shine with equal brilliancy, so we may feel its value all the more. The Lord lets his children wander alone sometimes so they may learn to love him all the more. One thing is certain, a ship with Christ on board must at least reach the happy shore.'

Reflecting on the purpose of pain the Princess writes:—'Turn your thoughts to the Saviour. Is he not full of sympathy and tenderness for us? And yet he looks upon all grief and misfortune without putting an end to it. He feels our suffering and yet he enjoys perfect peace. May it not be so with our dear ones? It may be that they seek light where to all is darkness, that they feel joy where we feel grief, that they smile where we weep.'

The book is written throughout in the impersonal style, does not contain a single autobiographical allusion, but displays deep tenderness of feeling and sublime religious belief.

CANADA'S GOLD.

THE HON. MR. SIFTON ON KLONDIKE RELIEF.

Ottawa, Jan. 3.—The Hon. C. Sifton, Minister of the Interior, who returned from Washington on Saturday is pleased at the cordial manner in which he was received by the members of the United States Government. The arrangement for the relief expedition, which the United States Government is organizing, is that on Feb. 1 a train of a hundred or a hundred and fifty horses and mules will be started from Skaguay over the White Pass for Dawson with about thirty tons of provisions. Mr. Sifton agreed to furnish fifty Mounted Police as an escort through Canadian territory. The United States Government has also made a contract to pay a man named Boyle twenty-five cents a pound for any provisions he may carry to Dawson by means of an ice locomotive.

MR. OGILVIE'S BOOK.

The Department of the Interior has entrusted the work of publishing Mr. Ogilvie's forthcoming work on the Yukon to Messrs. Hunter, Rose & Co., Toronto, who are to have the privilege of selling for fifty cents a copy all over ten thousand which the department is to receive.

DAWSON'S FOOD CONDITION.

Ottawa, Jan. 5.—A letter from Mr. Constantine, superintendent at Dawson, dated Nov. 30, states that there are about thirty-five hundred people in the district, and advises food to be sent in the spring by way of the passes.

Ottawa, Jan. 6.—Private advices received from the Yukon territory throw some light on the condition of things at the passes and at Dawson City. As stated in this correspondence some days ago, the reports as to the shortage of the food supply at Dawson are contradictory, some of those who have just arrived from there, like 'Joe' Kastner, of Helena, declaring that there is no danger of famine if due precautions are taken, and others, like John Lindsay, declaring that want already exists at Dawson and that unless assistance is rendered before the winter is over hunger will be felt. Mr. Lindsay and his party left Dawson on Nov. 2. Each carried about a hundred and twenty-five pounds on sleds. They made their way up along the shore on the ice as far as the Pelly River. On Nov. 17 the Yukon and Pelly froze over, the ice gorged and destroyed the shore ice and at Fort Selkirk the sleds were abandoned and the men, taking eighty-five pounds each on their backs reached Lake Labarge on Dec. 6. Here Mr. Lindsay left his companions and pushed through to Skaguay. R. A. Gwinn, of Seattle, left Dawson on the same day as Mr. Lindsay but he does not agree with him on the question of starvation. He says nevertheless that there is a shortage of food and that unless supplies reach there people will have to be put on rations, and that the scarcity of candles will reduce the gold output this winter materially.

Three other men named Ballaine, Bradley and Holland, say that they find more alarm outside concerning the Dawson people than is felt by the residents of that place. They too, however, say that there is no food to be bought in Dawson but that the exodus of a large number to Fort Yukon has relieved the situation. They all agree that at the best many miners will be forced to subsist on short rations before the supply boats reach Dawson this summer.

FIRST CHURCH DEDICATED.

Your correspondent learns by private letters from Skaguay of the dedication of the Union Church, erected there through the efforts of the Rev. K. M. Dickey, the young Presbyterian pastor sent to the Yukon by the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions, who left Vancouver on Oct. 2 and who found Skaguay a large community without any religious instruction. The dedication of the church took place on Sunday, Dec. 12, Mr. Dickey conducting all the services. In the morning communion was celebrated, thirty-two communicants participating. The people of Skaguay rallied to the support of Mr. Dickey in such an energetic and earnest way that it was evident that many of them were hungering for religious ministrations. A lot was purchased on McKinney avenue and a considerable part of the labor required to build was cheerfully contributed. When the congregation assembled on that Sunday morning Mr. Dickey had the pleasure of knowing that the church building of this his first charge had been constructed without incurring a dollar of debt. The building is twenty-four by forty, Gothic in design and will comfortably seat two hundred and fifty people. In course of time it is hoped to put in a ceiling and to otherwise improve the appearance of the interior. Six trustees representing various Christian denominations were elected to take charge of the temporal affairs of the church, namely: Messrs. F. A. Wise, Episcopal; J. E. Floyd, Methodist; C. A. Broomfield, Presbyterian; R. K. Latimer, Baptist; H. Lombard, Congregational, and John Davis, Native Christian. Mr. Dickey will always be able in future to recall with pride the fact that the various divisions of the Protestant Church united to worship God under one roof and under one Christian pastor.

Toronto, Jan. 7. — The 'Globe' publishes to-day a letter from its correspondent, with Major Walsh's party, dated Little Salmon River, Dec. 7, which says: The advance party of the Government administrative expedition into the Yukon, under Major Walsh, is still in camp at the junction of the Lewis and Little Salmon Rivers. I told you in a former letter that Major Walsh, with fifteen men, had reached a point on the Lewis River, twenty-four miles from here, but owing to the great quantity of ice run-

ning in the river, was unable to proceed further with his boats, without exposing them to be crushed. Since then he has returned to the Big Salmon, thirty-four miles from here; where he is now building and establishing a post. He has sent some of his men, in charge of Captain Norwood, back to the Hootalingua, thirty-three miles further up the Lewis, to establish another post. There is a post at the foot of Lake Laberge, thirty miles above the Hootalingua; one at White Horse Rapids, fifty-eight miles further up; one at Lake Tagish, fifty-two miles above; and one at the foot of Lake Bennett, thirty-five miles from Tagish, twenty-eight from Dyea. These are intended to enable the government to maintain connection along this route with Dawson. They will be used as mail posts, when a regular winter mail service is established.

At the Hootalingua and Big and Little Salmon Rivers, many prospectors are camped this winter, and as these points are all in the gold belt, there will probably be a considerable addition to their numbers in the spring, and the presence of police will be necessary for the preservation of order. These posts are already proving of great assistance to those now streaming out to escape the threatened famine in Dawson. As our post is near the shore these weary wayfarers all stop here—if about midday, to cook their dinner, if in the evening, to camp in our vicinity, and get news as to the position of the various government posts along the way. Of late no day passes that we do not see two or more of these men, and one day no less than eight called. Many of these had abandoned their sleds a short distance before reaching here, and were packing on their backs a blanket, an axe and frying pan, and provisions to make up from forty to fifty pounds each, on which they hoped to subsist until reaching tidewater, nearly three hundred miles away. More recent arrivals have kept their sleds, some drawn by themselves, and some by dogs.

All reports from Dawson agree as to the scarcity of provisions and the abundance of gold. One man, Charles Jenkins, an ex-constable of the North-West Mounted Police, is on his way out with \$168,000 in his pocket. Many of the men coming out own mines, and all declare their intention of returning in the spring with a full supply of the necessaries of life.

OFFICIAL NEWS FROM DAWSON. Ottawa, Jan. 8.—Two important official communications were received yesterday concerning the Yukon, one of them being a letter from the Superintendent of Canadian Police and the Sheriff of the territory at Dawson, and the other a telegraphic report from Superintendent Perry, who arrived yesterday at Victoria, bringing Dawson news up to Dec. 7.—Mr. Perry went up to Skaguay a few weeks ago with thirty of the mounted police and several tons of supplies. His report reads, in part, as follows:—

Returned to-day. The latest news from Dawson is of date Dec. 7. Fifty persons from Dawson came down on our steamer. All are agreed that there is no danger of starvation but that there will be a shortage of food in April or May. They agree that it will be utterly impossible to forward supplies before the river opens. The only course is, therefore, to notify Dawson that supplies will be found at Big Salmon, which would encourage many to come out from Dawson. Dr. Wills intended starting on Jan. 10. There are fifty men on the trail and seventy more intended coming when the men on board our steamer left Dawson.

THE RUSH TO SKAGUAY. Skaguay, Jan. 2, via Seattle, Wash., Jan. 8.—Captain Wood, in command of the detachment of the North-West mounted police, in the district which extends from the White Pass summit to Lake Tagish, warns all persons en route to the Klondike that they will not be permitted to pass Tagish House unless each person has at least six hundred pounds of provisions. William Byrne, of Chicago, lies in a cabin on the Lewis river with both feet amputated. Byrne and his uncle, James E. Maguire, also of Chicago, were making their way up the river from Dawson, and on Dec. 5, Byrne, who is only eighteen years of age, had both feet frozen. The men continued their journey for five days. The boy suffered horribly and the flesh began to drop from the frozen feet. Still they forged ahead with the bones protruding from Byrne's feet until Lewis river was reached, and the boy placed in a cabin where he could receive some care. It was found necessary to amputate both feet near the knee. A doctor who happened to be in the Lewis camp performed the operation. Maguire, the uncle of Byrne, reached Skaguay in a dying condition, having been seized with quick consumption on the way up. He will probably live long enough to reach his home in Chicago.

Building operations are being pushed night and day. Some of the buildings are to be used as hotels and lodging houses, more are dance halls, variety theatres and saloons. Each incoming steamer brings hundreds of people. It is almost impossible for people to secure hotel or lodging house accommodations. The restaurants, saloons and gambling houses are thronged day and night, while general business is good. Tents are being put up wherever an available site can be found, generally in the street.

Mr. W. B. Sampson, the first postmaster of Skaguay, took charge of his office yesterday.

The first public school will open tomorrow in the new church building.

EARTHQUAKE AT MALONE. Malone, N.Y., Jan. 7.—Quite a severe earthquake shock was felt in Malone at twenty minutes past one this afternoon. Buildings trembled so that occupants were startled. No damage was done.

LONDON'S WOE.

Cause of the Disaster—The Loss of Life.

London, Ont., Jan. 4.—The awful horror of last night is the sole topic of conversation in the city.

CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT.

Mr. Graydon, city engineer, states that the cause of the accident was the breaking of the heavy beam which runs beneath the floor almost at the centre of the space which gave way. This beam was composed of twelve, three by four-inch timbers, securely jointed together. There was a span of eighteen feet, and the beam broke in the centre, rolling all the people standing in this space into one mass. The engineer stated that supports of this part of the floor were not taken away in making recent alterations. The wall where this joint ran was taken out in 1888. The engineer did not consider the hall dangerous, and says that the tremendous dead weight simply caused the beam to snap.

THE CORONER'S INQUEST.

Chief Constable Williams, with the view of expediting the removal of some of the bodies, called upon Dr. J. R. Flock to hold an inquest, and he had the requisite number of citizens summoned to meet at three o'clock this afternoon to enquire into the cause of the terrible catastrophe.

The list of killed previously announced to-day is increased by four more names, viz.: John Fellowes, Allan Lowe, John Burgess and Wilson Carrothers.

LIST OF THE INJURED.

The injured include the following:—Moses Mines, Hill and Waterloo street,

side of the head with a beam and he also had his kneecap broken; Charles Garrett, a son of ex-Ald. Garrett, badly hurt; Roy McKay, son of the late Hugh McKay, two ribs broken; Thomas Robinson, Hill street, head cut and bruised; Albert Joyce, 316 Grey street, chest crushed; Wm. Stone, St. James street, internal injuries; Ed. Marshall, 832 Queen's avenue, right arm broken, head cut; John Thompson, 943 Colborne street, head cut; Wm. McKenzie, G. T. R., bone in left arm broken; Wm. Fox, teamster, Hamilton road, head cut and hurt internally; Joseph Murray, 72 Mount Pleasant street, head cut and hurt internally; Frederick Mountjoy, Clark's Bridge, badly bruised, not serious; Richard Graham, 342 Burwell, leg bruised; D. C. McNaughton, 320 Dufferin avenue, left leg broken; John Bartlett, 370 Grey, legs bruised, back hurt; D. Sweeney, 293 South street, left arm and ribs broken; Henry MacKinn, Talbot street, hurt about head and face; Wm. Ellwood, 742 Richmond street, chest hurt; Chas. Kidner, Morkin House, right leg sprained and back hurt; John McFadden, G. T. R. engineer, head cut, but walked home; Maurice Baldwin, contractor, Queen's avenue, leg and arm broken; E. L. McBride, 167 Hamilton road, head hurt; Ed. Clark, twenty years, 268 Mill street, not badly hurt; Geo. McNeil, jr., head cut; Samuel Turner, Ridout street, slightly injured; — Essery, youngest son of E. T. Essery, slightly hurt; John C. Dewar, son of J. S. Dewar, knee bruised and face bruised slightly; Ald. N. Cooper, bruised about head and hurt internally; John Romgold, of W. J. Reed & Co., seriously injured about the head; Frederick Ward, painter, G. T. R. carshops, received injuries to both legs and his head; James Susex, fourteen years old, son of John Susex, 12 York street, sustained injuries to his head and spine; Ald. R. A. Corrothers, of No. 3 Ward, slightly hurt; Jcs. C. Judd, water commissioner, cut on forehead and badly

passengers found a more or less horrible death by being drowned or crushed beneath broken timbers and heavy machinery. The exact number of the victims cannot be stated, but there were a hundred and eighty-two interments in the local cemeteries and several bodies were removed for burial elsewhere. It is probably no over-estimate to say that two hundred people lost their lives in this memorable disaster.

THE FUNERALS.

London, Jan. 7.—Yesterday was a never-to-be-forgotten day for funerals. There was scarcely an hour from seven o'clock until five that hearses were not passing along the streets heading toward the cemeteries and it proved a vivid reminder of the experience through which the city passed after the 'Victoria' disaster, in 1881, and the London west flood, in 1885. Long lines of sorrowing friends and citizens in vehicles and on foot followed the coffins, and the services in each case were simple, but deeply impressive. There was one exception to this rule. It was that of the late Stephen Williams, who was buried by the city, the funeral taking place from the City Hospital. The unfortunate man appears to have had no friends, at least no one claimed the body. In consequence Mayor Little attended as chief mourner.

CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT.

London, Ont., Jan. 8.—The inquest in connection with the death of Edward Luxton, of Centralia, Ont., one of the victims of the City Hall disaster on Monday night, Jan. 3, was resumed yesterday afternoon. Mr. James Magee, Q.C., represented the Crown, and Mr. C. Meredith the Corporation. The first witness, Mr. Henry Frank Wheeler, said he stood near the door, about ten feet from the platform. The floor in front of him suddenly gave way, leaving him about an inch from the gap. So far as he could judge, the platform did not break. The only noise was that caused by the falling of the floor and people. Witness saw no extraordinary movement just before the crash, neither did he see any breaking of seats.

The city clerk said that no complaint had been made to him regarding the City Hall during his term of office, nor had any report, to his knowledge, ever been made to the City Council or to any city officials since concerning the condition of the hall. The engineer's office, above which the floor gave way, had been so occupied for two years, previous to which it was used as a barber shop. Some time ago a brick partition was taken out of the shop.

The next witness was Thomas Tracy, barber, who was a former occupant of the city engineer's office when it was leased as a barber shop. When he took possession a brick partition was removed to oblige him, and the fatal beam took its place. The wall was taken down by a contractor acting under the instructions of Col. Tracy, the then city engineer. Henry Merritt, janitor of the City Hall, testified to the removal in 1888 of the brick support under the flooring which fell and the substitution of the fatal cross beam which broke on the night of the accident. On the opposite side of the City Hall, in the city treasurer's office, there is a beam corresponding to that which broke, but it is supported by an iron pillar.

Mayor Little said that during his three years' term in office he had heard no complaints of the City Hall's condition. The matter had never been discussed in council. Witness had never questioned the hall's safety.

THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE.

Ottawa, Jan. 6.—Tuesday forenoon the Governor-General sent a telegram expressing his own and Lady Aberdeen's concern and distress regarding the London calamity, and their deep sympathy with the sufferers. Yesterday the following further telegrams were sent from Government House:—

'To His Worship the Mayor, London, Ont.:

I have just received telegram from Right Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, asking me to convey the expression of his deep sympathy with the sufferers from the disaster at London. Kindly make this known. We would also ask if the injured are progressing as well as can be hoped for.

(Signed) ABERDEEN, Governor-General.

'To His Worship the Mayor, London, Ont.:

I have just received a second cablegram from Mr. Secretary of State Chamberlain, sent by desire of the Queen, to express Her Majesty's deep regret at the sad accident at London, and her sincere condolence with the sufferers and families of those who have lost lives.

(signed) ABERDEEN, Governor-General.

His Excellency also telegraphed the substance of the latter message to Major Beattie, M.P., for London.

His Excellency received during the evening the following:—

'To His Excellency the Governor-General:

Please express to Secretary of State my sincere thanks for his kind enquiry. Deaths number twenty. Injured progressing favorably. Expect few if any more deaths.

(Signed) J. W. LITTLE, Mayor.

The Earl and Countess of Derby, the Mayors of Toronto and Montreal and others have also sent messages of sympathy.

TWENTY-FIRST VICTIM.

London, Ont., Jan. 9.—The list of dead by Monday's accident at the City Hall was increased to twenty-one this morning by the death of Sydney Clendenning. There are a number of others still in a critical condition.

GOLD IN LABRADOR.

Halifax, N.S., Jan. 4.—The 'Echo' says: Not long ago, representatives of a company visited Labrador for the purpose of making arrangements to erect saw mills at various points and engage extensively in the lumber business. It is said that the project will not be carried out on so large a scale as was at first contemplated, but it is possible that in another way the visit to the country may be productive of much more important results than developing the wealth of its forests. Some of those who visited Labrador state that they have reason to believe it contains deposits of gold of great richness and is destined to become a great mining country. There is evidence that gold exists in quantities that are equalled only by the deposits of the Klondike, in fact it is asserted that the deposits in Labrador are on the same range as those on the Klondike. Those in the secret are arranging an expedition to the country. They propose to spend two or three months prospecting and then to take up a large number of claims in the most promising sections before the rush which they say will inevitably take place sooner or later. Preliminary arrangements for this expedition, which is to start in the spring, have already been made. If the hopes of the promoters are realized it is possible that a 'Klondike' may arise in the east that may eclipse that in the west.

ALLISON'S SHOCKING CRIME.

Berlin, Ont., Jan. 7.—James Allison, who is confined in jail here under sentence of death for the murder of Mrs. Anthony Orr, the wife of a farmer near Galt, for whom Allison worked, on Aug. 9, has confessed. The confession was made to the jail authorities as follows: 'I never at any time made any improper proposals to Mrs. Orr. I had made up my mind to get even with the Orrs for things they said and did to me. That morning I got mad because they would not let me go to Niagara Falls. After breakfast I left my loaded gun in the woodshed. I did some chores. Mrs. Orr was milking about twenty feet from the woodshed. I went into it and fired at her through the door. She fell off her seat, and never moved again. An axe lay near her. I took it, and struck her on the head with it. I had the grave in the swamp ready some days before, but it was too far off, so in a hurry I made the grave in the corn patch and dragged her to it by the hands and buried her. I hid the gun and raked up the tracks with the fork after I got back from Barrie's.

This is the truth, so help me God.' (Signed) JAMES ALLISON.

Allison is to be executed on Feb. 4.

SUMMARY.

The nephew of the King of the Belgians and heir presumptive to King Leopold's throne, Prince Albert by name, is expected to visit the United States and Canada shortly.

General Booth of the Salvation Army is due in New York at the end of the week. He comes to America to further the work of the Salvation Army in the industrial department.

Dangerous counterfeiters of United States one-hundred-dollar silver certificates have appeared, which caused an order that has since been issued from the United States Treasury for the retirement of all one-hundred-dollar certificates.

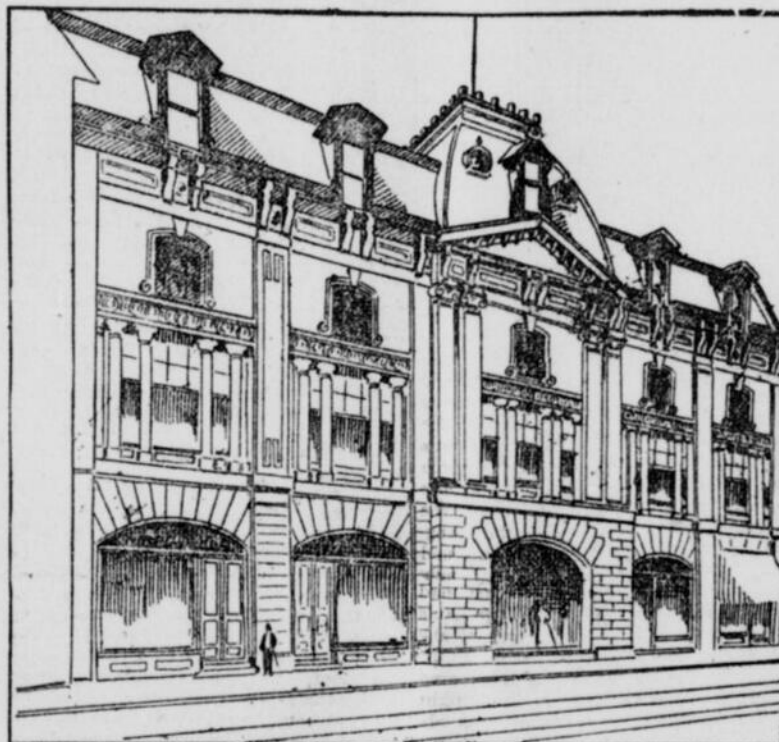
Lumpy jaw, a cattle disease, exists in Essex County, Ont., and the authorities are endeavoring, they say, to prevent farmers selling afflicted cattle to butchers. One man was summoned for having already sold diseased cattle, and the authorities are on the watch for others.

Anna Russel, a white girl who was stolen by Indians from Montana fifteen years ago, has been rescued from them by the superintendent of the Children's Home at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, who brought her to Sioux Falls. She was taken when a baby by Sitting Bull's band.

Negotiations are on foot for a conference between the Imperial, Canadian and other colonial authorities, and until this has settled the rate of postage which Canada desires to reduce to three cents per ounce, the old rate of five cents for half an ounce, or fraction thereof, will remain in force.

A bill to tax department stores having been introduced in the Ontario Legislature by Mr. Middleton on Thursday, it was severely criticized by Mr. Haycock, the Patron leader, who held that if departments of a store trading in more than three lines were to be taxed even a country store could not exist. He opposed the bill on the ground that country stores must contain divided assortments.

The United States authorities have placed an embargo on sealskins other than those that have the Pribyloff Island stamp upon them. All sealskins entering United States ports, whether worn as raiment or in the raw state, are to be detained whether made and originally purchased in the United States or not. A consular certificate from the resident's home must accompany the tourist's sealskins, otherwise they will be seized.



THE CITY HALL, LONDON, ONT.

both legs injured and arm broken; Albert Joyce, chest crushed in; John Arbuckle, badly shaken up; Michael Morkin, George street, arm badly fractured; Bert Stringer, Elmwood avenue, face cut, escaped by hanging on the wall where the floor broke off; Ed. Lee, of the Inland Revenue, Wolf street, had one of his legs sprained; Wm. Gray, King street, was also a sufferer, but his injuries are reported not of a serious nature; Ald. Winnett was badly shaken up, but beyond the nervous shock not injured materially; Frederick Lyons, son of William Lyons, teamster, Oxford street; a man named McKeown; James Haynes; J. Smith, an ex-street car driver; Major Ben. Higgins, face badly cut and shaken up; Gilbert Van Wyck, 118 Oak street, cuts on face; Arthur Willis, face cut and bruised; Robert Dallas, Wingham, sustained slight injuries; Thos. Duncan, Thordale, cut about head; S. S. Casey fell in middle of heap, but escaped serious injuries; — Tamblin, a boy, painfully cut and bruised; Harry Brahm, badly swollen eye and other cuts; A. E. Chisholm, slightly injured, Walter Beecher, 124 Centre street, face cut and bruised; J. Burwell, bruised and cut; — Mattison, son of J. Mattison, Talbot street, arm broken; Ed. Barrett, a boy, Rectory street, cut in the face and internal injuries; Fred. Bolis, of Delaware, badly cut about head and body; Fred Henry, Oxford street, left arm broken; Louis Steinberg, machinist, Bennet Furnishing Company, left leg crushed; Thos. Laing, 797 King street, jaw fractured, badly cut and leg injured; Allan Towse, suffering from concussion of the brain; Frank Freeland, son of John Freeland 1074 Mabel street, hurt internally, and on head. William Gibson, an elderly man, residing at East London, right arm broken; Harry Passmore, reporter for 'Advertiser,' leg injured; Thomas Hogg, jr., of 579 Bathurst street, head badly cut and bruised; James Cutler, 733 Waterloo street, was hurt inwardly, left arm broken; William Alexander, of 214 Simcoe street, bruised about the face and narrowly escaped suffocation; Wm. Durnion, of 79 Blackfriars street, London West, three ribs and his right leg broken; George W. Yates, newspaper man, wounded on the bridge of nose and a few minor bruises; Walter Beecher, of 144 Centre street, ugly gash on the right side of face, he is a married man with three children; Moses Miners; Ald. Charles Taylor, back badly strained and leg injured, no bones broken; a man named Harriott, living on English street, escaped with a few bruises; Ed. Willis, got a cut on the forehead; 'Lally' Bennett, was struck on the



ter is now coming in freely and prices have fallen off 1/4c. We quote:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes creamery output, finest dairy, lower grade dairy, and roll butter.

CHEESE.

The market is considerably duller and values are off 1/4c. Finest Ontario now selling at 8 3/4 to 9c. Liverpool cable still quotes firm at 4 3/4 to 6c per cental.

DRESSED POULTRY.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes turkeys, ducks, geese, chickens, partridges, and quail.

PROVISIONS.

The market is active, and prices remain steady, as follows: Best brands of short cut, medium work are worth from 15 1/2 to 16c; hams, 10c to 11 1/2c; bacon, 12c; corn lard in pallets, 7c to 7 1/2c; compound lard, 5 1/4 to 5 1/2c.

EGGS.

There is a steady demand for small lots. Prices are firm as follows: Selected boiling stocks, 15c to 19c; Limes, 13 1/2c to 15c; No. 1 candied, 13c to 14c; No. 2 candied, 11c to 12c.

Hay—Low grades are plentiful and in little demand. On the other hand high grades are in good demand, and the supply limited. No. 2 is worth from \$8 to \$10, and No. 1 from \$10.50 to \$11, with an occasional car of fancy at a dollar higher.

MOVEMENTS OF GRAIN AND FLOUR.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Quantity. Includes wheat, corn, oats, and flour.

MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes wheat, corn, oats, and flour.

CHICAGO MARKETS.

Table with 4 columns: Item, Close, Open, High, Low, Close. Includes wheat, corn, oats, and various hogs.

LIVE STOCK MARKET—Jan. 6.

There were about 250 head of butchers' cattle, 10 calves and 100 sheep and lambs offered for sale at the East End Abattoir to-day. To-day being a holiday (Epiphany), there was very little business done during the early part of the day, but prices had a slight upward tendency all round. Sales of cattle were made at from 2c to a little over 4c per lb., and some of the leaner animals will scarcely bring 2c per lb. The lambing calves were brought up to 10c per lb., and some of the better ones offered here to-day, the prices of which ranged from \$2.50 to \$5 each. Good veals would bring pretty high rates. Sheep sold at from 3 1/2c to 3 3/4c per lb., and lambs at from 4c to 4 1/2c per lb. Fat hogs sold at from \$5.10 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs. for fed hogs.

LIVE STOCK MARKET—Jan. 10.

There were about 250 head of butchers' cattle, 10 calves and 100 sheep and lambs offered for sale at the East End Abattoir to-day. The butcher trade was not strong, and a good business was done although prices were unusually high, the advance being fully half a cent per lb in the price of common cattle, above what was paid two weeks ago. Mr. G. Martel bought 8 prime steers at \$4.25 per lb.; lambs at from 4 1/2c to 5c per lb. Mr. Seneca bought 15 fat hogs at \$5.25 per 100 lb., and they amounted to \$2 for the lot. Fat hogs sell at from 5c to 5 1/4c per lb.

FARMERS' MARKET PRICES—Jan. 7.

There were only about twenty farmers' teams to be seen on Jacques Cartier square and seven or eight more on St. Paul street opposite the Bonsecours market. The weather is fornicious; the market gardeners were nearly all absent, and a peaceful holiday-like atmosphere pervaded the whole locality. The few purchasers who put in an appearance had no difficulty in getting their wants supplied by traders at about former prices. Oats sell at 80c to 85c the bag; potatoes, 60c to 70c do.; turnips, beets and carrots, 70c the barrel; cabbage, 50c do. Mr. Bickerdike is selling dressed hogs at from 6 1/2c to 7c per lb.; beef hindquarters, 40c to 50c do.; fresh laid eggs, 35c to 36c the dozen; limed eggs, 15c do.; cooking eggs, 25c do. The fruit market has been fairly good of late; oranges sell at from \$4 to \$4.50 for 420s; \$5.25 to \$5.50 for 740s; lemons, \$2.50 the box; apples, \$3.00 to \$5 the barrel; straw, \$3 to \$4 per 100 bundles of 12 lbs.

WHOLESALE GROCERY MARKET.

Sugar—The market continues firm with light stocks in first hands and moderate demand, and we quote granulated at 4 1/4c, and yellows at 3 3/4c to 4c, according to quality. In New York a further advance has occurred in raw grades, 3 1/2c to 3 3/4c, according to 3 1/2c, and centrifugal at 4 1/4c. Holders are asking 4 1/4c, and refiners refuse to pay the further advance, so that there is little doing. London markets are also quoted higher. The domestic yield has been placed at 350,000 tons by the planters, and is equalling the best year's record, although the average of tons per acre shows a loss, there is an increase in the average pounds of sugar per ton of cane, making the average for the entire state about 165 pounds. Molasses is unusually good, and higher prices have encouraged growers to plant much larger acreage for next year. The

visible supply of raw sugar has depressed a trifle to 2,400,000 tons.

Syrups—Refiners have very little stock in hand at present, and this is of only one grade, for which the price is 2 1/4c per lb.

Molasses—The market is very strong owing to the smallness of stocks and an early advance is probable. For new Barbados 2 1/2c has been bid and refused. The Port Rico crop is expected to be small one owing to the decreased area of planting on account of the low prices of recent years.

Coffee—On spot the market reflects the conditions abroad. In New York, No. 7 Rio is 1/4c lower, and receipts at Brazil ports have exceeded 7,500,000 bags. The world's visible supply on Jan. 1 was 6,257,383 bags, a decrease of 65,429 during December. The American supply has fallen a trifle below the high water mark, but is still 450,000 bags larger than at this date last year. European markets are weaker. Havre especially cut short quotations, although there is nothing new in the situation, the decline being attributed to heavy unloading by discouraged holders. There is no change in the market for mild grades, quotations continuing at former rates.

Provisions—In the United States, notwithstanding the decline in grain, live hogs and pork products have moved to a higher range of values. Lighter weights and good export buying caused the improvements, while a healthy domestic demand sustained prices. Heavy selling at Chicago by one packer threatened to break the market, but all offerings were readily absorbed. The price of milk has been reduced to 2 1/4c per quart to shippers. Other dairy products are steady and unchanged. A trade shipment of the cheese supply on Jan. 1 showed an increase in stock of about 45 percent over stock a year ago. Fairbank's statement has been held abroad and abroad on Jan. 1 show 570,274 tierces, an increase of 12,834 over Dec. 1, but a decrease of 123,222 compared with Jan. 1, 1897.

Rice—The market continues steady, demand being of a holiday character, and we quote Crystal Japan at 45; Standard B, 31.50 to 32.75; Patna, 45 to 45.75; Carolina, 35.75 to 37.75; choice Burmah, 44 to 45.75; Java kinds, 42.25 to 45.50.

Spices—There is a fair demand for spices in a jobbing way, and we quote white pepper at 18c to 25c; black pepper at 10c to 12c; ginger at 15c to 30c; cloves at 10c to 25c; nutmegs at 60c to 80c.

Tea—The market is in a very firm position; there is little doing, but is on account of the firm attitude of holders of stock and ample supplies in buyers' hands.

CEMENT AND FIREBRICKS.

The market is a firm one, stocks being small and the volume of business larger than is usual at this period of the year. We quote English best at \$2.10 to \$2.25, and Belgian at \$1.85 to \$2 a barrel, ex store. Firebricks continue in good demand at \$16 to \$21 per 1,000, according to brand.

NAVAL STORES.

The only feature of any moment in the market is the recent advance in cordage. This is due to the fact that hemp values are \$10 per ton higher. Prices for Sisal have advanced 1/2c, and for Manila, 5/8c to 3/4c. The market is dull all round, as is usual at this season. We quote—Tarpentine, 45c to 48c; resin, \$2.25 to \$2.45; turpentine, \$2.25 to \$2.45; cotton waste, 4 1/2c to 5 1/2c; for colored, and 7c to 8c, for white; oakum, 5c to 7c; and cotton oakum, 8c to 11c. Cordage—Sisal, 6 1/4c to 6 3/4c for 7-16c and upward; pure Manila, 7 1/4c to 8c for 7-16 size and upward, and 8 1/4c to 9c for smaller sizes.

FISH OILS.

The market is decidedly firmer, the demand having improved. A recent sale of 400 barrels of seal oil at 40c about cleared up stock in first hands and jobbers are now asking 42 1/2c to 45c. American buyers have made large purchases of cod oil in the Newfoundland market, which has firm up prices on spot. We quote: Gaspe cod oil, 25c to 30c; Nfld., 33c to 35c; seal oil, 42 1/2c to 45c; castor oil, 9c to 9 1/4c.

PAINTS AND GLASS.

Business in both paints and glass is quiet, but prices are firm. We quote Government standard white lead, choice brands, \$5.37 1/2; No. 1, \$5; No. 2, \$4.62 1/2; dry white lead, \$5; pure red lead, 4 1/4c; pure zinc white, 47.25; Glass, \$1.30, first break; \$1.45 second break; \$50 feet; \$2.80 for third break, per 100 feet. Lined oil raw, 42c to 43c per gallon for round lots; boiled, 45c to 46c. Putty, in bulk, \$1.50. Paris green, in barrels, 13c; dragon, 13 1/2c.

THE HIDE MARKET.

Hides have scored another advance since our last writing, as much as 9 1/4c having been paid for No. 1 to butchers, and 10c obtained from the tannery. We quote No. 1 at 8c to 9 1/4c; No. 2, 8c, and No. 3, 7c. To tannery the range for No. 1 is 9 1/4c to 10c. American hides advanced to 9c; calfskins are steady at 8c for No. 1, and 6c for No. 2.

PETROLEUM.

Both Canadian and American refined have declined in price recently owing to offerings from the West. We quote Canadian refined, in car lots, 12c; in smaller quantities, 13c. Am. prime white, in car lots, 13 1/2c; in smaller quantities, 14 1/2c; water white, 15c, in car lots; 16 in smaller quantities. Pratt's astral, 16 1/2c in car lots, 17 1/2c in smaller quantities.

FOREIGN MARKETS.

Detroit, Jan. 10, Closing—90 1/4c Jan., 51 1/2c May, 51 1/2c July. Duluth, Jan. 10, Closing—90 1/4c cash, 91 1/2c Jan., 89 1/2c May, 89 1/2c July. Milwaukee, Jan. 10, Closing—91 1/2c cash, 90c May, 79c July. St. Louis, Jan. 10, Closing—92 1/2c cash, 93 1/2c May, 79c July. Toledo, Jan. 10, Closing—90 1/4c Jan., 92 1/2c May. New York, Jan. 10, Closing—97 1/2c Jan., 97 1/2c Feb., 92 1/2c May, 85 1/2c July.

LIVERPOOL MARKET PRICES CURRENT.

Liverpool, Jan. 10.—Spring wheat, 7s 0d to 7s 10d; No. 1 Calia, 8s 1d to 8s 1 1/2d; corn 3s 2 1/2d; peas, 5s 1 1/2d; pork, 47s 6d; lard, 25s 6d; tallow, 18s; bacon, 27s 6d; linseed, 27s; cheese, 43s 6d.

SETTLING DAY FAVORABLE.

Toronto, Jan. 5.—Quite an amount of commercial paper fell due yesterday, and Toronto wholesalers generally express much satisfaction at the way it is being met. Though the paper matured yesterday, many debtors from distant points will not be heard from for some days yet, but payments so far have been much better than a year ago, and there have been very few renewals asked for. The opinion generally expressed that times are decidedly better than a year ago.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Union Stock Yard, Chicago, Ill., Jan. 10. Hogs—To-day's estimated receipts, 41,000; Saturday's receipts according to official returns, 18,531; shipments, 2,186; left over, 30,000; market active and strong to higher; light mixed, \$3.45 to \$3.65; mixed packing, \$3.50 to \$3.75; heavy shipping, \$1.40 to \$1.65; rough trade, \$2.00 to \$2.50. The receipts of cattle were 19,000.

OSTRICH FEATHERS QUOTED.

Ostrich feather quotations are so rarely given that we give an item from a South African price list as a curiosity. The prices for 'white primas' range from \$45 to \$70 per 50 lb. Other qualities run as low as \$7.50, \$5, \$1.40, and some styled 'spadonas' range from 25c to \$3 per pound. The range from 25c to 10c is very broad, and we call for very special expert talent in judging feathers.—Insurance and Finance Chronicle.

LIETTER SELLS OUT.

Chicago, Jan. 6.—Joseph Lietter is said to have closed contracts for the greater part if not all of his 8,750,000 bushels of cash wheat. Negotiations have been under way for several days and are about closed. The buyers are L. Dreyfuss and Company, of New York, the French exporters, and Gill and Fisher, of London. Lietter's men are here looking over the wheat and samples have been forwarded to the New York headquarters. Nothing is known about the terms but they are believed to be satisfactory to Lietter. Gill and Fisher, the Baltimore exporters, are among the largest cash grain handlers in the world and stand at the head as a corn house.

BANK OF ENGLAND'S WEEKLY STATEMENT.

London, Jan. 6.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes as compared with the previous account:—Total reserve, decreased . . . 21,000; Circulation, increased . . . 790,000; Bullion, increased . . . 768,559; Other securities, increased . . . 252,500; Other deposits, increased . . . 1,189,000; Public deposits, decreased . . . 212,000; Notes reserve, increased . . . 42,000; Government securities, decreased . . . 999,000. The proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liability, which last week was 49.01 percent, is now 39.13 percent. The bank's rate of discount remains unchanged at 3 percent.

BANK OF GERMANY'S WEEKLY STATEMENT.

Berlin, Jan. 4.—The weekly statement of the Imperial Bank of Germany shows the following changes as compared with the previous week:—Cash in hand, decreased . . . 11,790,000; Treasury notes, decreased . . . 2,220,000; Other securities, increased . . . 195,968,000; Notes in circulation, increased . . . 183,000.

MANITOBA WHEAT.

Locally the situation has been quiet. Farmers have not been marketing much, and the quantity of wheat held in first hands is a matter of considerable speculation. The millers have been free buyers for what is offered at prices above a shipping or holding basis, for export trade. As high as 88 1/2c was paid early in the week, or equal to the price of wheat held in first hands. We quote English best at \$2.10 to \$2.25, and Belgian at \$1.85 to \$2 a barrel, ex store. Firebricks continue in good demand at \$16 to \$21 per 1,000, according to brand.

FAILURE RECORD.

PAST YEAR THE BEST EVER DEFINITELY KNOWN.

Referring to the United States, Dun's 'Review' says that in failures, 1897 was not only the best year since 1892 but on the whole the best ever definitely known. With 13,522 failures, in number 11.5 percent less than 1896, and \$182,681,771 defaulted liabilities, 24.9 percent less than in 1896, the year's banking failures counted for \$24,249,700, and the commercial failures were but 13,351, with liabilities of \$154,322,971, the average per failure being only \$11,550, the lowest ever known except in 1892. But even in that year the failures during the last half averaged liabilities of \$10,477 per failure, while in the last half of 1897, the average was only \$9,583. The returns by branches of business show that in 15 out of 28 classes the failures were lower than in any previous year of which there is record, with especially large decrease in the number of unclassified manufacturing and trading failures. Moreover, the year showed remarkable decrease, as some other prosperous years have shown increase, comparing the second with the first half.

This remarkable heavy decrease in all branches, with the extremely low average of liabilities, was due to an improvement during the last half year, which has not been equaled in the twenty-three years covered by the quarterly record. The third quarter, as was shown in October, made an extraordinary record of gain, and surpassed in smallness of liabilities any other third quarter on record. Though the fourth quarter usually shows larger and more numerous failures, and did in 1897, yet in that quarter also the average of liabilities was lower than in any other fourth quarter of record, being only \$9,154 per failure. In one quarter of 1894 this was closely approached, but not very closely in any other year. The average for the quarter was only \$18,265 in manufacturing, and only \$7,668 in trading failures.

CANADIAN FAILURES.

It is gratifying that Canadian failures have also decreased materially in number and amount. The bank failures were five against three in 1896, but with liabilities of only \$154,000 against \$212,000. The commercial failures were 1,809 against 2,118 in 1896, a decrease of 14.6 percent, and the liabilities were \$4,157,498 against \$4,712,283, a decrease of 12.5 percent. In manufacturing the decrease in number was over 22 percent, and in liabilities over \$2,000,000, or 35.8 percent. But in trading the decrease in number was 12.6 percent, and in liabilities only 12.7 percent. An increase appeared in liquors and earthenware. In number, or 40 percent, and of \$471,000 in liabilities, or almost 600 percent. The statement by branches of business shows increase over 1896 in iron manufacture, a large increase in woollen manufacture, and some increase in liquors and earthenware, with decrease in all other classes, especially in the miscellaneous class, and in lumber. Of trading classes, general stores show a considerable increase, and grocerios, dry goods and jewellery less in proportion, but other classes show a decrease, which is relatively large in liquors, clothing, shoes, hardware, and the miscellaneous class.

IMPROVED WHEAT OUTLOOK.

London, Jan. 10.—Mark Lane Express, in its weekly review of the wheat market says: "There is an improved outlook in France, where the wheat had a poor start in October and November. The wheat in Central Europe has not been unimpaired with advantage, and the snow is still thick on the wheat fields eastward of the Vistula and Carpathians. Argentina will have about 3,000,000 quarters to export.

LONDON CONSOLS.

London, Jan. 10, 12.30 p.m.—Consols—Mohey, 112 11/16; account, 112 3/4.

BRADSTREET'S WEEKLY TRADE SUMMARY.

MANITOBA.

Winnipeg, Jan. 8.—Jobbers are working on advanced prices and trade in general is quiet. As already reported, the softening trade is not up to expectations. Lumber is firm, and there is a possibility of a slight advancement in prices. There is little doing on the wheat market, and the wool trade is improving being purchased by millers. Collections are reported fair.

MARITIME PROVINCES.

Halifax, Jan. 8.—As usual the opening week of the new year has been a quiet one, and the volume of trade light. Reasonable weather and good roads in the country have been favorable to the handling of produce. Collections are fair. The Newfoundland herring fishery has been very good, and promises to be the largest on record. St. John, N.B., reports the lumber market extremely quiet with little doing. The season so far has been disappointing for lumbering operations.

ONTARIO.

Toronto, Jan. 8.—The New Year opened with an active demand for staple goods. Dry goods travelers who returned on their routes this week have reported the prospects for the balance of the season very bright. Stocks left in the hands of shippers from last year are small and large purchases will have to be made. Values are generally firm for both domestic and imported goods. More American cotton goods than formerly are offering here. Some houses are bringing in large quantities of American goods, wrappertees, etc., and as the American mills have changed their prices slightly the Canadian trade, these imports will likely expand. Payments are generally good. The payments on paper maturing on the fourth were better than last year. Orders coming in here are mostly accompanied with cash remittances. Wool in better demand. Stocks here are small and prices firm. Hides scarce and firm. Leathers firmer with upward tendency in quotations. Groceries and hardware fairly active and steady for most lines. An important feature in trade is the disposition to shorten credits. Grain deliveries in the country are being owing to poor roads. The export demand for grain is not so active. Numbers of orders for North-West, British Columbia and Klondike trade are coming in here, and the shippers are working over time on these orders. Money is about 4 percent higher for call loans at 4 percent.

QUEBEC.

Quebec, Jan. 8.—Business in general during the past week has been somewhat quiet, which is usual after the holidays. The wholesale trade is active and steady, and has completed their inventories, and report better results than last year. The banks report papers very fairly met on the 4th, but this is hardly an indication of the condition of business, as wholesale dealers take up their customers' notes themselves, whether they admit it or not. Collections in general are reported favorable, and the outlook is regarded encouraging.

Montreal, Jan. 8.—Trade returns show that sales during the week have been lower than last, as is usual for the first week of the year. Travelers have not had as yet time to turn in many orders. The same is true in splendid condition, and collections are on the whole satisfactory. In the city there have been quite a few dry goods embarrassments during the week, but most of them have been expected for some time. It is evident that the large portion of the larger wholesale houses to check further credit to weak establishments. In general trade the situation is considered healthy and prices keep firm. Advances are noted in hides and leather, also in coarse woolens, and a moderate advance in the price of raw wool. The four makes is somewhat weaker but demand is fairly good. The prospects are considered reasonably good, and outside of the furry in the dry goods business, it is believed that the early months of the year will not be marked by serious failures.

DRY GOODS.

COTTONS DISAPPOINTING, WOOLENS EVENTFUL, SILKS STRONG.

In cotton goods, says Dun's 'Review,' the year 1897 has been undisturbed one of disappointment to that industry. It opened with a poor trade in progress, it is true, but with hopes of an early improvement in business. The demand, however, dragged considerably below the first quarters. In trade, the redeeming feature being an active business for export in heavy cotton goods, and a special operation in February in print cloths. M. C. D. Borden buying 750,000 pieces of the latter in one operation. Prices up to that time had sagged, and any firmness then imparted was of a transient character. The early summer months showed continued quietude, but in July the demand expanded, and in that month and through August, and the greater part of September business was active, and prices showed an upward tendency until they marked the highest point of the year in nearly all descriptions. There were several contributing causes. Raw material showed a strong advancing tendency, there had been a considerable curtailment of production, and most important of all the grain prices advanced. The country was realizing much higher prices for their crops than had ruled for years past. When the market was at its best an unfavorable factor appeared in the shape of yellow fever in the South, which checked business in that section, and the result was reduced demand to restricted dimensions, and gave the market a set back which has affected it for the rest of the year. Another unfavorable factor had also developed, exercising a baneful influence over the market, and that was the steady decline in the price of silver. This checked export business for silver using countries, and during the past few months has materially changed the character of the export trade. Thus from activity in the early fall the staple goods market has passed into general dullness during the past three months, bringing with it accumulation of stocks and a decline in prices to a lower point than ever before reached in most staple goods. In many cases the volume of sales has been large, but they have not been able to resist the general downward tendency, and also close the year at the lowest point on record for many leading makes.

Price as a rule declined from the opening quotations to-day during the first six months, and then after a short period of steadiness advanced until at the beginning of September they were on an average fully 5 percent above previous lowest. September showed high water mark, and since then prices, with a single exception, have declined, and in nearly all instances close at the lowest prices ever recorded for them. Compared with prices of a year ago brown goods are down on an average about 4 percent, bleached cottons about 5 percent, coarse cottons about 7 1/2 percent. Dry goods, without a single exception, have been less a factor in the market than ever, although they have recently shown signs of revival, and the outlook for the new year is encouraging. Staple linings, compared with a year ago, have declined 5 percent. Print cloths, brown goods, and other garments stocks on hand, 2,200,000 pieces. The market was dull until February, when the

special transaction referred to above, 750,000 pieces at 25-35, temporarily changed its character. As the business was followed by a curtailment of production the price of regulars advanced to 2 1/2-3c, the highest point of the year. The general run of buyers were, however, apathetic, and throughout the year there have been occasional displays of spirit on their part, with the result that the business has been somewhat irregular, and prices have gradually declined, closing at 2 1/2c for extras or 3-10c lower than any record prior to this year.

Woolen Goods.—The year has been an eventful one in the woolen goods division. It opened with only a dull demand for men's wear heavyweight woollens and worsteds, and with the tendency of prices in favor of buyers despite the fact that reports quite generally stated that the country owing to the shortened production of 1897 was bare of woolen goods. The heavyweight business during the spring failed to bring any relief of moment and in some staple lines of importance, cloths particularly, it showed cleaning out sales at the lowest prices ever recorded. Meanwhile tariff legislation began to assume shape and was a steady influence by the spring time agents were ready to put new spring lines on the market. It did not at first influence prices to any extent, but just as soon as the duty on wool and the higher duties on woolen goods were assured, an active demand for all descriptions set in.

Agents, principally overwhelmed with orders, were not slow in taking advantage of the situation, and prices advanced rapidly all around, reaching their highest for spring goods in October. Cloths showed an advance from the lowest point of the year in March of 5 1/2c per yard. Clay mixtures of 40c per yard, and medium grades as well as chevots of 12 1/2c per yard, and serges of 12 1/2c per yard. Notwithstanding these advances the rise in piece goods has not, by any means, kept pace with the rise in raw wool, and manufacturers assert that a still further advance will be necessary in order to make their business profitable. In the close of the year various lines of new heavy weights for next fall have been opened, but it is by no means certain that any such further advance has in the average been obtained. In the dress goods division the year's results have on the whole been more satisfactory than in men's wear fabrics. Most dress goods mills have been well employed, and even though prices have not advanced enough to offset the higher cost of production, they have come nearer to doing so than men's goods. At the close of the year production of spring is well under contract in most lines of staple and fancy dress goods wherever agents have been willing to sell ahead at current prices.

Silk Fabrics.—The year 1897 has been a good one for silks. The short production in 1896 kept accumulations down, and fashion turning largely to silk fabrics this year provided plenty of employment for manufacturers. Buyers were mostly looking after low and medium grades, as are manufactured here and the home trade has benefited thereby. The market hardened during the latter part of the year, and closes at an average advance of about 7 1/2 percent, with spring production well sold prices obtained on the raw material a strengthening influence.

BRITISH CATTLE MARKETS.

Edinburgh, Dec. 27.—Messrs. John Swan & Sons' weekly report says: The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been large, and for the best descriptions trade throughout has been steady. The same is true of the previous week, but secondary qualities have made from 10s to 15s a head less money. Sheep have been generally a moderate show and owing to bad reports from London and the west markets, prices have been in a head and tail steady, and the export of ewes, which made quite a much better show. Calves have been in short supply and very dear. Pigs more numerous, and they have met a fair trade at quite previous rates. As is usual at this time of the year, there was a very small supply of store stock on offer, and both sheep and cattle got well cleared at current rates. Milch cows were a small supply, and made a little more money. Best beef to 7s 9d per stone. Mutton to 8d per lb.

AMERICAN CATTLE MARKETS.

New York, Jan. 7.—Beaves—Receipts, 2,724; on sale, 100; market active; steers steady; rough butcher stock firm; native hogs, \$4.40 to \$5.15. Calves—Receipts, 191 head, 162 head on sale; market slow; veals weak; grassers steady; veals, \$5 to \$8; grassers, \$3 to \$5.25. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 3,600 head; 1 1/2c cars on sale; sheep steady; lambs, \$3 to \$4.50. Hogs—Receipts, 1,110 head, 550 head on sale; market slow; hogs, \$3.20 to \$3.40; stags, \$2.75 to \$3.00; pigs, \$3.25 to \$3.70. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 35 cars of fresh arrivals and 6 loads of held over stock, which included three loads of Canada lambs, which have been weighing in at \$4.00 per pair. The market was without particular change for lambs from Thursday's prices, and full strong to higher for good hand grades of sheep and yearlings; lambs, yearlings, choice to prime, \$4.50 to \$5.10; fair to good, \$4.00 to \$4.50; culls to common yearlings, \$3.25 to \$3.50; native lambs, choice to well, \$5.00 to \$5.50; fair to good, \$3.50 to \$3.75; culls to common, \$4.50 to \$5.00; native sheep, choice to selected wethers, \$4.65 to \$5; common to choice mixed wethers, \$4.35 to \$4.65; common to fair, \$3.75 to \$4.25; culls to common sheep, \$2.50 to \$3.75.

TORONTO CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Jan. 7.—Offerings at the western cattle yards to-day were 36 car loads, and there were several additional loads which arrived yesterday. Beside the cattle there were 318 sheep and lambs, over 1,500 hogs and the usual number of milch cows and springers and calves. There were more buyers present than there were last Tuesday, but yet the buying for outside points was not extra brisk. Hogs are the special feature of the market, their market being in an advancing condition. There is a demand for cattle for the William Harris abattoir, but the hundred cases of hogs already hung up there. That with other elements tends to keep the price of cattle steady. Export cattle—There continues to be a steady demand for good steers and fat bulls to be sent across the ocean by way of St. John's and Port Louis. Prices steady at from 3 1/2c to 4 1/4c per lb. Butchers' cattle—Trade was fairly active

to this line, quite a few cattle being taken for local consumption and for the William Harris abattoir. Dealers complain of the poor quality of much of the stuff. Anything at all good and choice sold readily at fair prices. In a few instances as high as 40c per lb. was paid. Mostly the ruling figures were from 30c to 34 1/2c per lb. Some farrow cows sold for 2 1/2c to 2 3/4c per lb., with a slow demand for milk cows.

Stockers and feeders—Some of the Buffalo men were operating to-day, but as a general rule there was only a quiet trade. Prices for light stockers rule from 2 1/2c to 3 1/4c per lb. There is some inquiry for a few feeders to send to the distilleries and for farmed horses there, these fetch from 5 1/2c to 3 1/2c per lb. Not many are wanted. Sheep and lambs—Lambs are firm, but export sheep are rather quiet. Prices rule 4 1/2c to 4 3/4c per lb. for lambs, 3c to 3 1/4c for shipping sheep, and \$3 to \$4 each for butcher's sheep. Bucks sell slowly at 2 1/2c per lb.

SPECIAL OFFER

-TO-

'WITNESS' SUBSCRIBERS.

Every subscriber sending ONE DOLLAR renewal or new subscription to the Weekly Witness, for 1898, can have choice of ANY ONE of the following offers.

PICTURES.

Offer No. 1.—'Day's Work Done,' 19x18, a rural exquisite sunset scene.

No. 2.—'Roses,' 20x13 1/2, a cluster of pink and white of this favorite flower, by George C. Lambden.

No. 3.—'I'm a Daisy' (a prize baby), 16 1/2x13, by Miss Ida Waugh, a picture of a beautiful blue-eyed babe.

No. 4.—'School In,' 15x18, by J. H. Dolph, representing a priest instructing her family of five—a pretty and amusing picture.

No. 5.—A pair, 'Cluck, Cluck' and 'Take Care,' each 13x8, both by A. F. Tait. Two handsome pictures illustrating the care and anxiety of 'Biddy' and her brood of chickens.

MOODY BOOKS—PAPER COVER.

No. 6.—'The way to God and how to find it,' So plain that 'He who runs may read.'

No. 7.—'Pleasure and profit in bible study,' Fresh, bright, deeply devotional and helpful.

No. 8.—'Heaven,' Where it is; its inhabitants; how to get there.

No. 9.—'Prevailing Prayer,' What hinders it. Nine essential elements to true prayer.

No. 10.—'Secret Power,' The secret of success in Christian life and work.

No. 11.—'To the work,' A trumpet call to Christians. Will prove helpful and inspiring to all Christian workers.

No. 12.—'Bible characters,' Studies of the characters of Daniel, Enoch, Lot, Jacob and John the Baptist. He makes the bible a living book.

No. 13.—'Sovereign grace,' Its source, its nature and its effects.

No. 14.—'Select Sermons,'—'Where art thou?' 'There is no difference,' 'Good news,' 'Christ seeking sinners,' 'Sinners seeking Christ,' 'What think ye of Christ?' 'Excuses,' and 'The blood.'

COOK BOOK.

No. 15.—The Standard Cook Book (paper cover), embracing more than one thousand recipes and practical suggestions to housekeepers, fully illustrated. Compiled by Mrs. T. J. Kirkpatrick. A useful book for the kitchen.

drinking, was taken to the Notre Dame Hospital last Tuesday evening, having been struck by an electric car on Craig street corner of Cadieux street. He had several ribs broken and his left lung perforated, while he was also cut about the face and body, though the car was only going at a slow rate of speed when it struck him.

Michael O'Reagan, coachman for Mr. Rouer Roy, Q.C., city attorney, took 'rough on rats,' with some beer, while in a shoemaker's shop on Bleury street on Wednesday morning. When taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital O'Reagan would give no explanation of his rash deed, and the doctors who saved his life for the time, would not say that he would ultimately recover.

While alone in his room at 22 Fullum street, about 8 o'clock yesterday morning, and alone in the house except for his aged mother, Charles Saunders, aged twenty-three, clerk in a city insurance office, shot himself in the heart with a thirty-eight calibre 'Marlin safety,' repeating rifle, it is thought by accident. The poor mother heard the report and took her trembling way up two flights of stairs to find her son already dead. She picked up the rifle and placed it in a corner before going to seek help and will hold an inquest.

A daring and startling outrage was that early on Friday morning, which must have been a serious shock to Miss Orkney, a lady of means, who does much good in a charitable way to many people. She resides at 2166 St. Catherine street, and three men entered her house from a lane in rear of the building. They lit the gas, and when she awoke, with the glare of light in her eyes, one stood by her bedside and ordered her to hold her peace or murder would probably be the result; otherwise all would be well. The other two ransacked the room, bureau drawers, and a cash box containing sixty dollars. Other articles were stolen to the value of two hundred dollars. The robbers then left as they had come. When Miss Orkney recovered her senses she telephoned the police. They found that the burglars had cut a panel of glass in a door in the rear. They also arrested three men on suspicion.

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THE COREAN INCIDENT

AN AGREEMENT SAID TO HAVE BEEN REACHED BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN, JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

London, Jan. 9.—A despatch to the 'Daily Mail' from Hong Kong, dated yesterday, says it is reported there that Great Britain, Japan and Russia have arrived at an agreement respecting Corea. The details of the agreement are not known to the correspondent; but the despatch says the British fleet is returning to Hong Kong.

An investigation of the report received from Portsmouth that a flying squadron of British warships was about to be formed for service in Chinese waters, shows it to be unfounded.

New York, Jan. 9.—A London despatch to the 'Evening Post' says: 'Not even the severe pressure of the pending English by-elections has led Lord Salisbury into the "something heroic" for which the Ministerial forwards have been calling so loudly since Germany and Russia started the game of grab in China. Sorely tempted though they have been, no Minister has said a single word. Instead of the doctrine "quid pro quo," so heatedly urged by them, the cabinet is quietly pursuing the doctrine "status quo," so far as concerns British trade in China.'

Buffalo, N.Y., Jan. 8.—An afternoon paper prints the following special cable from London: It is believed here the threatened partition of China has been indefinitely postponed, and that Great Britain, as usual, has the lion's share of advantage from recent eastern events. The Chinese loan, it is stated, will be China securely to British interests. Germany's lease of a seaport is regarded as relatively unimportant. England will uphold the integrity of the Chinese Empire. The political consequences of a partition would be insignificant compared with the industrial consequences. The real peril is that western methods of manufacture should be introduced in China. China is not a buyer and should her millions, who live cheaply and work skillfully, ever be trained in western methods of industry, she could become the workshop of the world against whom competition would be futile. It is to the interest of every English merchant to keep China asleep in her ignorance. It is pointed out that America's interests are identical with England's in keeping China intact and that the long-talked of Anglo-American alliance should come in a stand against partition.

St. Lawrence river pilots are shown by the Harbor Commissioners' reports to have been earning good pay last season. The lowest season's work for one pilot was \$632, and the highest \$1,700, in round numbers. This notwithstanding the strike.

The well-known tailoring and clothing firm of J. H. Blumenthal & Sons have made a voluntary assignment, with liabilities of about a hundred and twenty thousand dollars, and the estate is now in the hands of Messrs. Kent & Turcotte, accountants.

It is now tolerably certain that the Grand Trunk Railway Company will not get part of Victoria square for railway offices. Public opinion was so strongly against giving away any square or part of a square that the aldermen dared not give the square to the G. T. R.

Victor Bennett, brakeman, was brought to Montreal on Wednesday evening, and sent to the General Hospital. He had been crushed between two cars while coupling cars on the Grand Trunk Railway, and there was little hope for him. He died on Thursday morning.

Montreal's waterworks' engine broke down on Monday, Jan. 3, and was not repaired until last Tuesday night, part of the city having thus had to depend upon the high level water reservoir, which was nearly empty by the time repairs had been made to its enormous engine pump.

The funeral of the late Mr. N. Duval, publisher of L'Aurore, the French Protestant weekly newspaper, took place on Monday afternoon, Jan. 3, and was attended by a large number of ministers and others. Mr. Duval resided at the Back River. The funeral ceremony was at Manee street Baptist Church, and the interment in Mount Royal Cemetery.

About six o'clock on Saturday morning as the suburban train was going from Montreal to St. Lambert, the Sorel train struck it and smashed some cars. Two French-Canadians, Gaudry and Bourdon, on their way to the drainage and sewage works at St. Lambert, were killed outright, and there was some damage to passenger trains coming into the city from the south.

Geo. Lanctot, who said he had been

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. When announcement of funeral, extended obituary or verses accompany such notices further charges will be made. Notices received from annual subscribers inserted free.

BIRTHS.

BASTIAN.—At 89 Church street, this city, on Dec. 31, 1897, to Mr. and Mrs. Alf. H. Bastian, a son.

CORNEILLE.—On Dec. 29, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Cornelle.

FOX.—At 70 Ross street, Montreal, Que., on Jan. 10, 1898, the wife of E. Fox, commercial traveler, of a daughter.

FRASER.—At 17 Arthur street, Ottawa, Ont. on Jan. 6, 1898, the wife of A. Fraser, Jr., conductor C. P. Railway, of a daughter.

KALEM.—On the 30th December, at the manse, Beechgrove, Que., a daughter to the Rev. H. T. and Mrs. Kalem.

NICKLE.—At 663 St. Urban street, on Dec. 30, 1897, the wife of Samuel N. Nickle, Public Works Dept., Post-Office, of a son.

NIXON.—At St. Vincent de Paul, on Jan. 8, 1898, the wife of George Nixon, of a son.

PATERSON.—At Aberdeen Villa, Westmount, on Dec. 29th, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. John A. Paterson.

ROTHWELL.—At Arundel, Que., on Dec. 23, 1897, the wife of Andrew Rothwell, of a daughter.

MARRIED.

APPS-POOLE.—On Wednesday, high noon, on Dec. 29, 1897, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. R. L. Ockley, Mr. Thomas Oveys Apps, of Hamilton, to Miss A. Poole (teacher), daughter of Mr. Wm. Poole, of New Durham, Brant County, Ont.

BALFOUR-BRIGGS.—At the residence of the bride's mother, Victoria street, Owen Sound, on Dec. 29, 1897, by the Rev. Dr. Watts, Mr. James Ross Balfour, Principal of the Model School, Morrisburg, Ont., to Mary, fourth daughter of the late Edward Briggs, Esq., of Owen Sound.

BOXALL-MARTYN.—At Maple Grove farm, Canton, on Christmas Day, by the Rev. S. C. Philp, Methodist minister, Canton, Lottie Martyn to Mr. Walter Boxall, jeweller, of Toronto.

CALENDER-GREEN.—On Dec. 18, 1897, at Wellington, New Zealand, Frank Youngest son of W. O. Callender, Esq., of Ormiston, Bournemouth, to Cora Emma daughter of J. R. Goring Green, Esq., of 81 Oxford-terrace, Hyde Park, W., London.

CAMERON-MACLAREN.—On Oct. 25, 1897, at the residence of the bride's parents, Fitzroy Harbor, Ont., by the Rev. A. MacGregor, B.A., Elizabeth Annie, only daughter of David MacLaren, Esq., to Archibald Gardner Cameron, of Montreal.

CARTER-HERRIOTT.—At the residence of the bride's parents, West Luther, County Wellington, Ont., on Jan. 3rd, 1898, by the Rev. H. McKellar, Mr. Wm. Selby Carter, to Miss Maggie, youngest daughter of David Herriott, Esq., all of West Luther.

CORNWELL-GRIFFIN.—At the home of the bride's parents, on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 1897, by the Rev. R. L. Ockley, Mr. J. Albert Cornwell, of Norwich, to Jennie, daughter of Joseph Griffin, of Otterville, Oxford County, Ont.

DAVIS-CASS.—At the Methodist Church, Gaspe Basin, on New Year's day, 1898, by the Rev. D. D. Elliott, Mr. Clarence H. Davis to Miss Ida M. Cass, both of Lamise Aux Cousins, Gaspe, P.Q.

DUNCAN-SINCLAIR.—At Cannington, Ont. on Jan. 5, 1898, at the residence of the Rev. P. Cunningham, S. L. Watt, James McCaul, B.A., Church of the Covenant, Toronto, assisted by the Rev. J. M. Cameron, of Wick, the Rev. A. E. Duncan, M.A., B.C.L., pastor of Knox Church, Cannington, to Mary, Sinclair, third daughter of the late Capt. Sinclair.

FOX-HAYWARD.—On Dec. 21, 1897, at St. Augustine's, Highbury, London, England, by the Rev. P. Cunningham, S. L. Watt, to Miss Clapton Common, to Bertha Adelaide, only daughter of the late Charles F. Hayward, of Melbourne, and adopted daughter of the late James S. Hayward, of St. John's, Newfoundland.

FULLER-HODGSON.—On Saturday, Jan. 1, 1898, at the residence of the bride's parents, Hugson, Que., by the Rev. James Watson, Mr. Frank S. Fuller, of Chatham, Que., to Miss Annie M. Hodgson, daughter of Mr. G. D. Hodgson, Hudson.

GOLDIE-WASHBURN.—At Baldwin's Mills, on Dec. 25, 1897, by the Rev. D. W. Terry, B.A., B.Th., Adam Goldie, to Aurlie E., eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Washburn.

GUERRANT-THOMSON.—On Jan. 5, 1898, at Gilmotte, Lloydstown, the residence of Major Arthur Thomson, stepfather of the bride, by the Rev. A. S. C. Watt, Samuel Guarrant, M.D., of Roanoke, Virginia, to Florence Esther, eldest daughter of the late Hugh C. Thomson, of Aikenshaw, Toronto, and granddaughter of the late Lieut.-Col. R. L. Denison, of Dovercourt, Toronto.

HAMER-HOWARD.—On Jan. 4, 1898, at the residence of the bride's mother, 41 Sussex avenue, Toronto, by the Rev. H. Harper, Thomas A. Howard, of Allouez, to Bertha A. Howard, only daughter of the late Stephen Howard.

HAY-THACKER.—On Jan. 5, 1898, at the residence of the bride's uncle, Mr. John T. Gentleman, No. 5 Seale Terrace, York street, London, Ont., by the Rev. Robert Johnston, B.D., pastor of St. Andrew's Church, James C. Hay, M.D., of Laurel, Nebraska, to Sara H. Thacker, of the firm of Thacker, eldest daughter of Mr. John E. Thacker, of Hamilton, North Dakota.

HUGHES-GILMOUR.—At the home of the bride's father, on the 28th December, 1897, by the Rev. W. M. Rochester, B.A., of Toronto, assisted by the Rev. James W. Orr, of Mono Mills, Miss Charity Gilmour, third daughter of James Gilmour, Esq., to the Rev. Robert Hughes, of Worcester, Mass.

JACKSON-GODDARD.—In the Erie Methodist Church, on Jan. 4, 1898, by the Rev. J. Holt Murray, Sarah Jane, eldest daughter of N. Goddard, Esq., of South Ham, to Mr. George H. Jackson, of Duda-weil, all in the County of Wolfe, Que.

JAMIESON-VAN DUSEN.—On Jan. 5, 1898, at the residence of the bride's brother, Back View Cottage, Picton, by Rev. W. J. Joyliffe, pastor of First Methodist Church, James H. Jamieson, of the firm of Jamieson Bros., to Maude Evelyn Van Dusen, second daughter of Mr. Owen Van Dusen of Owen Sound, Ont.

KELLY-BLANEY.—At Plantagenet, Ont. on Wednesday, Jan. 5, 1898, by the Rev. Mr. Ritchie, John Kelly, of Avoca, Que., to Jane Frances, second daughter of Sproule Blaney, of Alfred, Ont.

KIRKLAND-WALKER.—At Quebec, on Jan. 1, 1898, by the Rev. A. T. Love, Mr. James Kirkland, of C. P. Railway, Montreal Junction, to Jennie, daughter of Mr. John Walker, of Quebec city.

LAING-READ.—On Dec. 20, 1897, at Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, B.C., by the Lord Bishop of Columbia, assisted by the Rev. Canon Beaudin, John William Laing, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford, to Ethel May, third daughter of the late John Breakenridge Read, barrister-at-law, of Toronto.

MCCAULAND-BROWN SEGUARD.—On Dec. 16, 1897, at Holy Trinity Church, Killiney, Co. Dublin, by the Rev. Canon Staveley, rector of the parish, Richard Bolton McCauley, M.D., F.R.C.S.L., second son of Sir Richard Bolton McCauley, and Charlotte Maria, only child of the late Doctor Brown Seguard, of Paris, Member of the Institute of France.

NATTRESS-MACGREGOR.—On Dec. 23, 1897, at the residence of the bride's father, 236 St. Clara's avenue, Toronto, by the Rev. Dr. McClement, pastor of Chalmers' Presbyterian Church, Janet, second daughter of Archibald Macgregor, Esq., to James Nattress, eldest son of the late Isaac Nattress, Elders, Township of Vaughan, Ont.

OUCHTRED-MACDONALD.—At the residence of the bride's brother-in-law, Mr. Robert Scott, Scotstown, Que., on Jan. 5, 1898, by the Rev. W. Shearer, of Sherbrooke, Robison Allan Oughtred, of Maribou, Que., to Jennie Macdonald, daughter of the late Rev. John Macdonald, of Scotstown.

PARKER-SUTTON.—At the residence of the bride's father, Mr. Charles Sutton, Barnston, on Thursday, Dec. 21, 1897, by the Rev. D. W. Terry, B.A., B.Th., Ernest B. Parker, to Myra A. Sutton, all of Barnston.

PIERCY-BENT.—At Walkerton, on Jan. 1, 1898, by the Rev. John M. Aull, of Palmerston, Michael R. Piercy, of Cornwall, to Miss Naomi Bent, of Woodstock, Ont.

ROSEBRUGH-WHYBORN.—At Syracuse, N.Y., on Dec. 30, 1897, by the Rev. R. Calthrop, Thomas Reeve Rosebrugh, M.A., lecturer in electrical engineering, School of Practical Science, Toronto, eldest son of A. M. Rosebrugh, M.D., Toronto, to Jessie Aelia Whyborn, A.B., only daughter of D. T. Whyborn, M.D., of Syracuse, N.Y.

SEYBOLD-GODSALL.—At the First Avenue M. E. Church, West Troy, N.Y., on Jan. 4, 1898, Herbert R. Seybold of Montreal, to Pauline, daughter of the late Geo. Godsall, Esq.

STALKER-MAMORINE.—On Dec. 29th, at the Presbyterian Church, Florence, Que., by the Rev. J. McClung, Mr. Wm. Stalker, of Melbourne Ridge, Que., to Annie Katherine, daughter of Mr. A. McMorine.

VANASSE-DUNCAN.—At St. Mark's Church, Acton Vale, on Jan. 6, by the Rev. L. C. Wurtele, Ignace Vanasse, of St. Eugene, P.Q., to Grace, daughter of the late James Duncan, Esq., of Grantham.

WARREN-BYINGTON.—On Dec. 25th, 1897, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. Wm. Craig, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. L. Conley and the Rev. A. Warren, brother of the groom, George F. Warren, of Elgin, Ont., to Helena Elithe, eldest daughter of R. S. Byington, Esq., of Portland, Ont.

WEIR-MACINTOSH.—On Thursday, Dec. 30, 1897, at Lancaster, Ont., the residence of the bride's brother, by the Rev. R. C. Cruikshank, B.A., of Montreal, assisted by the Rev. Archibald Graham, B.A., of Lancaster, Rev. Geo. Weir, B.A., of Avonmore, Ont., to Flora, daughter of the late John Macintosh.

DIED.

BIGGAR.—At No. 40 Main street, Ottawa East, Isaac Biggar, aged 70 years.

BURNS.—Suddenly, at Galt, Ont., on Jan. 2, 1898, the Rev. William Burns, of Toronto, secretary of the aged and infirm ministers' fund of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

BURTHALL.—Suddenly, at his late residence, old Parliament buildings, Toronto, on Jan. 2, 1898, Archibald Burthall, in his 70th year.

CAMPBELL.—At 258 Jackson street west, Hamilton, Ont., on Jan. 3, 1898, R. Campbell, Esq., in the 73rd year of his age.

CARROLL.—At Quebec, on Jan. 3, 1898, Catherine Susan, aged 22 years, beloved wife of Laborator Sergeant J. Carroll, R.C.A.

CATHART.—At Kennebec Road, Beauce Co., P.Q., on Nov. 15, David Boyd Cathart, a highly respected elder of the Presbyterian Church, in the 57th year of his age.

CLARKE.—In this city, on the 9th inst., William Henry, son of the late John Clarke. Quebec papers please copy.

DOWLING.—At 8.15 p.m., on the 4th inst., at her late residence, 107 Mountain street, Margaret Lawlor, widow of the late William Dowling, and dearly beloved mother of Mrs. J. O. Loye, in the eighty-fourth year of her age, a native of Ballylinan, Queen's County, Ireland, and resident of this city for the last fifty-seven years. United States papers and Nationalist and Leinster 'Times' will please copy.

EDWARDS.—At his residence, in Denver, Colorado, on Nov. 6, 1897, Rev. Andrew W. Edwards, aged 50 years, member of Minnesota Conference, and formerly of Emerson, Manitoba.

GENEST.—On Jan. 1, 1898, after a short illness, at his residence, 55 Russell avenue, Ottawa, Ernest B. Genest, Esq., of the Ordnance Land Branch of the Interior Department, aged 39 years.

HAMILTON.—On Jan. 1, 1898, at the residence of his brother, Wm. Hamilton, Canal Bank, Ottawa, John Hamilton, aged 64 years.

HUNTER.—On Jan. 7, 1898, Mary Jane Kelley, widow of the late Thomas Hunter, formerly of Quebec.

JONES.—On the 6th January, 1898, at No. 5 Windsor avenue, Westmount, Mr. Charles G. Jones, real estate agent, son of the late Charles Hugh Jones, Esq., of Bromere.

LEISHMAN.—In this city, on the morning of Jan. 3rd, 1898, Jane Mary Henderson, beloved wife of the late James Leishman, in her 66th year.

LEONARD.—At Grand Junction, Colo., on Jan. 2, 1898, aged 38 years, George F. Leonard, son of Captain John Leonard, and brother of Leonard Brothers, St. John, N.B.

MACKENZIE.—On the 6th inst., at the residence of her nephew, Irvine avenue, Westmount, Catherine Ross MacKenzie, Inverness (Scotland) papers please copy.

MCDERMID.—At Belton Bhragh, Baddeck, C.B., on Jan. 5, 1898, Catherine Macdonald, the beloved wife of John A. McDermid, and only sister of the Rev. K. J. Macdonald, Beaverton, Ont., in the 25th year of her age.

MCGREGOR.—On Jan. 7, 1898, at his father's residence, 12 Dumont avenue, David McGreggor, only and beloved son of Jan. G. McGreggor, aged 16 months.

McMULLIN.—In this city, on Jan. 6, 1898, William McMullin, aged 26 years. Winnipeg papers please copy.

NICHOLSON.—In this city, on the 5th of January, Elizabeth Grisdale, aged 74 years and six months, beloved wife of Robert Nicholson, blacksmith.

NORKETT.—In this city, of meningitis, William Dawson, dearly beloved son of W. H. Norkett, aged 4 years.

ORTON.—At Desboro', on Dec. 31, 1897, R. H. Orton, M.D., son of the late R. Orton, M.D., Guelph, Ont.

PARKER.—At 112 Crescent street, on Saturday, 8th instant, Georgina Margaret Crombie, aged 35 years, wife of Edward Wilgerson Parker, and daughter of Alexander M. Crombie.

ROBERTSON.—At 14 St. Hypolite street, Montreal, on the morning of the 5th Jan. 1898, Alexander Struan Robertson, in his 78th year, a native of Blair Athol, Perthshire, Scotland.

SAUNDERSON.—In loving memory of Charles Edward Sanderson, died, Jan. 5, 1898, aged 51 years. The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

SAVAGE.—At South Stukely on the evening of the 31st December, 1897, of paralysis Jane Roberts Todd, beloved wife of John Savage, and only sister of William and Duke Roberts, of Granby, Que., in the 77th year of her age.

STOBBS.—Helen Gordon, wife of Rev. S. Somerville Stobbs, minister of St. James' Parish Church, Edinburgh, Scot., entered into rest 29th August, 1897. 'At home with the Lord.'

Mr. Stobbs was once the pastor of St. Matthew's Church, Point St. Charles, Montreal. A memorial window in St. James Church, above mentioned, erected by her brother, Mr. Alex. Gordon, of London, and her husband, will be unveiled on the 13th inst. The Very Rev. J. Cameron Lees, D.D., Dean of the Chapel Royal, and one of Her Majesty's Chaplains, will preside. A hymn entitled, 'At Home with Christ,' composed by Mr. Stobbs, and set to music by Sir John Stainer, Mus. D., Professor of Music, Oxford University, will be sung on the occasion.

STRONG.—At Lakefield, Que., on Jan. 4, '98, Maggie A. Strong, aged 25 years, and sister of Wm. J. Strong, grocer, of this city.

SWINDELL.—At Quebec, on Jan. 5, 1898, Robert Swindell, aged 86 years, a native of Tralee, County Kerry, Ireland, and a resident of Quebec for 57 years.

Those sending notices for the above column send them with a list of names of interested friends. Marked copies of the 'Witness' containing such notices will be sent free to any address in Canada, Montreal excepted.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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All 'Farmers' Exchange' advertisements will be condensed, no large display type being used, thus making a small adv. as noticeable as a large one.

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