

Montreal Weekly Witness.

FIFTY-FOURTH YEAR.

MONTREAL, TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1899.

MONTREAL
\$1.00 Postage

OLD WORLD GOSSIP.

Thirty-six Thousand Letters Sent Out First Three Days Under New Postal Rates.

(Special London Cable Letter, by the Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 31.—Londoners are barely recovering from the Christmas festivities, which have been made to last as long as possible, many business houses closing from Friday, Dec. 23, until Wednesday last.

The discordant note of the festive season was struck by the announcement that the bubonic plague had arrived in England, through a passenger landed at Plymouth, from the mail steamer 'Golconda,' the case having developed on her homeward passage from India; and by the arrival in the Thames of another suspicious case, landed at Gravesend. This startling news caused a stir; but the 'Lancet' now announces that the man landed at Plymouth was only suffering from a mild type of the disease, while the suspicious case at Gravesend proves to have been sickness due to some other cause than the plague. Both patients, however, have been isolated, and the 'Golconda' has been disinfected. The rats on board the steamer, which are accused of spreading the plague in India, have been utterly exterminated by burning.

Christmas Day saw the inauguration of the Imperial penny postage. About 36,700 benefited by it during the first three days. The majority was composed of letters destined for Canada. Over 5,000 letters paid the old rates, through the senders' ignorance. Mr. John Heneker Heaton, M.P., the father of the Imperial penny postage scheme, which was passed on July 12 of the present year, and who introduced telegraph money orders, in England, and the parcel post in France, had silver pennies struck and distributed among those who co-operated with him in bringing about this postal reform. He sent one of these pennies to the Queen, who accepted the memento, and replied, saying:—"The completion of this important change in the relations of the various parts of my empire is a matter of sincere satisfaction to me."

The Czar's disarmament scheme receives almost daily a 'hit below the belt,' in the shape of announcements of the extension of the military and naval forces of the various powers, in one form or other. After the news that the German field artillery will be definitely armed with the new quick-firers by the beginning of the new year, comes the announcement that the French field artillery will be before spring fully armed with the new 7.5 centimetre quick-firers, rivalling the German arm. Serious attention is being given in Great Britain to these important changes which one authority describes as being "The most portentous military advance in armament since the introduction of magazine rifles, or perhaps since the Germans used breech-loading needle-guns in the Austrian war of 1866."

Experts estimate that batteries of the new guns will be at least three times as powerful as the present batteries. Each new battery costs £12,000. The re-arming thus costs France £57,000,000 in guns alone, while the improved gun will also necessitate the reorganization of the ammunition transport, which will bring the total expenditure of nearly £10,000,000. British artillerymen point out that against these new guns the British artillery would be swept off the field, and they urge that the British field gun be brought to the level of the foreign arm. Great Britain must thus be prepared for an early expenditure of £2,500,000.

The news of uprisings in the Congo Free State and of massacres of Congo forces has again brought into prominence the iniquitous system of the rubber trade, to which three-fourths of the native uprisings can be traced. All the best rubber-producing districts belong to the state, which farms them, nominally, to the Societe Anversoise, of which the state holds practically the entire shares. The officials are compelled to gather all the rubber available or they are quickly dismissed, and their salaries are made proportionate to the amount of rubber collected. Thus a premium is placed on brutality towards the natives. It is said on excellent authority that King Leopold of Belgium has made a million pounds annually during the past five years out of the rubber and ivory sales.

The bright weather of Christmastide has given the Pope's health a decided change for the better. He now walks unaided during his daily constitutional in the Vatican grounds. The newspapers at Rome announce that a rich American lady has had a gold snuff box, encrusted with superb diamonds, made by one of the best jewellers of Rome, as a New Year's offering to the Pope, who, it is added, will find a cheque for fifty thousand dollars inside the snuff box. The Pope recently refused to allow electric light to be introduced into his apartments, remarking: "There is something superfluous about that light."

The Czar has returned to St. Petersburg after a holiday in the Crimea. In-

cidental, His Majesty has taken up the fad of papering and decorating his rooms with black and white sketches. He has had his study papered entirely with caricatures of himself which he has collected from foreign papers.

The chief eunuch of the Sultan of Turkey has just died with a suddenness characteristic of the golden horn. He left jewels and plate worth a hundred and sixty thousand dollars, besides two hundred thousand dollars in money, all of which passes, under an old law, into the Sultan's treasure box. Poison and the bowstring are hinted at.

JAMIESON RAID.

CELEBRATION OF THE DAY TO BE ABANDONED.

Pretoria, Dec. 30.—Strong representations have been made to President Kruger urging him to forbid the proposed celebration, on Jan. 2, of the defeat of the Jamieson raid, when, at the suggestion of the Pretoria 'Volkstein,' the project was to burn Dr. Jamieson in effigy.

Owing to the President's action the celebration has been abandoned. There is no doubt that such an observance of Jamieson day as had been planned would have led to serious riots.

London, Dec. 31.—The Johannesburg correspondent of the 'Times' says:—"In to-day's (Friday) issue the 'Rand Post' explains its recent article denouncing the promoters of the mass meeting of Uitlanders held here on Sunday to protest against the murder of Edgar by a Boer policeman, was written to prevent future trouble."

The Johannesburg correspondent of the 'Daily Mail' says:—"The Afrikaners here, who are mainly government officials, formed a Republican bond to-day (Friday), whose aim is to secure the protection of the government."

SETBACK FOR ZIONISTS.

TURKISH GOVERNMENT OPPOSED TO THE MOVEMENT.

Washington, D.C., Dec. 30.—The Department of State recently received from the United States Minister at Constantinople information that the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey had informed him that the Turkish Government had no intention to prevent American citizens whether Jews or Christians (coming as individuals and not en masse) from visiting Syria or Palestine as travellers or visitors, the only object of that government being to prevent further colonization of Palestine by Jews, as the settlement there of religious bodies in preponderating numbers might lead to political complications, which it is the purpose of the Ottoman Empire to avoid.

The foregoing official announcement appears to have a direct bearing on the Zionist movement for the establishment of a Jewish nation in Palestine.

BRITAIN AND CANADA.

TORONTO PAPER'S FOOLISH ALLEGATION CONTRADICTED IN LONDON.

Toronto, Dec. 31.—The 'Evening Telegram's' special cable, dated London, Dec. 30, says:—"The 'Evening Globe' ridicules a statement made by the Toronto 'World' to the effect that England, in order to gain the friendship of the United States, would part with Canada. No terms that could be offered, it declares, could persuade Britain to adopt such a course."

FRENCH SUBMARINE BOATS.

London, Dec. 31.—Interesting details have been published regarding the French submarine boat 'Gustave Zede,' which, it is claimed, has just emerged from some successful tests at Toulon. She is said to have torpedoed the French ironclad 'Magenta' twice, once while the latter was anchored, and the second time when she was moving. The only drawback, it was pointed out, is that the eddy caused by the boat betrayed her movements at 1,500 yards in broad daylight. The principal of the invention is that the boat is no longer blind, two lieutenants having invented an eye which facilitates submarine progress. Another French submarine boat, the 'Gymnote,' is now armed with torpedoes, and a third, to be named the 'Lorse,' will be ready in March.

REMNANT OF THE KHALIFA'S ARMY DEFEATED.

Cairo, Dec. 31.—Information has reached here that the Anglo-Egyptian troops under command of Colonel Lewis, have defeated the dervishes, under Emir Fedil.

Col. Lewis has been pursuing Fedil and his followers, who comprise the remnants of the dervish army, up the Blue Nile, ever since the defeat and rout of the Khalifa at Omdurman. It is believed that Fedil's defeat is the final stroke.

ONTARIO CIVIC ELECTIONS.

MAYOR SHAW RE-ELECTED IN TORONTO—THE RESULT IN OTHER PLACES.

Toronto, Jan. 2.—The mayoralty contest to-day, was really a fight between Mr. John Shaw, who held the office last year, and Mr. E. A. Macdonald, who boasted at the nomination of having on a previous occasion received eight thousand votes, and who to-day received over ten thousand. Ald. McMurrich was not a serious competitor, and his presence in the field was claimed to be a help to Mr. Macdonald, who was generally opposed by the press of the city, and who, is something of a character in municipal politics. Mr. McMurrich got only 3,762 votes out of 25,000 cast. He was supported warmly by the 'Globe,' while Mr. Shaw had the 'Mail and Empire' as his chief newspaper champion.

The vote for the three candidates was as follows:—

	Mac-	Mc-	
	Donald	Murrich	Shaw
Ward No. 1	1,470	216	1,188
Ward No. 2	1,727	689	2,083
Ward No. 3	1,680	738	2,112
Ward No. 4	2,681	998	2,449
Ward No. 5	1,888	342	1,588
Ward No. 6	1,328	569	1,322
Total	10,224	3,762	11,025
Plurality for Shaw			799
Total vote polled			25,000

The aldermanic elections resulted:—

Ward No. 1.—Frame, Russell, Frankland, Stewart.
No. 2.—Hallam, Lamb, Spence, Davies.
No. 3.—Sheppard, Saunders, Scott, Stenier.
No. 4.—Burns, Crane, Hanlan, Hubbard.
No. 5.—Denison, Woods, Dunn, Graham.
No. 6.—Graham, Gowanlock, Bowman, Lynd.

Public school trustees: Ward No. 1, Lebb, Norris; No. 2, Noble, Allan; No. 3, Adams, Baird; No. 4, Kent, Ogden; No. 5, Spence Douglas.

All the by-laws were carried as follows:—

	For.	Against.	Majority for.
Market by-law	4,546	2,157	2,389
Don improv't	3,802	2,650	1,152
Expansive Improvement	3,803	2,459	1,344

OTTAWA.
Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 2.—The solid Catholic vote, as expected, gave Ald. Payment a large majority for the mayoralty over his two English-speaking and Protestant opponents. The figures are as follows:—Ald. Payment, 3,905; ex-Ald. Stewart, 2,432; Ald. Cluff, 2,301. The 'Free Press' (the government organ) tried to make the fight a political one, with the result that seventeen Conservatives are elected to the council as against eight Liberals. A plebiscite on the question of Sunday street cars was taken, with the result that 4,695 declared for a Sunday service, and 3,019 against. The City Council will now have to go to the Ontario Legislature to secure the necessary authority for the service.

CORNWALL.

Cornwall, Ont., Jan. 2.—The municipal election here to-day resulted in an easy victory for Dr. Alguire over ex-Reeve Angus Lalonde for the Mayor's chair. Eight hundred and ninety-three votes were cast, and of these Dr. Alguire got 641, and Mr. Lalonde 252, leaving the former a majority of 379. The only other contest was for first deputy reeve between two members of the council of 1888, Messrs. W. J. Derochie and Alex. Cunningham. Mr. Derochie won by a majority of 284. By-laws to raise \$10,000 to improve the waterworks system, and \$35,000 to pay floating indebtedness and build permanent roadways, both carried. The council for 1899 will be:—Mayor, Dr. Alguire; reeve, P. E. Campbell; first deputy reeve, W. J. Derochie; second deputy reeve, R. Larnar; councillors, D. J. Gillies, E. H. Brown, N. J. Fraisl, J. B. Aitchison, A. McCracken, J. E. Snetinger, T. Dextrax, W. R. Mack and G. W. Runnions.

MAYORS ELECTED.

Toronto, Jan. 2.—Municipal elections took place throughout Ontario. Mayors were elected in the principal towns as follows:—
Oakville—Dr. John Urquhart.
North Bay—J. M. McNamara.
Tilsonburg—M. T. Bura.
Trenton—M. B. Morrison.
Alliston—Dr. McCullough.
Niagara—N. F. Best.
Bowmanville—R. R. Loscombe.
Penetanguishene—D. J. Shanahan.
Toronto Junction—Peter Laughton.
Wingham—Thos. Clegg.
Smith's Falls—A. G. Farrell; majority, 37.

Perth—A. C. Shaw.
Arnprior—M. D. Graham.
Kingston—Edward Ryan; 132 majority.
Hamilton—J. V. Teitzel, Q.C.; by 700 majority.
London—J. D. Wilson, re-elected.
Guelph—R. E. Nelson.
St. Thomas—Patrick Meehan.
Stratford—James Hood.
Orillia—Thos. H. Shppard.
Goderich—R. S. Thompson.
Oshawa—R. S. McLaughlin.
Perth—M. D. Graham.
Mitchell—A. Burritt.
Meaford—J. D. Hammill.
Berlin—Mayor Eden.
Amherstburg—J. A. Patton.

Gananoque—W. B. Carroll.
Bracebridge—John Thompson.
Gravenhurst—Chas. Mickle.
Harrison—Dr. S. M. Henry.
Midland—S. A. Milligan.
Lindsay—Thos. Walters.
Cobourg—E. C. S. Huyle.
Welland—D. Hooker.
Forest—W. O. Hay.
Listowel—J. A. Hacking.
Brampton—W. E. Milner.
Galt—J. H. Radford.
Leamington—W. McSweeney.
Ridgetown—A. McKinley and John Reycraft, a tie.
Essex—Dr. Bryen.
Napane—T. D. Pruyn.
Niagara Falls—R. P. Slat.
Picton—Jas. Clapp.
Sandwich—E. Girardot.
Owen Sound—W. S. Middlebro.
Collingwood—John Chamberlain.
Walkerton—Dr. Stalker.
Waterloo—Geo. Diebel.
Port Hope—J. W. Quinlan.
Peterboro—A. L. Davis.
Milton—J. S. Deacon.
Port Arthur—Geo. T. Marks, re-elected mayor, 57 majority.
Rat Portage—W. McCarthy, re-elected mayor.
Woodstock—Benson McNichol.
Belleville—J. W. Johnson.
Chatham—T. A. Smith.
St. Catharines—M. Y. Keating.

THE LATEST TELEGRAMS.

St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, Ont., built in 1825, took fire at an early hour on Sunday morning, and was burned in a few hours. The entire interior was destroyed, and the loss will be heavy, with insurance of \$25,000 in the Sun, Lancashire, Northern, Alliance, and Gore Mutual companies. John Sands and John Burns, firemen, were injured by flying slates and bricks from the walls.

Joseph Vacher, a monster, who killed and mutilated a number of young men, boys and women in a career of bloody deeds in France, was guillotined at Bourc-en-Bresse, capital of the Department of Ain, on Saturday. He was 29 years old, had been a soldier, and it were charitable to believe him, when he said he was irresponsible for his criminal acts, since he had no object save devilry in the killing. He declared himself opposed to society in all its forms, and an enemy to all government. Cunning and remorseless, accident was rather in his favor in giving him opportunity of escape. The Marquis de Villeplaine was the most conspicuous of Vacher's victims. He stunned the Marquis on his own estate near the Spanish border with a blow of a stick, and then cut his throat. He escaped to Spain at that time. His mania commenced in 1894, and he had once been in an inmate of a lunatic asylum.

A despatch from Peking says that the Empress Dowager has warned governors that reforms ordered in the different departments must be carried out within a month. The same despatch states that the British have refused to surrender certain property the Chinese had included in the surrender to the Russians of the Han-Kau territory. This has caused a deadlock.

The two missing boats of the British steamer 'Glenavon,' which were believed to have gone down, have been rescued, and the only persons now missing are chief mate Nixon; Mr. Wilson, second steward, and two Chinese. Mr. Smith, a quartermaster, who swam to Lin Ting Island, died of exposure.

Mrs. Botkin, who was found guilty of sending poisoned candies from San Francisco which murdered Mrs. Dunning in Delaware, has been awarded life imprisonment. Her lawyers will try to get a new trial.

Henry Norman cables from London under date of Jan. 1 that an upheaval is preparing in France which will place the monarchy once more in power. This, he declares, will happen in the near future, and he believes that Prince Victor Napoleon, and not Louis, will be the choice.

It is now declared that a commission will be sent to examine Dreyfus at Cayenne. Emile Zola is in London, and Gen. Picquart has received a number of Christmas messages in prison.

Havana was evacuated on Sunday by the Spaniards. Captain-General Castellanos in formal words handed the command of Cuba over to General Brooks as the noon gun was fired. There was a large number of United States and Cuban officers of rank present, and the ceremonial was carried out by the Captain-General with all courtesy. The United States flag was raised and was saluted by the Spaniards, the Spanish flag was saluted by the United States troops, and the Spaniards went on board the transports for Spain.

Vesuvius was in eruption on Saturday, two streams of lava having reached the slopes of Monte Somma, which flanks Mount Vesuvius on the north. They come from the crater formed in 1875.

The London correspondent of the New York 'Post,' expects that there will be trouble between France and Britain before the French shore matter on Newfoundland coasts has been settled.

Chinese Imperial troops are stated to have achieved a decisive victory on Dec. 27, in the Szechuan district.

Colonel Kitchener's brother has been ordered to take command of the expedition sent to capture the Khalifa, and has taken with him reinforcements to crush the fugitive of Omdurman, who has been raiding Arab villages near Dulin.

One hundred miners were entombed in the mine of the Carlinville (Illinois) Coal Company, on New Year's Day, and there was a scene of terror in Carlinville until the fire in the shaft which had caused the trouble, was extinguished. Every man was finally brought out in safety.

General Gordon's sister, in a letter to the 'Times,' says she is certain her deceased brother would have had the bible studied and its principles taught had he established a college at Khartoum.

The seventh Soudanese battalion presented Major Marchand with the standard of the Emir, whom he had fought with and defeated prior to the arrival of the British-Egyptian troops at Fashoda. The Soudanese had captured the Emir's party after Omdurman had fallen.

Gen. Gascoigne has been made C.M.G. in recognition of his services to the Canadian militia. Baron Cromer has been created a viscount, Sir Philip Currie, ambassador to Rome, and Sir Henry Hawkins have been raised to the peerage. Sir Henry Thompson has been made a baronet; Lord Dunraven is now a privy councillor for Ireland, Sir Edward Chester, who commanded the Immortalite at Manila, has been made a C.M.G.

A Paris despatch says that Queen Victoria told the ex-Empress Eugenie about the time when the Fashoda incident was alarming Europe that if war should break out between France and Britain she would pray God to allow her to die before hostilities should begin.

GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE.

Lord Salisbury and M. Cambon Endeavoring to Effect a Settlement.

PROSPECT NOT VERY PROMISING FOR AN AGREEMENT.

London, Jan. 1.—For the last week there has been almost continuous diplomatic negotiations in progress at the Foreign Office between Lord Salisbury and M. Cambon, the French Ambassador. These two shrewd diplomats have been endeavoring to effect a settlement of the long-standing colonial disputes between and France that have time and again almost precipitated war.

M. Cambon left London to-day to return to Paris, and to report to the Foreign Minister, M. Delcasse, the results of the negotiations he has been carrying on with the British Premier.

According to information obtained at the British Foreign Office, Lord Salisbury has proposed a general settlement of the disputes, but his terms are such that it is not believed that France can accept the proposals for a general entente, because Great Britain demands too much and concedes too little. Lord Salisbury's proposals include the cession of Gambia, a part of Sierra Leone, in Africa, in exchange for the surrender of all French rights on the shores of Newfoundland, except St. Pierre, Miquelon, which will be retained by France, but must not be fortified, France will not be asked to vacate the island of Obock, at the entrance of the Red Sea.

Lord Salisbury lays claim, to a British sphere of influence in Central Africa extending to the shore of Lake Tchad, and in return for this France would be granted a trading access to the White Nile.

While these trading differences are being settled, the disputes between the two countries in the Far East, namely Siam and China, will be considered. The Premier has also notified the French Ambassador that the French opposition to the Anglo-German agreement concerning the partition of Portuguese East African possessions, will be ignored.

The negotiations for the division of Portuguese territory in South Africa has progressed rapidly recently, and there is good authority for the statement that protocols have been exchanged between Great Britain and Portugal regarding these possessions. Great Britain is to get the territory around Delagoa Bay, extending as far as the Quillmanne River. The Delagoa Bay Railway, which was constructed by Colonel McMurdo, and American engineer, and wrongfully seized by the Portuguese Government, will be acquired by an Anglo-German syndicate. It is understood that this syndicate will pay the \$9,000,000 award of damages rendered against the government by the Swiss arbitration tribunal for the seizure of the railway.

In this division of African territory, as agreed between Great Britain and Germany, the latter is already to get some rich possessions in the region of Delagoa Bay. Germany is to have the territory extending from the northern bank of the Quillmanne River as far as Cape Delgado.

It is believed that the entente arranged between Great Britain and Portugal includes a guarantee of assistance from the British fleet and forces in the event of Portugal becoming involved in any war.

The opinion is expressed in diplomatic circles that any settlement by dispute between Great Britain and France on the basis of Lord Salisbury's proposals is a long way off. The Portuguese agreement, especially after M. Delcasse's protest to Lisbon, will be likely to increase France's hostility to a general settlement.

CANADA.

Tender Invited For British

Toronto, Dec. 31.—A London cable says that the British Government has transmitted to the Canadian Government a letter from the British Government inviting that it will be pleased to consider a letter from the British Government offering that it will be pleased to consider any Canadian firm of tender to supply and apply and prove their ability to carry out their contracts.

Mr. Chamberlain, when writing to the Commissioner that the British South America Company desires to arrange a change of mining publications with the Dominion Government.

The Hon. Mr. Doherty stated in his speech on Wednesday, by the 'Minister,' that negotiations were not sufficiently advanced to enable him to issue a public statement.

The supply of the new Canadian Imperial postage stamp obtained by the high commissioner, for sale in England, was exhausted on the first day they were offered for sale.

It is learned that the difficulties regarding space at the Paris Exhibition in 1900 have been practically settled. Canada obtains a larger allotment than was at first expected; but not as much as was applied for.

BARON CURZON.

Bombay, Dec. 31.—Baron Curzon of Kedleston, the new Viceroy of India, who arrived here on Thursday from England, with Lady Curzon and their children, landed to-day, the warships in port firing a royal salute. The city was decorated with flags, and Lord Curzon was received by the heads of the military, naval, ecclesiastical, legal and civil departments. An address of welcome was presented to the new Viceroy by the Corporation of Bombay. It was enclosed in a silver casket of Indian workmanship and expressed the keen and intense gratification experienced by all classes at his appointment.

Lord Curzon, replying, thanked those present for the gracious welcome extended to him and his wife, who, he added, came to India with sympathies as warm as his own, and who looked forward with earnest desire to a life of happy work in their midst. At the conclusion of the reception Lord and Lady Curzon were driven in an open lahdan to Government House, escorted by the Bombay Light Horse.

On entering the native city there were no troops, the Viceroy preferring to meet the natives without a military display. This tactful arrangement was greatly appreciated. This part of Bombay fairly swarmed with the most diverse nationalities and costumes. Lord and Lady Curzon took the children with them in the procession. The youngsters stood the voyage well.

General surprise was expressed that Lord Curzon should look almost innocent and the natives were struck by his youthful appearance. In travelling to Calcutta strict orders have been issued that no train is to pass the viceregal special between stations. The viceregal party will not travel by night. The train will be shunted on to a siding, where the party will sleep until daybreak.

Lord Sandhurst, the Governor of Bombay, and Lady Sandhurst received Lord and Lady Curzon on the steps of Government House.

The new Viceroy and Lady Curzon will start for Calcutta this evening.

London, Dec. 31.—The Bombay correspondent of the 'Times' says: "The Sandhurst and Stripes was prominent in the display on the arrival of Lord and Lady Curzon. The natives showed their eagerness to obtain a look at their new over. Lord Curzon's replies to the addresses presented, which promises to give earnest consideration to what is recommended and declaring a willingness to profit by the advice of members of the Chamber of Commerce and other bodies, firmly declined at the present stage to make any pronouncement on the currency or other problems facing India, a feature of the reception was the cordiality of all the castes."

The Bombay correspondent of the 'Daily Mail' says: "Lord Curzon made a favorable impression. He promised to 'hold the scales even' between the native and ruling communities, generally commented on. The Viceroy was ruddy and beaming, in a white and gray frock coat, with the decoration of the Star of India. Lady Curzon, charming in a dress of pale green, rather low, a necklace of pearls, and a white picture hat."

RENEW — RENEW

Subscribers are again reminded of the closing of the year, and the opening of another year, that commences with the 'Weekly Witness' on the 3rd of January, the same time. We would like to see our subscribers to get their names on the list, and secure the 'Weekly Witness' for the coming year. We would like to see our subscribers to get their names on the list, and secure the 'Weekly Witness' for the coming year. We would like to see our subscribers to get their names on the list, and secure the 'Weekly Witness' for the coming year.

THE MERMAID.

A Love Tale,

BY L. DOUGALL,

author of 'Beggars All,' 'What Necessity Knows,' 'A Dozen Ways of Love,' etc.

ALTER VI.—FROM HOUR TO HOUR WE RIPE—

The elder Simpson gradually learned to spend more money upon his son; it was not that the latter was a spendthrift or that he took to any evil courses, but simply because a gentleman and had need for money of which his father could not, unaided, have conceived. Caius was too virtuous to desire to spend his father's hardly-gathered stores unnecessarily; therefore, the last year of his college life in Montreal he did not come home in summer, but found occupation in that city by which to make a small income for himself.

In those two years he learned much of medical and surgical lore—this was of course, for he was a student by nature; but other things that he learned were, upon the whole, more noteworthy in the development of his character. He became fastidious as to the fit of his coat and as to the work of the laundress upon his shirt-fronts. He learned to sit in easy attitude by gaudily-dressed damsels under sparkling gaslight, and to curl his fair moustache between his now white fingers as he talked to them, and yet to moderate the extent of the attention that he paid to each, not wishing that it should be in excess of that which was due. He learned to value himself as he was valued—as a rising man, one who would do well not to throw himself away in marriage. He had a moustache first, and at last he had a beard. He was a sober young man; as his father's teaching had been strict, so he was now strict in his rule over himself. He frequented religious services, going about listening to popular preachers of all sorts, and critically commenting upon their sermons to his friends. He was really a very religious and well-intentioned man, all of which stood in his favor with the more sober portion of society whose favor he courted. As his talents and industry gained him grace in the eyes of the dons of his college, so his good life and good understanding made him friends among the more worthy of his companions. He was conceited and self-righteous, but not obviously so.

When his college had conferred upon him the degree of doctor of medicine, he felt that he had climbed only on the lower rungs of the ladder of knowledge. His father, not himself, who had chosen his profession, and now that he had received the right to practice medicine he experienced no desire to practice it; learning he loved truly, but not that he might turn it into golden fees, and not that by it he might assuage the sorrows of others; he loved it partly for its own sake, perhaps chiefly so; but there was in his heart a long-enduring ambition, which formed itself definitely into a desire for higher culture, and hoped more indefinitely for future fame.

Caius resolved to go abroad and study at the medical schools of the Old World. His professors applauded his resolve; his friends encouraged him in it. It was to explain to his father the necessity of this course of action, and wheedle the old man into approval and consent, that the young doctor went home in the spring of the same year which gave him his degree.

Caius had other sentiments in going home besides those which underlay the motive which we have assigned. If as he travelled he at all regarded the finery of all that he had acquired, it was that he might by it delight the parents who loved him with such pride. Though not a fop, his hand trembled on the last morning of his journey when he fastened a necktie of the color his mother loved best. He took an earlier train than he could have been expected to take, and drove at furious rate between the station and his home, in order that he might creep in by the side door and greet his parents before they had thought of coming to meet him. He had also taken no breakfast, that he might eat the morsel of the manifoldainties which his mother had in readiness.

For three or four days he feasted hilariously upon these dainties until he was ill. He also practiced all the airs and graces of dandyism that he could think of, because he knew that the old folks, with ill-judging taste, admired them. When he had explained to them how great a man he should be when he had been abroad, and how economical his life would be in a foreign city, they had no greater desire than that he should go abroad, and there wax as great as might be possible.

One thing that consoled the mother in the heroism of her ambition was that it was his plan to first spend the long tranquil summer by her side. Another was that, because her son had set his whole affection upon learning, it appeared he had no immediate intention of fixing his love upon any more material maid. In her timid jealousy she loved to come across this topic with him, not worldly-wise enough to know that the answers which returned her did not display the noblest side of his heart.

"And there wasn't a girl among them all that you fancied, my lad?" With sparkling apron round her portly form she was serving the morning rasher while Caius and his father sat at meat.

"I wouldn't say that, mother; I fancied

them all." Caius spoke with generous condescension towards the fair.

"Ay," said the father, shrewdly, "there's safety in numbers."

"But there wasn't one was particular, Caius," continued the dame with gleeful insinuation, because she was assured that the answer was to be negative. "A likely lad like you should marry; it's part of his duty."

Caius was dense enough not to see her true sentiment. The particular smile that, in the classification of his facial expressions, belonged to the subject of love and marriage, played upon his lips while he explained that when a man got up in the world he could make a better marriage than he could when comparatively poor and unknown.

Her woman's instinct assured her that the expression and the words arose from a heart ignorant of the quality of love, and she regarded nothing else.

The breakfast-room in which they sat had no feature that could render it attractive to Caius. Although it was warm weather, the windows were closely shut and never opened; such was the habit of the family, and even his influence had not strength to break through a regulation which to his parents appeared so wise and safe. The meadows outside were brimful of flowers, but no flower found its way into this orderly room. The furniture had that desolate sort of gaudiness which one sees in the wares of cheap shops. Cleanliness and godliness were the most conspicuous virtues exhibited, for the room was spotless, and the map of Palestine and a large bible were prominent objects.

The father and mother were in the habit of eating in the kitchen when alone, and to the son's taste that room, decorated with shining utensils, with its door open to earth and sky, was infinitely more picturesque and cheery; but the mother had a stronger will than her son, and she had ordained that his rise in the world should be marked by his eating in the dining-room, where meals were served whenever they had company.

Caius observed also, with a pain to which his heart was sensitive, that at these meals she treated him to her company manners also, asking him in a clear, firm voice if he "chose bread" or if he would "choose a little meat," an expression common in the country as an elegant manner of pressing food upon visitors. It was not that he felt himself unworthy of this mark of esteem, but that the bad taste and the bad English grated upon his nerves.

She was a strong, comely woman, this housemother, portly in person and large of face, with plentiful gray hair brushed smooth; from the face the color had faded, but the look of health and strong purpose remained. The father, on the other hand, tended to leanness; his large frame was beginning to be obviously bowed by toil; his hair and beard were somewhat long, and had a way of twisting themselves as though blown by the wind. When the light of the summer morning shone through the panes of clean glass upon this family at breakfast, it was obvious that the son was physically somewhat degenerate. Athletics had not then come into fashion; Caius was less in stature than might have been expected from such parents; and now, after his years of town life, he had an appearance of being limp in sinew, nor was there the same strong will and alert shrewdness writer upon his features. He was a handsome fellow, clear-eyed and intelligent, finer far, in the estimation of his parents, than themselves; but that which rounded out the lines of his figure was rather a tendency to plumpness than the development of muscle, and the intelligence of his face suggested rather the power to think than the power to utilize his thought.

After the first glad days of the home-coming, the lack of education and taste, and the habits that this lack engendered, jarred more and more upon Caius. He loved his parents too well to betray his just distress at the narrow round of thought and feeling in which their minds revolved—the dogmatism of ignorance on all points, whether of social custom or of the sublime reaches of theology; but this distress became magnified into irritation, partly because of this secrecy, partly because his mind, wearied by study, had not its most wholesome balance.

Jim Hogan at this time made overtures of renewed friendship to Caius. Jim was the same as of old—athletic, quick-witted, large and strong, with his freckled face still innocent of hair; the red brush stood up over his unnaturally high forehead in such fashion as to suggest to the imaginative eye that wreath of flame that in some old pictures is displayed round the heads of villains in the infernal regions. Jim was now the acknowledged leader of the young men of that part who were not above certain low and mischievous practices to which Caius did not dream of condescending. Caius repulsed the offer of friendship extended to him.

The households with which his parents were friendly made great merry makings over his return. Dancing was forbidden, but games in which maidens might be caught and kissed were not. Caius was not diverted; he had not the good nature to be in sympathy with the sort of hilarity which was exacted from him.

CHAPTER VII.—A SEA CHANGE.

In the procession of the swift-winged hours there is for every man one and another which is big with fate, in that they bring him peculiar opportunity to lose his life, and by that means find it. Such an hour came now to Caius. The losing and finding of life is accomplished in many ways: the first proffer of this kind which time makes to us is common-

ly a draught of the wine of joy, and happy is he who loses the remembrance of self therein.

The hour which was so fateful for Caius came flying with the light winds of August, which breathed over the sunny harvest fields and under the deep, dark shade of woods of fir and beech, waving the gray moss that hung from trunk and branch, tossing the emerald ferns that grew in the moss at the roots, and out again into light to catch the silver down of thistles that grew by the roadside and rustle their purple bloom; then on the cliff, just touching the blue sea with the slightest ripple, and losing themselves where sky and ocean met in indistinguishable azure fold.

Through the woods walked Caius, and onward to the shore. Neddy Morrison was dead. The little child who was lost in the sea was almost forgotten. Caius, thinking upon these things, thought also upon the transient nature of all things, but he did not think profoundly or long. In his earlier youth he had been a good deal given to meditation, a habit which is frequently a more sign of mental fallowness; now that his mind was wearied with the accumulation of a little learning, it knew what work meant, and did not work except when compelled. Caius walked upon the red road bordered by fir hedges and weeds, amongst which blue and yellow asters were beginning to blow, and the ashen seeds of the flame-flower were seen, for its flame was blown out. Caius was walking for the sake of walking and in pure idleness, but when he came near Farmer Day's land he had no thought of passing it without pausing to rest his eyes for a time upon the familiar details of that part of the shore.

He scrambled down the face of the cliff, for it was as yet some hours before the tide would be full. A glance showed him that the stone of baby Day's tablet yet held firm, cemented in the niche of the soft rock. A glance was enough for an object for which he had little respect, and he sat down with his back to it on one of the smaller rocks of the beach. This was the only place on the shore where the sandstone was hard enough to retain the form of rock, and the rock ended in the small, sharp headland which, when he was down at the water's level, hid the neighboring bay entirely from his sight.

The incoming tide had no swift, unexpected current as the outgoing water had. There was not much movement in the little channel upon which Caius was keeping watch. The summer afternoon was all aglow upon shore and sea. He had sat quite still for a good while, when, near the sunny island, just at the point where he had been pulled ashore on the adventurous night when he risked his life for the child, he suddenly observed what appeared to be a curious animal in the water.

There was a glistening as of a scaly, brownish body, which lay near the surface of the waves. Was it a porpoise that had ventured so near? Was it a dog swimming? No, he knew well that neither the one nor the other had any such habit as this lazy basking in sunny shallows. Then the head that was lying backwards on the water turned towards him, and he saw a human face—surely, surely it was human!—and a snow-white arm was lifted out of the water as if to play a while in the warm air.

The eyes of the wonderful thing were turned toward him, and it seemed to chance to see him now for the first time, for there was a sudden movement, no jerk or splash, but a fish-like dart toward the open sea. Then came another turn of the head, as if to make sure that he was indeed the man that he seemed, and then the sea-maid went under the surface, and the ripples that she left behind subsided slowly, expanding and fading, as ripples in calm waters do.

Caius stood up, watching the empty surface of the sea. If some compelling fate had said to him, "There shalt thou stand and gaze," he could not have stood more absolutely still, nor gazed more intently. The spell lasted long; some three or four minutes he stood, watching the place with almost unwinking eyes, like one turned to stone, and within him his mind was searching, searching, to find out, if he might, what thing this could possibly be.

He did not suppose that she would come back. Neddy Morrison had implied that the condition of her appearing was that she should not know that she was seen. It was three years since the old man had seen the same apparition; how much might three years stand for in the life of a mermaid? Then, when such questioning seemed most futile, and the spell that held Caius was loosing its hold, there was a rippling of the calm surface that gave him a wild, half-fearful hope.

As gently as it had disappeared the head rose again, not lying backward now, but with pretty turn of the white neck, holding itself erect. An instant she was still, and then the perfect arm which he had seen before was again raised in the air, and this time it beckoned to him. Once, twice, thrice he saw the imperative beck of the little hand; then it rested again upon the rippled surface, and the sea-maid waited, as though secure of his obedience.

The man's startled ideas began to right themselves. Was it possible that any woman could be bathing from the island, and have the audacity to ask him to share her sport?

He tarried so long that the nymph, or whatever it might be, came nearer. Some twelve feet or so of the water she swiftly glided through, as it seemed, without twist or turn of her body or effort; then paused; then came forward again, until she had rounded the island at its nearest point, and half-way between it and his shore she stopped, and looked at him steadily with a face that seemed to Caius singularly womanly and sweet.

Again she lifted a white hand and beckoned him to come across the space of water that remained.

Caius stood doubtful upon his rock. After a minute he set his feet more firmly upon it, and crossed his arms to indicate that he had no intention of swimming the narrow sea in answer to the beckoning hand. Yet his whole mind was thrown into confusion with the strangeness of it. He thought he heard a woman's laughter come across to him with the lapping waves, and his face flushed with the indignity this offered.

The mermaid left her distance, and by a series of short darts came nearer still, till she stopped again about the width of a broad highroad from the discomfited man. He knew now that it must be truly a mermaid, for no creature but a fish could thus glide along the surface of the water, and certainly the sleek, damp little head that lay so comfortably on the ripple was the head of a laughing child or playful girl. A crown of green seaweed was on the dripping curls; the arms playing idly upon the surface were round, dimpled, and exquisitely white. The dark brownish body he could hardly now see, it was foreshortened to his sight, down slanting deep under the disturbed surface. If it had not been for the indisputable evidence of his senses that this lovely sea thing swam, not with arms or feet, but with some snake-like motion, he might still have tried to persuade himself that some playful girl, strange to the ways of the neighborhood, was disporting herself at her bath.

It was of no avail that his reason told him that he did not, could not, believe that such a creature as a mermaid could exist. The big dark eyes of the girlish face opened wide and looked at him, the dimpled mouth smiled, and the little white hand came out from the water and beckoned to him again.

He was suffering from no delirium; he had not lost his wits. He stamped his foot to make sure that the rock was beneath him; he turned about on it to rest his eyes from the water sparkles, and to recall all sober, serious thought by gazing at the stable shore. His eye stayed on the epitaph of the lost child. He remembered soberly all that he knew about this dead child, and then a sudden flash of perception seemed to come to him. This sweet water-nymph, on whom for the moment he had turned his back, must be the baby's soul grown to a woman in the water. He turned again, eager not to lose a moment of the maiden's presence, half fearful that she had vanished, but she was there yet, lying still as before.

Of course, it was impossible that she should be the sea-wraith of the lost child; but, then, it was wholly impossible that she should be, and there she was, smiling at him, and Caius saw in the dark eyes a likeness to the long-remembered eyes of the child, and thought he still read there human wisdom and sadness, in spite of the wet dimples and light laughter that bespoke the soulless life of the sea-creature.

Caius stooped on the rock, putting his hand near the water as he might have done had he been calling to a kitten or a baby.

"Come, my pretty one, come," he called softly in soothing tones.

The eyes of the water-nymph blinked at him through wet-fringed lids.

"Come near; I will not hurt you," urged Caius, helpless to do aught but offer blandishment.

He patted the rock gently, as if to make it by that means more inviting.

"Come, love, come," he coaxed. He was used to speak in the same terms of endearment to a colt of which he was fond; but when a look of undoubted derision came over the face of the sea-maid he felt suddenly guilty at having spoken thus to a woman.

He stood erect again, and his face burned. The sea-girl's face had dimpled all over with fun. Colts and other animals cannot laugh at us, else we might not be so peaceful in our assumption that they never criticize. Caius before this had always supposed himself happy in his little efforts to please children and animals; now he knew himself to be a blundering idiot, and so far from feeling vexed with the laughing face in the water, he wondered that any other creature had ever permitted his clumsy caresses.

Having failed once, he now knew not what to do, but stood uncertain, devouring the beauty of the sprite in the water as greedily as he might with eyes that were not audacious, for in truth he had begun to feel very shy.

"What is your name?" he asked, throwing his voice across the water.

The pretty creature raised a hand and pointed at some object behind him. Caius, turning, knew it to be the epitaph. Yes, that was what his own intelligence had told him was the only explanation.

Explanation? His reason revolted at the word. There was no explanation of an impossibility. Yet that the mermaid was the lost child he had now little doubt, except that the wholly doubted the evidence of his senses, and that there was a mermaid.

He nodded to her that he understood her meaning about the name, and she gave him a little wave of her hand as if to say good-bye, and began to recede slowly, gliding backward, only her head seen above the disturbed water.

"Don't go," called Caius, much urgency in his words.

But the slow receding motion continued, and no answer came but another gentle wave of the hand.

The hand of Caius stole involuntarily to his lips, and he waited a kiss across the water. Then suddenly it seemed to him that the cliff had eyes, and that it might be told of him at home and abroad that he was making love to a phantom, and had lost his wits.

The sea-child only tossed her head a little higher out of the water, and again

he saw, or fancied he saw, mirth dancing in her eyes.

She beckoned to him and turned, moving away; then looked back and beckoned, and darted forward again; and doing this again and again, she made straight for the open sea.

Caius cursed himself that he had not the courage to jump in and swim after her at any cost. But then he could not swim so fast—certainly not in his clothes. There was something so wonderfully human about her face, he mused to himself. His mind suggested as was its wont, too many reasonable objections to the prompt heading course which alone would have availed anything.

While he stood in breathless uncertainty, the beckoning hand became lost in the blur of sparkling ripples; the head, lower now, looked in the water at a distance as like the muzzle of a seal or dog as like a human head. By chance, as it seemed, a point of the island came between him and the receding creature, and Caius found himself alone.

(To be continued.)

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

JENNIE WREN'S POST CHRISTMAS.

It was a cold and cloudy January afternoon, the air felt like snow and the few passers-by hurried along as if trying to escape from the keen, piercing blast.

Jennie Warren stood by the window of the warm upstairs sitting-room, her forehead pressed against the pane, and an expression of weariness and discontent upon her pretty face.

By and by a carriage turned the corner and rolled along, stopping before the door, and a bright-faced lady got out, and after an upward glance and wave of her hand, she came up the steps and rang the bell. Then in a moment a sweet voice was heard calling through the hall "Where is my Jennie Wren?"

The little girl's face was bright with smiles as she ran out, crying, "Oh Cousin Florence, how good of you to come; I was so lonely and cross—it seemed as if I should die!"

The lady put her arm around her and led her back into the room, then, seating herself before the pleasant open fire she drew the child down beside her.

"Now, Jennie," she said brightly, "what is the matter; come, confess to Cousin Flo—"

"Oh, everything," said Jennie. "To begin with, I couldn't go out for a walk because Nurse Brown has such a swelled face, so I thought it would be nice to have a doll's teaparty, and I sent over for Alice and Elsie White, but they couldn't come because Alice had to take her music lesson, and Elsie was going shopping with her mamma. Well, I thought I'd have the party by myself, and I got out all my things, but it was no fun—all alone—and dolls are such stupid things. Cousin Flo!"

Cousin Florence smiled. Even the wonderful talking baby that Aunt Mary sent you on Christmas?"

"Oh, that is more stupid than all the rest—it just says 'Twinkle, twinkle, little star' over and over in such a horrid squeaky voice. It is too silly, and you'd never know what it meant if the box it came in hadn't been labelled. It sounds just as much like—"

Tinkle, tinkle, little star,
Over yonder—there you are—
Up and down the streets you go,
Like a newsboy through the snow,

and Jennie mimicked the doll's squeaking voice exactly.

Cousin Florence laughed outright at this new version of the pretty old rhyme.

"There they all are"—Jennie continued, pointing to a row of dolls seated upon the sofa—these fashionably-dressed ladies and gentlemen, sailor boys and little girls, and Japanese dolls of different sizes, and one pretty baby in long clothes.

"Did you ever see such a sight, Cousin Flo? All staring at you with their big round eyes—it's enough to give you nervous chills! And then, she went on solemnly, not noticing the amused smile that quivered about her cousin's lips, "I grew so cross and discontented. I began to count over all my Christmas presents and they are not nearly as nice as those I had last year, except the lovely baby doll papa gave me, and your beautiful books, those are sensible, but everything else is silly and tiresome—even the teaset has two saucers cracked, and the spoons are such horrid little pewter things. I felt I had no patience left! Now, Cousin Flo, did you ever hear of such a cross, disagreeable, ungrateful little girl?"

Cousin Flo gave the ungrateful little girl a hug. "I think my 'Jennie Wren' will feel better after such an honest confession. And now, what shall we do about these hateful presents?"

"I feel as if I never wanted to see them again," sighed Jennie.

Cousin Florence looked at her thoughtfully for a moment, and then she smiled.

"If you really mean that, Jennie, suppose you give them away to some poor little children who would think them the most beautiful things in the world?"

Jennie looked half frightened at the idea. "I think I would like to," said she, doubtfully.

"Well, come and get them together, everything that you don't want."

"I want to keep the baby doll—and the books you gave me."

"Very well; now hurry, and we will take them with us in the carriage and you shall make lots of poor little children happy who never have had such Christmas gifts before."

clapped her hands, "here we really can't carry any more, so run and get your things on—as fast as you can."

"Shall I get mine?" she put on my best hat and coat, Cousin Flo?"

"No, 'Jennie Wren,' get into your commonest coat and your oldest hat as quickly as possible, then come and help me carry all these things down to the carriage."

Jennie ran off to find her nurse, and Cousin Florence stood waiting with a sad smile upon her kind face. "Poor motherless little girl," she thought, "she has found out already how empty the pleasure of having is—let me see if she will not be happier, young as she is, in giving pleasure to others."

Jennie soon returned with her eyes bright and her cheeks glowing with excitement, and together they carried the toys down and heaped them up in the carriage.

Then when Cousin Flo had given a few words of direction to the coachman, they started off.

"But where are we going? Jennie asked at length.

"We are going to a house," said Cousin Flo, "where twelve sick children are taken care of by kind people who try to nurse them back to health. And these little ones 'Jennie Wren,' are all taken from squalid homes in the poorest parts of the city, where they were beaten and ill-used—and here they are made as comfortable and happy as sick children can be—I do not think that any of them have ever seen such toys as these."

They soon reached the plain brick house with neat white-curtained windows; and as they entered, Jennie hung back shyly, and almost as if she were afraid.

Cousin Flo spoke a few words with the matron, and then they put down their packages in the hall. "We will leave them here, Jennie," she said, "until you have seen the children, and then you shall distribute them yourself."

They went into a light, airy room where six little white beds stood side by side, and through an open door Jennie saw another row of similar beds. In each room a pleasant-looking woman with a white cap, and a large white apron over her black dress, sat sewing by the window, while the little patients under her charge were either bolstered up in their beds, amusing themselves with simple toys, or else lay quietly watching their little neighbors. A Christmas star of evergreens and holly berries was the only ornament on the bare, white walls.

"This is the boys' ward," Cousin Flo told Jennie, as she led her from bed to bed, with a kindly word for each of their little occupants. Jennie looked and listened silently.

One little bright-eyed fellow, whose foot had been crushed by a heavy truck, was sitting up in bed, trying to draw with the stump of a pencil on the margin of an old newspaper. Jennie gently pulled her cousin's sleeve. "I'd like to give him my paint-box and crayons and the painting book," she whispered.

Cousin Florence smiled, as she nodded assent.

In the next cot lay a little cripple who was drumming with his fingers on the counterpane and trying to hum a little tune. "He shall have the music box," she whispered. And so they went from bed to bed.

When they entered the girls' room, Jennie opened her brown eyes wide to see them all so happy with their poor shabby toys.

In one cot a little deformed girl lay fast asleep; her face was very sweet, in spite of its pale, pinched look, and her pillow was covered with the masses of her soft, light hair.

"There is a dolly for each one," whispered Jennie, "and the tea set for them all together,—but she," and she pointed to the sleeping child, "she shall have the prettiest doll of all."

They went out to get the toys, and

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Jennie offered them very shyly to the boys at first, though soon she was laughing merrily at their astonishment, and their quaint expressions of delight. 'Oh! cried one little fellow, 'What a stunner! Little girl, you're a regular brick.'

The smiling matron tried to make them express their thanks in proper words, but their rough expressions of pleasure pleased Jennie best of all, and her little heart was very light and happy when she finally parted from them, and went to give her discarded dolls to the six poor little girls.

And then what rapture, as the children hugged and kissed their new treasures, laughing and murmuring their inarticulate delight! Very quietly, so as not to disturb her, Jennie placed the prettiest of the dolls on the bed by the little deformed girl, and there—even when it was time to go—she lingered, hoping to see her awake. And at last the sleeping child slowly opened her eyes, and the first thing they rested on was this wondrous doll—more beautiful than anything she had ever seen!

Cousin Florence put her arms about Jennie and hurried her away, followed by a chorus of happy voices 'crying, 'Good-by, good-by, little girl—come and see us again.'

The early winter twilight had fallen before the carriage stopped again at Jennie's home. A man's figure could be dimly seen at the window where Jennie herself stood in so discontented a mood only two little hours before.

'Good-by, my "Jennie Wren," said Cousin Florence, giving her a hearty kiss. 'It is so late that I will not go in,—but there is papa watching for you, and waiting to hear all about what you have been doing this afternoon.'

Jennie fairly flew up the stairs and threw herself into her father's arms. 'Oh, papa, papa,' she cried, 'I've had such a lovely time! What do you think? Cousin Flo and I have been to the hospital, and I have given all my Christmas toys to the poor little sick boys and girls, and I never, never was so happy before—in all my life!'—'Church Evangelist.'

HOW THE SOUTH LONDONERS WERE CAUGHT.

The Rev. G. W. Oliver, writing to his old comrade, the editor of the 'Indian Methodist Times,' gives the following interesting account of how Mr. Meakin, who, with Mr. Houkins, is doing such great things in our South London Mission, found out how to attract the people in the first place:—

'The story of Mr. Meakin's work is most interesting. Throwing up, in mature life, a splendid prospect and a good income, he came to take charge of an almost empty chapel. Nor could he fill it. For months he worked with no apparent success, till it seemed as if "impossible" were written upon his effort. One day, passing along the streets of his district, his eye was struck by the sight of a crowd of the very people he wished to reach, gathered round a news-agent's shop. Drawing near, he found that they were waiting their turn to see the pictures in the illustrated papers. The idea went home, and straightway he went off to the 'Graphic' and 'Illustrated' offices, and obtained permission to make lantern slides of their pictures—the only condition being that he should not lend them. So he announced a Friday evening meeting at which the news of the week would be illustrated by the limelight. The first week he had four hundred people; the second, about double that number; in a month the chapel was packed; in three months his almost empty chapel was filled on Sunday nights also; and since then he has never looked back.'

The South London Mission has grown by leaps and bounds, and now the missionaries are going to build a hall at a cost of twenty-five thousand pounds.

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THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL The Curtis Publishing Company Philadelphia, Pa.

WINDOW GARDEN TALKS.

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

What a fairy-land has been seen from the window-garden some days this Christmas week, for every tree and twig was coated with ice, and bent into fantastic shape by the weight, and when the sun shone over all it made a glittering scene that no artist could copy. Unsightly buildings were for the time being white and bejewelled with sudden sparkling beauty, but there was an alloy to our enjoyment of it, for such a coating, especially if the wind blows, is certain to injure fruit trees, as it breaks down branches and destroys buds, and for this there is not any remedy. Some school children passing, linger a while with faces upturned and suddenly laugh, for the Christmas turkey, on the ice-covered roof of the carriage-house is slipping about until he loses his balance and tumbles down headlong, frightening the family horse that was quietly drinking at the trough, and finds the gobbler alight on his back. Quite bewildered he seems, and then flies down in alarm, as if humiliated by his sudden loss of equilibrium. So slippery and uncertain are the heights of even a turkey's ambition.

When some cherished branch or graft is found broken next spring we shall doubtless remember the ice that gave us the glittering beauty of this week, but left such unwelcome results. The plants seem almost asleep, for the days are dull, I have been watching some buds and hoping they would develop, but they make little growth, or else the very fact of waiting and watching makes one impatient, and like many other things in life we are too anxious to see results.

My pot of violets is turned regularly to the window, watered on the earth and not on the leaves, with lukewarm water, but the buds are pale, and do not open properly; they lack sunshine to bring out their beauty and perfume, as a life need's affection to develop its best qualities. A plant of mignonette is opening its unpretending flowers, and the faint, sweet perfume reminds one of summer days. There is something about mignonette that commends it to every one, and it well deserves the expression given to it in floral language, 'Your qualities surpass your charms.'

PLANTS IN SCHOOL. Mrs. McD., Vermont, writes an interesting letter in which she says, 'It may interest you to know a little about the schools here in regard to "growing things." The children are taught to know at sight the leaves of forest trees. They collect leaves and the teacher shows them the different parts and explains the structure and growth. Their compositions are of plants, and they are expected to describe the medicinal and other uses. They take beans, and corn, peas and other seeds to the school and grow in window boxes, where they are carefully tended, and the growth studied. Pot plants are in every room and I have never seen the teacher's desk without flowers in summer time. It is considered a good influence on the children, even the noisy ones seem to value them, and beg for slips.'

In Montreal our Horticultural Society has done a great deal to encourage the children in their love for flowers, and to acquire a taste for cultivating plants. All the children attending public schools can become members by paying twenty-five cents, and poor children are given free membership.

Two plants with flower pots and cultural directions are given to each juvenile member early in the season. The plants are grown by the children and entered for competition at the fall exhibition, when upwards of two hundred prizes are awarded, and those competing are admitted free into the exhibition. In this way parents who wish to teach a child to care for plants have a method before them that gives an incentive and an interest in the work.

LONDON PRIDE AND AURICULAS. The same writer asks if the above-named plants can be grown in this country out of doors. Writing of London Pride, with its various synonyms, 'Nancy Pretty (none so pretty), St. Patrick's Cabbage, and others, she says: 'I have never seen this flower since I left Scotland forty-three years ago, but can recall the borders of my father's garden filled with it. I have often wanted to know if it can be grown here. Ans.—Your question brought to my mind a very pleasant letter on spring flowering-plants acclimated in this country, that came to me lately from the president of one of the most wide awake horticultural societies in Ontario, in which he says: 'The London Pride (Saxifraga umbrosa) is not catalogued by American or Canadian florists, but can be procured in England. Our native Saxifraga S. Virginia seems to thrive, for I find it in great abundance up among the barren islands of the Georgian Bay.'

Speaking from my own experience with this plant, I can only repeat what I mentioned some years ago in this paper, that I once saw a row of it growing in a back yard in St. Charles Borromeo street, Montreal. It was a delightful surprise, and proved that some one had loved and cared for this little Old Country flower. The Auricula will not endure the rigor of our winters unprotected, and as much is needed to protect them against the sun as against the cold. Florists grow them in pots and keep in cold pits, or in a cool greenhouse, and they will do well where Chinese primroses flourish. They must not be exposed to storms, or the powdery bloom on the surface of



A WILD PAIR FROM THE NORTH AT THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.—Illustrated London News.

The hundredth annual cattle show of the Smithfield Club was opened on Monday, Dec. 5, last, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, at Islington, and was visited that day by their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, and Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein. The Prince of Wales, on this occasion, made his first public appearance in London since his accidental injury to his left knee, and was able to walk round the show without any assistance. He is president of the club in this year of its centenary existence, and is a successful

competing exhibitor, as well as a donor of prizes and eminent royal patron. The accompanying illustration shows a lively specimen of Scotch cattle newly arrived from its Highland home and evidently ill at ease under the glare of the electric lights and the stare of the many thousand visitors. Perhaps, too, the long railway journey from Caithness has disordered his nervous system and he is unable by speech to impart his doubts and fears to his attendant, so has to do so by actions, which take the said attendant all his time to control.

the flower, which is its chief beauty, is certain to be damaged. It is this powdery appearance that gives the flower its name of 'Dusty Miller.' The plant can be grown from division of the roots, but I have two or three thrifty plants from seed sown in April, that I hope will blossom soon.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

A VEGETABLE LAMB.

'Curiosity' asks if it is true that in Russia there is a plant called vegetable lamb? Ans. There is a species of fern of which travellers tell wonderful tales. It consists merely of the decumbent shaggy caudex of the fern, which, when inverted, cause the stipes of four of the fronds when suitably placed, to appear like legs, and when the rest is taken away these candices appear like a small woolly animal. The travellers tell us that on an uncultivated plain grows this plant, with all the appearance of a lamb, with feet, head and tail distinctly formed, and its skin covered with soft down. 'The lamb' grows upon a stalk about three feet high, it turns and bends with the wind, and pines away when the grass dries up with drought. When cut open the plant presents a soft flesh-like appearance. The superstitious people of that region once believed that there existed creatures, half animal, half plant. It has been proved to be the root of a large fern covered with its natural yellow down, and that the inverting had to be done to cause the resemblance to a quadruped. But in New Zealand there is a genus of plants related to the Gnaphalium that causes great inconvenience to the shepherds, as at a distance the clumps so closely resemble sheep that they are often mistaken for them, when the herders call their flocks in from the mountains.

ROYAL GEORGE GERANIUMS.

Alice.—These, properly speaking, are pelargoniums, and when well cultivated are beautiful plants for the window garden. They come from the Cape of Good Hope and are natives of dry arid plains, and so are accustomed to extreme dryness at certain seasons. The roots are few, and after blooming they need to rest for a while. If you have had your plant three years and it has not bloomed, as you wish, it will be best to cut it back in spring, to four or five inches in height, always paying attention to making a good shape when pruning. When new shoots are about an inch long, re-pot the plant in one size larger than the former pot. The soil must be rich loam, with sand and leaf mold well rotted, to cultivate pelargoniums successfully. They do not like a hot dry atmosphere, but do well in a room slightly warmed. If you think it is likely to bloom towards spring give a little more water. On no account give stimulating food, fertilizer or liquid manure till buds are formed; otherwise you are certain to have 'nothing but leaves.'

INSECTS ON PLANTS.

'S. W.' writes that her plants are dying from the ravages of a 'little black fly,' and asks a remedy. Ans.—Without seeing the 'black fly' it is not very easy to determine, but most things of that sort succumb to tobacco water. Soak a piece of tobacco all night, and in the morning strain the water, and taking down each plant, wash very thoroughly in the solution. You had better get fresh earth and bake it before using, in which case all the insects and larvae will be killed, then carefully re-pot.

PAPER CAPS ON BULBS.

I peeped under a shelf over a radiator the other day, and found two flower pots

left without a word, the door banging after them and I found myself alone with my samples. 'With a somewhat heavy heart I packed and got ready to leave, but thought before taking the train I would go and say "good-bye" to show there was no hard feelings. I called in about half an hour and extending my hand pleasantly wished them good-day. 'Where the d— are you going,' said one of the partners. 'You are not going without an order from us, are you? What will the house say?' 'I am certainly going and I regret to say, I would have liked to have booked you, but as to what the house will say I am not anxious. I shall feel proud that I have declined to violate my principles, even for the sake of a fat order.' 'Have you packed up yet?' was the rejoinder, and being informed such was the case, the dealer continued, 'Go back and open up those samples and we will be over in fifteen minutes.' I did so and they both rejoined me. I sold them the biggest bill they ever got from the house and left that night with feelings that can be better imagined than described. That was my most trying experience along the treating line and my standing to my guns then saved me many a humiliation and pang afterwards. Fortunately, as I have said, the evil is fast disappearing. I have always felt that a man who had to be coaxed to buy goods with whiskey and cigars was not, taking it all around, a desirable customer. Competition has become so keen that whiskey sucks do not stand much chance.' We give the above leaf from the book of a well known traveller for the encouragement of younger men in the profession who lack the moral backbone to stand out against this curse, and for the purpose of showing retailers the senselessness of connecting social business transactions with the swilling of liquor into one's anatomy. The thing is so absurd that it is killing itself.—'Canadian Baker and Confectioner.'

CONCERNING THE NAVY.

Unlike ordinary bluejackets, the officers of a warship have to practically feed and clothe themselves when afloat, they being allowed a small sum per diem, which does not cover a quarter of the expenses of living. When entertaining officials or friends all the expenses come out of their pockets. The ration for every man aboard ship, from the captain downwards, is the same.

Although the regulations of the navy do not permit of officers of any grade carrying their wives to sea with them, there are a few cases where by special permission this regulation is abrogated. The wife of the captain of the 'Britannia' is permitted to live on board, and on a recent occasion Admiral Sir John Fisher, when proceeding to the North American and West Indies station as commander-in-chief, was permitted to take Lady Fisher with him in the 'Renown.' A previous instance had not occurred for many years.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Just a Cough Not worth paying attention to, you say. Perhaps you have had it for weeks. It's annoying because you have a constant desire to cough. It annoys you also because you remember that weak lungs is a family failing. At first it is a slight cough. At last it is a hemorrhage. At last it is easy to cure. At last, extremely difficult.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral quickly conquers your little hacking cough. There is no doubt about the cure now. Doubt comes from neglect. For over half a century Ayer's Cherry Pectoral has been curing colds and coughs and preventing consumption. It cures Consumption also if taken in time. Keep one of Dr. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral Plasters over your lungs if you cough. Shall we send you a book on this subject, free? Our Medical Department. If you have any complaint what ever and desire the best medical advice you can possibly obtain, write the doctor freely. You will receive a prompt reply, without cost. Address, Dr. J. C. Ayer, Lowell, Mass.

READABLE PARAGRAPH.

AT PARIS. 'You must pay us \$200,000,000,' Spanish peace commissioner. 'We won't,' declared the American missioner. 'Gentlemen,' interposed the chairman, 'think this is enough work for this day. Let us go out and have dinner together now.'—Cleveland 'Plain Dealer.'

THE FACTS IN THE CASE.

There was trouble of some kind reported on Desplaines street the other night, and the editor told the new reporter to go over and get the details. He got them, as may be seen from his account of the affair, which is as follows:

'A man killed a dog belonging to another man. The son of the man whose dog was killed proceeded to whip the man who killed the dog of the man he was the son of. The man who was the son of the man whose dog was killed was arrested on complaint of the man who was assaulted by the son of the man whose dog the man who was assaulted had killed.'—Chicago 'News.'

ALWAYS READY.

'I'm ready,' shouted the speaker, 'to meet calmly any emergency that may arise.' At this moment the platform collapsed, and the speaker exhibited great perturbation. 'How about that one?' they asked him later. 'That one did not arise.'—Indianapolis 'Journal.'

A CASE OF COMPULSION.

'Mack is dieting.' 'What for? He isn't so big.' 'Well, he's bigger than his last year's overcoat.'—Detroit 'Free Press.'

HER QUEER TASTE.

With all the flowers of manhood; That are blooming o'er the mead; 'Tis strange that little Wilhelmine, Should take up with a Wied. —Cleveland 'Plain Dealer.'

'Here is another sign of a hard winter.' 'What is it?' 'The holes in the doughnuts are smaller than usual.'—Chicago 'Record.'

'Look here,' said a young Lieutenant. 'This uniform you have made for me is entirely too large.' 'That's all right,' explained the tailor; 'when you get it on you will feel so big that it will be a perfect fit.'—'The Bits.'

IN COURT.

Friend—'Your lawyer is always taking exceptions. I wonder what it all means?' Client—'I dunno. May be he's going to charge me extra for them.'—'Puck.'

Little Mike—'Feyther, what is an octogenarian?' McLubberty—'An octogenarian, me b'y, is a mop that has eight toes on each foot.'—'Harpur's Bazaar.'

Mother (drilling Teddy for his first party)—'And now, darling, what is a greedy boy?' Teddy—'A boy who wants everything want.'—'Truth.'

HAD TO GO.

'We are worried about Julia; she got out of a sick bed to go to a matinee.' 'How could she?' 'She had to go; she had a ticket.'—Chicago 'Record.'

The following advertisement from a North of England newspaper is worth saving from oblivion:—'Good stylish bicycle, £10 for sale, by a young lady enamelled black and geared to sixty-eight. Address—'

'I do not say that man will steal,' said a witness on trial, 'but if I was a chicken, I'd roost high when he was around.'

A BLUNDER.

'Mrs. Gabbler made a dreadful blunder when she met Admiral Cervera.' 'What was it?' 'She asked him if he had ever read "Ships that Pass in the Night."—Detroit 'Free Press.'

He asked her in yearning pleading tones if he could not give her an engagement ring as a Christmas present. But she comes of a thrifty, long-headed family that never loses its presence of mind. 'No, darling,' she softly whispered, 'I will not keep you in suspense. I will take the ring now. Let Christmas bring its happy surprises, just as usual.'—Detroit 'Free Press.'

WILL STICK TO IT.

'We give baby all sorts of things to play with, but she won't stick to any of them.' 'Did you every try the gum brush?'

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

Wyseman—'I make it a rule never to ask a gentleman to return money he has borrowed of me.' Pratt—'Then how do you manage to get it?' Wyseman—'Oh, after I wait a reasonable time, if he fails to pay up I conclude that he is not a gentleman, and then I ask him.'—'The Bits.'

CASTORIA For Infants and Children.

The Boys' Page.

Lo, the Poor Indian!

(E. Nesbit, in 'Pall Mall Magazine'.)

It was all very well for father to ask us not to make a row, because the Indian uncle was coming to talk business...

in the apply part. The other thing that was burnt—you must have smelt it—it was the soup.



'I DON'T SUPPOSE HE WAS USED TO POLITENESS FROM BOYS.'

of the dessert, and had it on the stairs—just round the corner, where they can't see you from the hall unless the first landing gas is lighted.

When he went back into the study he didn't shut the door properly. That door has always been a little tiresome, since the day we took the lock off to get out the pencil sharpener H. O. had shoved into the keyhole.

Then the poor Indian said something about vintage—and that a poor, broken-down man like he was couldn't be too careful.

Then Noel said: 'Now I understand. Of course, my father is making a banquet for the Indian because he is a poor, broken-down man.'

'Poor people are very proud,' said Alice; 'and I expect father thought the Indian would be ashamed, if all us children knew how poor he was.'

Then Dora said, 'Poverty is no disgrace. We should honor honest poverty.'

And we all agreed that that was so.

'I wish his dinner had not been so nasty,' Dora said, while Oswald put lumps of coal on the fire with his fingers, so as not to make a noise.

'Time you were in bed, young man—eh—what?'

Then I saw I must speak plainly with him, man to man. So I did. I said: 'You've been dining with my father, and we couldn't help hearing you say the dinner was shocking.'

'I hope the poor Indian is honest,' said Dicky gloomily. 'When you are a poor, broken-down man silver spoons must be a great temptation.'

Oswald told him not to talk such Tommy-rot; because the Indian was a relation, so of course he couldn't do anything dishonorable.

'And the Brussels sprouts were all wet and swimming,' Dora went on, 'and the potatoes looked gray, and there were bits of black in the gravy; and the mutton was bluey-red and soft in the middle.'

'Upon my word! and what's your name, eh?'

out. This seems like deceit; but if you are a thoughtful and considerate boy you will understand that we could not go down and say to the uncle in the hall under father's eye.

And as the poor Indian came down our steps he saw me there at the gate. I did not mind his being poor, and I said, 'Good evening, uncle,' just as politely as though he had been about to ascend into one of the gilded chariots of the rich and affluent, instead of having to walk to the station a quarter of a mile in the mud, unless he had the money for a tram fare.

'Good evening, uncle,' I said it again, for he stood staring at me. I don't suppose he was used to politeness from boys; some boys are anything but—especially to the aged poor.

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'Upon my word! and what's your name, eh?'

of us had the sweets and cocoanuts. It was a very glorious and beautiful feast, and when it was over we said we hoped it was better than the dinner last night.

'I'll take the threepenny-bit,' said he, 'but I couldn't rob you of the rest. By the way, where did you get the money for this most royal spread, eh?'

He smoked a cigar while we finished up what was left to eat, and told us about tiger-shooting and about elephants.

'I'll take the threepenny-bit,' said he, 'but I couldn't rob you of the rest. By the way, where did you get the money for this most royal spread, eh?'

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(To be continued.)

'Oswald Bastable,' I said. 'Oswald Bastable?—eh, bless my soul! said the poor Indian. 'Yes, I'll dine with you, Mr. Oswald Bastable, with all the pleasure in life. Very kind and cordial invitation, I'm sure. Good night, sir! At one o'clock, I presume?'

We did not tell my father that the uncle was coming to dinner with us, for the polite reason which I have explained before. But we had to tell Eliza, so we said a friend was coming to dinner and we wanted everything very nice.

He shook hands with us all, and asked our ages, and what schools we went to, and shook his head when we said we were having a holiday just now.

Then the uncle asked: 'Do you carve, sir, or shall I?'

Suddenly Alice said: 'Would you like grown-up dinner, uncle, or play dinner?'

So we at once showed the uncle how to be a dauntless hunter: the rabbit was the deer we had slain in the green forest with our trusty yew bow, and we toasted the joints of it, when the uncle had carved it, on bits of firewood, sharpened to a point.

But he had some almonds and raisins, when we had climbed to the top of the chest of drawers to pluck them from the boughs of the great trees; and he had a fig from the cargo that the rich merchants brought in their ship—the top long drawer was the ship—and the rest

of us had the sweets and cocoanuts. It was a very glorious and beautiful feast, and when it was over we said we hoped it was better than the dinner last night.

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Schoolboy Language.

In this article we are going to talk about the words and phrases and rhymes that schoolboys use amongst themselves. And for every bit of information given here the boys will be able, no doubt, to supply twice as much.

First, we make remark upon the variety of names used for classes in schools. A German travelling in England noticed the following 'class, form, division, book, school,' (e.g., lower school, senior-school); 'subdivisions also have their special names, such as 'shell,' 'remove.'

In our Canadian schools we also hear the word 'grade' frequently used to denote a class. In country parts the children tell you they are in such and such a 'reader,' instead of in a class.

What terms do the boys think preferable, and would it be of advantage for all the schools to have the terms in common?

At an English boarding school all meat is 'old horse.' No matter whether the dish is delicate spring chicken or stringy beef, the schoolboy still will make no discrimination. Sometimes he speaks of 'resurrection pie,' but all the same it is the odds and ends of 'horse' that make it up.

The English boy threatens to 'cut' his class (i.e., play truant, or 'slope'). He thinks it is a 'howling shame' that he 'breaking up,' (i.e., 'closing exercises'), should not be on such and such a day.

The schoolboy seldom troubles himself about unnecessary politeness where his companions are concerned. Should he happily slight on a new book of Smith's lying about he promptly adds to the neatly written name of 'John Smith'—is an ass, or some other equally soothing epithet.

In a volume of 'Notes and Queries' occurs the following notice: 'Schoolroom amenities in 1619.—Among several names scribbled in a bible printed by Barker in 1587, I find the following remarks, which show that even in schoolroom wit (?) there is nothing new, "Thomas Rowson is a knave, witness by Thomas Walker," and on the back of the title page, "Maria Rowson is a slut, witness by Thomas Rowson, 1619, ye fourth day of ye month."'

Schoolboys nowadays are given to adding 'is a fool' after the neatly-written name of him who leaves his books in their way, and some people may fancy they detect in a change of sentiment the reason of the change of epithet.

But though every schoolboy is perfectly willing to make use of his companion's book, either because he has lost his own or because he longs to inscribe his friend's character therein, he has a strong objection to having his own 'prigged.' He will even make elaborate preparations to guard against this contingency.

This calling down of future doom has long been practiced by schoolboys. The following is found scribbled in a well-worn Eton Latin Grammar published in 1815:—

Hic liber est meus, Testis est deus, Si quisquis furetur, Per collem pendetur, Ad hunc modum.

I call the gods to witness, That this book is mine; If any one steals it, He shall hang by the neck, In this manner.

A version of the foregoing line threatens the thief with private vengeance of legal punishment:—

Hic liber est meus, Testis est deus, Si quisquis furetur, This little libellum, Per Jovem, per Phoebum, I'll kill him, I'll fell him, In ventrem illius I'll stick my scapellum, And teach him to steal This little libellum.

In French school-books one sometimes meets with a similar inscription:—

Aspicte Pierrot pendu, Quis librum n'a pas rendu; Si Pierrot librum reddiderit, Pierrot pendu non fuisse.

Behold, Pierrot hanged, Because he did not return the book, If Pierrot had returned the book, He had not been hanged.

This is accompanied by a figure of Pierrot hanging, a personage whose gluttonous and thievish propensities correspond to those of our clown.

What other rhymes of this class do our readers know?

'COUNTING-OUT' RHYMES. But if any one is skeptical that school-

boys have a language of their own he will be convinced of the fact when he hears them 'counting out' for sides or for 'it' in a game.

Strange and somewhat uncouth are the rhymes used, but all having mysterious similarities which have, before this, set people speculating on their origin. In an early volume of 'Notes and Queries' a large correspondence on the subject of 'counting out' rhymes is recorded.

Our readers have glanced over the following selection from that correspondence, and which were those rhymes heard in Great Britain, they may perhaps care to tell us of 'counting out' rhymes popular in the Dominion. Surely, we ought to be able to see some connection between these latter and those that our ancestors must have brought, with their other paraphernalia, from the old country.

Mr. Halliwell, in his 'Popular Rhymes and Nursery Tales' (1849) gives the following:—

One-ery, two-ery, Tick-ery, tee-ry; Hollow-bone, crack-a-bone, Pen and eevy, Ink, pink, Pen and ink; A study, a stive, A stove and a sink.

Another version is: One-ery, two-ery, Tick-ery, teven, Alabo, crackabo, Ten and eleven; Spin, spon, Must be gone; Alabo, crackabo, Twenty-one.

Another is: One-er-y, two-er-y, tick-er-y, seven, Ak-a-by, crack-a-by, ten and eleven, Pin, pan, Musky Dan, Twiddle-um, twaddle-um, twenty-one, Black, fish, white, trout, Ee-ny, o-ny, You, go out.

Charles Taylor, in the 'Magpie, or Chatterings of the Pica' (Glasgow, 1820), refers to these formulas, and says:— 'It is unaccountable how these old sayings are so popular throughout the country. It is said they have originated from the Druids. For instance:—

Aery, twaery, Ducky, seven; Alamo crack, Ten am eleven, Peem pom, It must be done; Come teente, come total, Come, teente, one.

The total number of words in this old rhyme is twenty-one, and it seems to be a mixture of numbers put into rhyme; the one is just a parody upon the other, as is the case with many more old sayings.

The following, while differing considerably from the foregoing, has some likeness to one said to be used in the United States:—

Ena, mena, mona, mite, Pisca, lara, bara, bite, Elga, beiga, bore, Eggs, butter, cheese, bread, Stick, stock, stone dead, O-U-T out.

The United States one is: Eeony, meony, moony, mite, Butter, lather, honey strike, Hair, bit, frost, neck, Harrico, barrico, we, wo, walk.

We may conclude for the present with a 'counting out' rhyme heard in Norfolk, England:—

One-ery, two-ery, ickery am, Bobtail, vinegar, tittle and tam, Harum, scarum, Madrum, marum, Get you out, you little old man.

[For the Boys' Page.] THE ONTARIO INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF. AN ACCOUNT OF THE PLACE AND OF ITS SPORTS.

(By Herbert W. Roberts.) As the readers of the Boys' Page have lately been discussing the subject of school exercises, they might, perhaps, be glad to hear something about the sports that are carried on at the Ontario Institution for the Deaf.

Let me first, however, give a short account of the place itself. The Ontario Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, the only one of its kind in the 'banner province,' was built in the year 1870. It is situated a mile and a half west of the city of Belleville, Ont., and on the north shore of the famous and salubrious Bay of Quinte, overlooking Prince Edward county, which can now be mistaken for an island, since its last terminus with the mainland has been penetrated by the Murray canal.

This institution is under the control of the Federal Government being represented by the Provincial Secretary and inspector, at present the Hon. E. J. Davis and Mr. T. F. Chamberlain. During its twenty-eight years of existence over a thousand of our silent brethren have received a thorough education beneath its sheltering roof, which means a blessing to the people and a credit to the government.

For the first eleven years after its opening it was under the superintendency of the late Dr. Palmer. He was succeeded by Mr. R. Mathison, who has filled that post ever since, and has during that long period endeared himself to the hearts of many.

At present there are sixteen teachers and over a score of officers and servants, while over 200 pupils are receiving the benefit of an education. Beyond the main building are the spacious dining-room and kitchen, and immediately behind these are the engine-room and coal shed, with the laundry just above. The engine room is furnished with mammoth steam boilers, which are used in heating the whole building. The coal shed is so large that its stomach can hold thousands of tons

of coal at a single time for the consumption of the huge furnaces throughout the year.

The laundry is supplied with modern machinery, which is run by a huge belt attached to a large cylinder wheel in the engine room below. East of the engine room, and just in the rear of a beautiful lawn, is situated the new and handsome Gibson Hospital, a two-story brick structure, which is just behind the two-story 'Wood Hall.' The two top floors of this hall are reserved as dormitories for the senior male pupils, while the ground floor is occupied by a store and two school rooms. Further east are the shoe and carpenter shops. It is safe to say that nowhere else can be found better shoes than those which are made at this shop.

West of the engine room are built the bakery and the printing office which are supplied also with modern machinery. From the printing office comes the tiny little journal entitled, 'The Canadian Mute,' which finds its way into many homes all over America and even beyond the briny deep. A few yards west of the main building is the home of the worthy superintendent.

SPORTS PLAYED AT THIS COLLEGE. The first sport the pupils indulge in after returning to college in the fall is football—and the deaf are noted football players. Indeed, it is not very long since a team of this institute, gained more than local fame by winning the handsome Corby Cup, kindly donated by Harry Corby, M.P.

As soon as the cold season sets in the boys lay aside their football, and take up hockey sticks and puck. The broad bay offers plenty of space for this favorite winter sport. There is a good rink at the school, which is used when skating on the bay is impossible.

When spring comes and the ground is again fit for sports, baseball comes in for some share of attention. When it is impossible to play out of doors, inside games are taken up.

ICE-BOATING. Ice boating is very popular in winter, and, as the bay affords a large arena large numbers of people may be seen sailing their boats with great speed, comfort and symmetry. If any reader of the Boys' Page would like to build an ice-boat but does not know how to do so I will gladly give the information.

During the time I was a pupil at this institute the buildings were lighted with gas, but now this gas has been supplanted by electricity, which is a decided improvement. The government is being petitioned at present for a more commodious building, for the present building is too small to accommodate the large body of scholars who seek their education there. It is hoped that these appeals will be granted in the immediate future.

Jarvis, Ont. [For the 'Witness.'

THE SEA WANDERER.

I am weary of sea wandering, I am sick of wave and foam, I have drank the breath of many seas, And my heart calls loud for home; And the winds that from far landward blow.

Bear this one message—Come! Over and over the restless deep, With never a day of grace, Till the lengthening leagues and rolling years, Seemed to flow with an even pace; And the winds and waves of twenty seas, Have beaten about my face.

Within sight and sound of the home, And out of the crooning tide, And thro' the whispering flakes of foam, And up the bare hill side; And ev'rything singing, as I go, A dirge for her who has died.

Enough for the mariner now, A home where the winds are free; Turn again, oh, ship, thy weary prow, And out for the open sea; And on, and on, to a perfect calm, And a rest for me or thee.

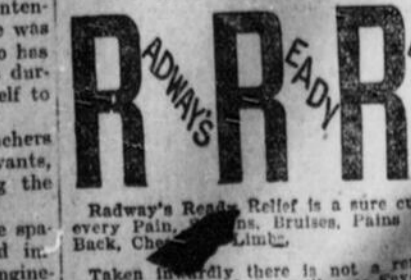
J. C. M. DUNCAN.

ADVERTISEMENTS. RHEUMATISM.

New Orleans, April 10, 1897.

DR. RADWAY & CO.: I have been a sufferer from Rheumatism for more than six months. I could not raise my hands to my head or put my hands behind me, or even take off my own shirt. Before I had finished three-fourths of a bottle of Radway's Ready Relief I could use my arms as well as ever. You can see why I have such great faith in your Relief.

Yours truly, W. C. BAKER, Engineer at A. Montelone's Boot and Shoe Factory, 559 Julia street.



Radway's Ready Relief is a sure cure for every Pain, Rheum, Bruises, Pains in the Back, Chills, etc.

Taken wherever there is not a remedial agent in the world that will cure Fever and Ague, and all other malarious, bilious and other fevers, aided by RADWAY'S READY RELIEF.

Sold by Druggists. RADWAY & CO., 754, Market St., Montreal.

LOUIS DE ROUEMONT.

Review of His Strange Story.

(By Harry Stockdale, in 'The Australasian Financial Adviser'.)

Since the advent of the suddenly-grown-famous M. de Rougement, I have been literally besieged with 'What do you think of the Frenchman, old man? so I have resolved again to state briefly and plainly my honest convictions on the matter, and give my reasons for them into the bargain. In my humble opinion, I do not think, from what I have seen of north-west Australia, that M. de Rougement will ever be classed as a writer of Australian history, however fascinating and entertaining he may be as an imaginative writer posing as an historian. Rougement's story was quite interesting enough to have appeared in its true garb of romance, and would, I dare say, even then, have been an unqualified success.

I may mention here that I have been further north-west than any other man at present known, as in my first trip to Kimberley I was considerably north of all the previous explorers, even north of the late Sir George Grey, who in turn was further north than any of the others; but, though I have certainly seen some remarkably rich ore, literally hanging together by the gold, it had been taken out of a pegged-off claim, and not open to the prospector. My first and perhaps strongest ground for doubting, or, rather, altogether disbelieving, M. de Rougement's glowing and attractive statements, is that I cannot, under any circumstances, conceive it possible for any man to be with a cannibal tribe, (if there is one) for so many years and still retain his own language in all its original fluency. Further, granting he was able to make good his escape, he would, after 28 years of such a life, be a fairly old man, and in a more or less piteous plight, and must have presented a never-to-be-forgotten sight to those who first saw him as he regained civilization, yet there has never been a single soul come forth then, or since, to make public his first meeting with this civilized cannibal chief.

If he lived and moved as a cannibal chief for so long a time he must have been gravely with some of their markings and raised cicatrices, been circumscribed, and, in all probability, have had to undergo the dread ordeal known as 'Stuart's terrible rite.' So far we have not heard one word that Rougement carried about with him such startling proofs of being what he represents himself to be. If the gallant Frenchman can, on taking off his shirt, show to his hundreds of thousands of admirers and believers the raised bars beloved of the aboriginal, or the still greater honor of 'Stuart's terrible rite,' then I, Harry Stockdale, am prepared to withdraw my doubts and unbelieving convictions, and am ready to fall down and worship, not only the most remarkable man of the nineteenth century, but of all time.

M. de Rougement's represented experiences have been altogether far removed from the common order of vicissitude by flood and field that have to be overcome by most travellers. Everything with

him has been on a royal scale, from the magnificent pigeon-egg pearls of matchless lustre to the priceless black gems that bewitched them altogether; from the proud position of a great 'Cannibal Chief' drinking out of cups of pure gold, to his equestrian performances on 'turtle back,' deftly guiding his strange steeds by his feet; everything was on a grandly heroic scale, from his Malays, who skewered sharks for sport, to the gallantry displayed by his Australian dog. All the Australian dogs—dingoes, I presume, he means—that I have seen or come across would have considered that then was their last opportunity, and would have feasted on the gallant discoverer while he lasted.

I never observed a grain of chivalry in any dingo yet, and I have seen a good number, both wild in the bush and on the teats of cannibal mothers amongst the aborigines.

How wonderful must have been the oratorical rehearsals before an admiring and critical dingo, undertaken, no doubt, with a view to fit himself for astonishing and convincing those old-world scientists who congregate and read most wonderful papers before each other, such as the great geographical and Anthropological societies of Great Britain and Ireland. Further, no Australian native has any knowledge of the use of any mineral, either gold or the baser metals. How they must have marvelled at the information afforded them by so wonderful a



CAMBRIDGE GULF ABORIGINAL WOMAN.

man, and so distinguished a traveller, whom no obstacles could overthrow, whom even a tropical 'sea of troubles'—hurricanes, typhoons, and all—could only impede, but never really divert from his course. Small wonder that this remarkable discoverer is spoken of as the 'sensation of the hour.'

He might fairly be dubbed the sensation of the present, and likely to hold the belt, if not for all time, at least for a pretty considerable time. So great is his fame that he is to be added to Madame Tussaud's well-known exhibition of wax-figures, and share honors with celebrated highwaymen, murderers and bigamists, that in some shape or another, have startled the civilized world.

But the cups of pure gold, the glorious pearls, worth the ransom of a king, and 'full many a gem of purest ray serene,' the three unheard-of rich goldfields—where, oh, where are they? Why so long, amidst all this profusion, that opens the gates alike to pauper's hut and kingly palace? How strange that no particle of all his past glory clung to him! He—the chief, the head of all—is doomed to drink from common pottery; aye, even to be hungry and long for a threepenny luncheon, whilst these unclad, yellow-ochred, pipeclayed fiends sip their beverage from cups of purest gold, aye, even from the cup of the vanished chief himself, who, fallen from his high estate, where his smallest word was an unwritten law as fixed as those of the Medes and Persians, has condescended to be taken further and further away by the hand of charity from all the glory and magnificence of untold wealth, whose possession none dared dispute with him—all this he has discarded, to be, for a brief term, the lion of the old-world curiosity hunters.

How long or how brief none may say, but the writing is already on the wall, and the hour approacheth when the prince of romancers, this dreamer of bright dreams, shall be stripped of his borrowed plumes and be once again as naked, if not as tanned, as the late cannibal chief of the great unknown tribe that, Cerberus-like, during his temporary absence guards the wealth that is so soon to kill with envy his detractors and startle the whole civilized world. For shall we not read over our morning coffee that Rougement has loaned the Russian Government £20,000,000, but has not yet decided re the £15,000,000 loan to the French Government, but has forwarded to the Museum of Paris a pearl of great lustre and price, besides the golden goblet, now so famous as the identical one used by the intrepid discoverer during his remarkable sojourn in Cambridge Gulf, North-west Australia.

Rougement is evidently lost in London without his radiant Yamba. Had he only been able to produce her in that great London hall, when he bared his arms to show that they were free from all marks of ignoble servitude. Could he but have called, in Australian fashion, 'Coo-ee, Coo-ee,' and been answered by Yamba, then could he have trampled his detractors in the dust, and turning, said

Here is Yamba—Gaze upon her. See the marking of her tribe. Scare'd on her back and limbs, sir, By the 'Wide World's' truthful scribble.

What confirms me in my opinion that M. de Rougement was never at Cambridge Gulf with the natives, is that, though he specially mentions the daily articles of foods, speaking particularly of yams and lily roots, he never alludes to the most remarkable fruit that grows in such rich profusion at this particular spot. I refer to the baobab tree.

Neither can he have described the tree to the artist, for nothing at all like

it is shown in any of the excellent illustrations attached to and adorning the story. Around Cambridge Gulf there are great numbers of these gigantic trees, some of which exceed 20 feet in diameter, or 60 feet in circumference. The fruit is very like a cocoon (see illustration), and also encased in a hard brown shell; it is most agreeable and nutritious, prepared as follows:—Taking off the shell, it comes out in creamy sections, like the sections of an orange; inside these are little hard brown seeds about the size of a coffee berry (which, when roasted, make excellent coffee); the sections of fruit and seeds are all put into a large billy-can, and covered with cold water, then brought to boiling point, and allowed to simmer for about half an hour, when the creamy appearance leaves the fruit, and it assumes a jelly-like look. The liquor is excellent either hot or cold, but when cold is quite as palatable as sherry wine, but really much more like Chablis both in taste and color, being delightfully clear to look at, and refreshing to drink. I never observed any potency it might possess as a stimulant. Perhaps, if allowed to ferment, it might be a powerful spirit. I forgot to mention that I always added sugar whilst simmering. The fruit, evidently the true Australian bread fruit, or bread nut, is one, if not the principal, article of food possessed by the natives of Cambridge Gulf and Kimberley. The tree extends in an easterly direction only to the Victoria river, but is not found within a hundred miles of Port Darwin.

Another remarkable feature of this magnificent tree is that it is deciduous, shedding its leaves after the fashion of English fruit trees, and when in bloom possesses a most powerful aroma, like honeycomb, only much more overpowering, so much so that I have had to shift my camp from under them when in blossom. Though the odor, or aroma, is most agreeable, it is too powerful to stand for long. The blossoms, or flowers, are singularly beautiful, being about 12 to 18 inches long, pendant, and of a pale creamy white in point of color. Some of the best of these trees bear quite 500 nuts. I have one nut in my possession that is about 10 inches long by 12 inches in circumference—(see illustration)—and it still seems good, though it has been in Sydney for over 12 years. I gave a number of seeds to Mr. Moore, late director of the Sydney Botanical Gardens, and to Mr. Andrew Armstrong, Spring street, Sydney, but I am not aware that either of these gentlemen succeeded in raising a tree.

Immediately behind the scene of Rougement's camp, as located by himself, to the west the ranges rise precipitately, and it is a really awkward place to get out of by land. Though it is only about 270 miles by sea from Port Darwin, it is



FRUIT OF THE 'BAOAB' TREE. (Adamsonia Gregorii.)

fully 700 by land, as so many large tidal rivers have to be headed. Here another of De Rougement's discrepancies crops up. He states: 'I did not propose staying in that forlorn spot longer than I could help. There was, however, always the hope that some day I might be able to get away by sea in my boat, or else hail some passing vessel. Whenever I went out after dugong, accompanied by Yamba (she was ever with me), the blacks invariably came down in crowds to watch the operation from the beach.' Now, surely, if we even accept the explorer's own statement as correct, what on earth was to prevent him going away whenever the wind was favorable? No one interfered with him—evidently he came and went as he liked, and more, he had always in the boat with him his more than right hand in Yamba. Further, he tells us he had great stores of dried flesh. There was nothing to prevent him simply continuing on, instead

of returning to the cannibals voluntarily day after day, and time after time. Surely, the boat that had brought him 200 miles, without sight of land, was more or less safe to coast along to the east, where he could anchor every night, or nearly so, in some sheltered spot. Thus the danger of the blacks following him he would be safe from, as the mouth of Cambridge Gulf is some 15 miles wide, the tide rising about 22 feet. Consequently, a very strong current sets in, so that the natives have no means of crossing except by allowing the current to carry them a long way out of a given line.

Lacrosse Island, which extends nearly midway in the entrance, is about 600 c. 700 feet high, and from the sea presents a rugged, fortress-like appearance. Its westerly end slopes gradually down to the sea, and possesses a fine, clear, sandy beach, with a long, grassy slope, retreating towards the freestone of which it is formed. Turtles in certain seasons of the year abound here, and the blacks cross over on logs to take their eggs. Back, or east of the beach, there are long slopes of grass, reaching about one and a half miles, after which the island becomes very rugged indeed—full of deep, wavy ravines, which make the travelling both slow and fatiguing. There are several watering-places on the island, and, probably, some of these are permanent. I saw some small kinds of kangaroo or wallaby; in fact, there is not much life on the place, and it is of little value, except as a quarry, the stone being splendid, with thousands of tons already squared, and about the size of a 400-gallon tank.

The gulf is about 70 miles long, and contains another and larger island, called Adolphus. This island I also leased for some time, but never saw either the cannibals or their precious drinking vessels there, though the natives do at times visit it.

Another very common article of food to the aborigine of that locality are the black and white geese which frequent some of the lagoons and large swamps in thousands. These geese, when fat, are very good eating. At night time they leave the swamps, and roost in trees. Yet the observant Rougement noted it not.

Continuing, he has not yet mentioned another rare and interesting article of food—the native peach. I used to cook a five-quart billy-full at a time, and eat them stewed with sugar. The peach tree also sheds its leaves in autumn. There is also a remarkable kind of cork tree growing in this locality, which is so light that it will float when green or fresh cut. De Rougement—full, I suppose, of thoughts of Yamba and his ceaseless longing for salt—overlooked these little peculiarities of his cannibal home.

Another striking omission in this strangely weird narrative is not that the days are not given, but that also the very seasons or times of the year, and even the years themselves are omitted. Thus it is hard to say when he was here, or when he was there.

Another, to me, fatal—and, certainly, very glaring—omission is the non-use of native names, for such every-day words as yes and no, spear and throwing stick, tomahawk and honey (not mentioned), water and yams, the camp, and day and night, the dog and woman, or lubra, boy, girl, and their wooden water bowls. Yet he had long discussions with them, took part in their coroborees, and duly felled his bride with a waddy (coroborees and waddies are names not used there). Again, figs and honey, that are gathered daily (the latter, one of the principal foods, entirely overlooked). The natives—that is, the lubras—are constantly out gathering little hard black seeds, often using a large sea shell for the purpose of holding them. These are ground, and made into paste, and are not at all bad eating. Then M. De Rougement makes no mention of a throwing stick, but tells us the natives never miss with the spear, 'and in all the years I was amongst these people, I never knew one to miss his aim. The spears used were about five feet long, with a blade made either of bone or stone, and a shaft made of some light hard wood.' It is a pity this traveller did not bring any one of these spears. I did, but the spears I brought are over 12 feet long, and some had bamboo shafts, and long, barbed heads of hardwood, and others were tipped with glass, some with quartz, and some with stone. I have at present two remarkably fine spear heads from Cambridge Gulf, made of a kind of quartzite. One is beautifully serrated, the other is quite plain, and nearly 10 inches long. When De Rougement first entered Cambridge Gulf, and the natives sent the word around by means of signal fires, they responded in thousands, until the big beach was packed, and I beheld a vast, surging crowd of excited blacks—men, women and children, all perfectly naked—standing on the beach. When the writer entered the same gulf, and landed from a large ocean-going steamer—the 'Whampoa'—the shore showed no such array of manly strength and beauty unadorned. And though the steamer's fires flashed from a hundred hills no cannibal king or queen, or prince or princess—not even an ordinary everyday mar-eater—showed up to welcome me. In this, as in all other Cambridge Gulf experiences, M. De Rougement and the writer are not in accord, but I cannot but admit that the genial Swiss tells much the more thrilling story; thus once again I have reason to be somewhat envious of his good fortune. His entry was one of triumph, great chiefs in all the fighting attire received him as a bridegroom, and gave unto him a princess of the reigning line. One and all striving, in fact, falling over each other, to do him homage and make him sleek and fat. Heralded by his dark Biscuits to the wigwams or wurleys of her people and there bid to choose a home after his own

ADVERTISEMENTS. Startling Fatality of Croup.

The terror of childhood is croup. It is the most fatal of all diseases among babies and young children. It usually begins with all the appearance of a common cold. The child coughs, is restless, has more or less fever. As the disorder progresses, if relief is not had, the fever increases and breathing becomes very difficult. At last this difficulty becomes permanent, the pulse fails, the face becomes pale and is bathed in cold sweat and the end is not far off.

Shiloh's Consumption Cure is a sure cure for croup, as half a century of successful experience clearly shows. Mrs. J. B. Martin, of Huntsville, Ala., writes to the S. C. Wells Co., of Le Roy, N. Y., as follows:

"GENTLEMEN: I write this letter to tell you what a valuable medicine you have in your Shiloh's Cure. I think it is the greatest remedy ever discovered, and several of my friends to whom I have recommended it are as enthusiastic as I am. My baby, who is now nearly two years old, was brought up on Shiloh, and a fatter or more healthy baby cannot be found in this section. If he were croupy of a night, had a cough or a cold, one or two doses invariably relieved him. I would not be without a bottle of it in the house for ten times the price of it. It has saved me many a dollar in doctor's bills. I will send you a picture of my Shiloh baby if it will be of any service to you."

Shiloh's Consumption Cure is sold by all druggists on a positive guarantee that the purchase money will be refunded in case the medicine does not do everything that is claimed for it. 25c., 50c. and \$1 a bottle in United States and Canada. In England is. 2d., 2s. 3d. and 4s. 6d.



heart, and he did so while I had to lay me down, weary and tired, on the bare rocks, too fagged even to search the heavens to see if there might chance to be a glowing star waiting to be to me 'an omen' and 'bearing a mysterious message of hope and consolation, startling even the solemn stillness of the tropical night.' I am afraid once again I missed my opportunity, for, if that omen came, I saw it not, though I had the 'tropical night' and 'the stars,' and the heavy dew that wet me through my rug; De Rougement never mentioned the dew because he was shielded from all such annoyance, his more than slave, the faithful Yamba, protected him, and it might be that he really knew not that such things were, and thus seeing, as he saw, all things from such a different point of view, is it to be wondered at that there should be between us a wide disparity in our description? He spoke as one who had been within the charmed home-circle, I as one from without; he as a pampered Prince, I as one who longed for the morsel that he was casting away from him; he as a ruler in the land, if we admit his own assertions; even his wishes were anticipated. I was but the stranger within his gates, and, for aught I know, owe my life to his clemency. He, it might have been who, unseen, kept back the cannibal hordes, not from welcoming but from eating me. I can picture him naked, but for that crimson silk middle piece, tanned from all semblance to a white man, erect as the cannibals themselves, the long hair ('never cut since childhood') floating on the breeze, at his side the loving 'Yamba,' at his feet the trusty Bruno. I can see the outstretched arm as he bids that vast surging crowd of savages—stand back, these are my brethren—hurl but a single spear, and the land that bore ye shall know ye not. The argument then reverts to this, 'circumstances alter cases.' That has been tried and found true, so we must admit it, and admitting it, allow that it was my misfortune to see and find things, as I did see and find them, whilst 'twas De Rougement's destiny, under the 'omen of the glowing star,' to be compelled, as it were, to view things differently from a brighter side. He had in 'Yamba' the key to the secret hiding-places of the treasures of a long array of dusky kins, and being, as it were, their 'prophet,' he might even have held the keys of the cannibal 'safe deposit.' And thus I grieve that the illustrious Swiss did not have, as Prince Ranji said of the Australian cricketer captain, 'Trott's adhesive fingers,' and so have clung to a few of the 'great catches' that appear to have been at all times so profusely cast before him.

THE CZAR'S SCOTCH BLOOD. Rather an important discovery has been made by a contributor to the new number of the 'Proceedings of the Anglo-Russian Literary Society.' The Romanovs—the ruling family of Russia—derive their descent from Andrew Campbell, a Scotsman. The Czar of all the Russias is Ly descent a Highlandman, and McCallum More is his tribal or clan chief. Andrew Campbell, the progenitor of the Romanovs, found his way across the Continent through Russia to Moscow, to the Court of the Grand Duke Alexander Nevsky, and his descendants rose to high position there. The Czar Ivan Vasilievitch married a daughter of one of these Moscow Campbells, and this lady became known to history as the Empress 'Anastasia Romanovna.' It was from her brother Nikita that the Romanovs descended.—'Scottish American.'

The Razor Steel, Secret Temper, Cross-Cut Saw.



We take pleasure in offering to the public a Saw manufactured of the finest quality of steel, and a temper which 'to-gain and refine the steel, gives a beener cutting edge and holds it longer than by any process known. A saw to cut fast 'must hold a keen cutting edge.'

This secret process of temper is known and used only by ourselves. These Saws are elliptic ground thin back, requiring less set than any Saws now made, perfect taper from tooth to back. Now, we ask you, when you go to buy a Saw, to ask for the 'Maple Leaf, Razor Steel, Secret Temper Saw, and if you are told that 'some other saw is as good ask your merchant to let you take them both home, and try them and keep the one you like best.

Silver steel is no longer a guarantee of quality, as some of the poorest steel made is now branded silver steel. We have the sole right for the 'Razor Steel' brand. It does not pay to buy a Saw for one dollar less, and lose 25 cents per day in labor. Your saw must hold a keen edge to do a large day's work.

Thousands of these saws are shipped to the United States, and sold at a higher price than the best American Saws. Manufactured only by

SHURLY & DIETRICH, GALT, ONTARIO.

BEES WAX

Farmers and others having genuine BEES WAX to sell will hear of a purchaser. Address

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

A CHANGE

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

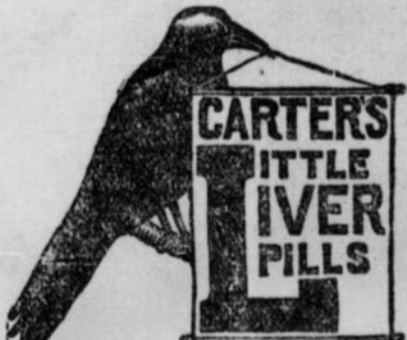
Table listing various pulleys and their specifications, including Iron Pulleys, Iron Split Pulley, and Iron Cone Pulleys.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Hood's Pills. Are gaining favor rapidly. Business men and travellers carry them in vest pockets, ladies carry them in purses, housekeepers keep them in medicine closets, friends recommend them to friends. 25c.

FOR NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS. One Attachment Folder for extra fold. Mailing. Two Forsyth Folding Machines. One Chambers Folding Machine. One Stonebrink 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 1 ft. 6 in. Address or apply to J. HEATY, 'Witness' Office, Montreal.

ADVERTISEMENTS.



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 Dose. Small Price.

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DR. KLINE'S GREAT NERVE TONIC. No Fits after the first day's use. Marvelous cures. Treatise and \$2.00 trial bottle Free to FIT cases. Send to DOCTOR KLINE, 231 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa. SALE BY J. A. HART, Druggist, 1780 Notre Dame street, Montreal.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

BETWEEN THE YEARS

HOW HELEN FOUND HER YEAR'S WORK AT HOME.

The Telegram Game — Oatmeal Cookies.

BETWEEN THE YEARS.

Now we will leave the past behind,
And throw our faults and doubts away;
To souls who would be true and kind
Each day which dawns is New Year's
Day.

Strange tasks may test our utmost power,
We know not what commands may wait;
But Good begins at any hour,
'Tis only Evil says 'Too late!'

May we grow wise and strong to deal
Life's bread, as we would wish to take;
Yet, when we're served a scantier meal,
Still bless it for the Master's sake.

And when Life's mist around us rises,
May Faith and Patience hang their light;
And ere earth's last faint daylight dies,
May all the stars have come to sight.
—'Day of Days.'

ONE OF HIS LITTLE ONES.

A STORY FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR.

(Margaret E. Sangster in 'Illustrated Christian Weekly.')

'I beg your pardon, my dear, the thing is simply impossible. I will never consent to let my daughter put her health in peril by associating with the people who swarm in Green's Alley, breathing the vile air, running the risk of insult, and wearing herself out for a mere enthusiastic fancy. I don't wish to pain you, Grace, you know I have never interfered with your conscience, and have dutifully escorted you to church and done all that a good husband should; but I am disappointed that Helen has taken up these extra strict notions so early. I think a young girl is entitled to have a cheery, merry time before she settles down. I wish she had waited a while before joining the church, long enough to have known a little about the world. I hate those plaintive tunes she is for ever singing, and if you were only well and strong, I should insist upon your taking her to hear real music. Yes, I see the protest in your face, although you do not answer me, but I repeat what I've said before, Helen shall not go to Green's Alley; and if she is set on Christian work, as she calls it, she must find it to do in her own home and among her social equals, her friends and neighbors.'

It is rather puzzling to see how Mrs. Lennox could have replied to her husband, had she wished to do so, as during the utterance of his vehement monologue he did not pause to take breath, she being in the meantime recumbent on the sofa, which she was seldom able to leave for more than an hour or two at a time. Her soft, dark eyes filled with the dew of tears which a strong will held back from falling, and her pale cheek flushed, as she listened to the impetuous rush of speech, with which she was quite sorrowfully familiar; but she was perfectly silent, even when Mr. Lennox, stooping from the altitude of his six feet two, leaned over her, brushed her forehead with his silken beard, and then he marched out of the room. He had been buttoning his overcoat and fastening his gloves while he talked, and presently he was gone to business, shutting the hall-door with an emphatic bang.

The last sound he heard as he left the house was not his wife's stifled sob among her pillows, but a clear, bird-like refrain, warbled in a silvery soprano from somewhere in the upper part of the house.

'Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.'

In spite of himself, the air haunted him all day long in the counting room.

Helen Lennox was nineteen, an only daughter, slim and graceful as a birch, the lady of the forest, with her father's blue eyes and auburn hair and her mother's sweetness of rapidly changing expression. Brought up by a mother whose life-long cross it was that her child's father, noble in many things, continued an unbeliever, growing even more and not less sceptical as his years increased, Helen had from babyhood been taught to carry 'everything to God in prayer.'

She did not remember the hour when she had not turned, as naturally as a flower to the sun, to the dear Saviour, whom she had loved as a little child, and to whom in her unfolding womanhood she gave the rapt adoration of her soul.

'Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise'

was the language of her heart.

The frail mother, an invalid for years, had lived in an atmosphere of prayer, and the silent influences emanating from her quiet room had kept the leaven of worldliness out of the beautiful home, which its head regarded in consequence with vexed dissatisfaction.

'Poor John! poor blinded husband!' wept the wife to herself. 'Lord Jesus, open his eyes that he may see!'

'Well, mamma' said a sweet voice, gaily, as Helen came into the parlor, a vase of roses in her hand, and a dusting cap perched on her shapely head, hiding the rippling hair. 'She set down the flowers, and com-



WATCHING FOR THE NEW YEAR.

ing close to her mother, took one transparent hand between both her own firm ones. There was strength and magnetism in the very clasp of Helen's hand. Her mother felt better at the mere touch. The fragile life gathered itself up responsively at the thrill of the more abundant vitality in the younger, more hopeful heart.

'What is papa's decision?' inquired Helen, not anxiously, but tranquilly.

'I fear, darling, you will be very much disappointed. I pleaded for you till I saw that it was but awakening opposition, then I stopped, seeing it was of no use. Papa will not hear of Green's Alley, prohibits your going into any such neighborhood. He says, daughter, that if you are resolved to do Christian work, you must find it in your home and among your own friends.'

Over the mobile countenance there flitted, flitted only, for it was gone in a second, the shadow of a shade.

'I may not be a Sister Dora, then, mamma.'

'No, dearie; nor a Frances Havergal. But you may be whatever the Lord means you to be in the place where he has put you, Helen Lennox, one of his little ones.'

'I shall be content, mamma,' said Helen. Green's Alley and the work she had longed to enter upon was given up without a sigh that even the mother's sensitive ear could detect. Jesus may have heard a faint little moan of regret, and if such a thing reached him, borne on the wings of an unworried petition, his comfort was swift to reach his child.

Helen observed that the conflict of the morning, its agitation, had depressed and wearied her mother. She moved softly about dusting the furniture, setting a vase here, and a book there, adjusting the curtains in the windows, and giving the parlor the sweet home-look which is conferred only by the touch of the mistress.

Then she disappeared, and coming back presently arrayed in her out-door costume, all except hat and cloak, brought Mrs. Lennox her glass of milk and read to her until it was time for her usual morning nap.

Walking down the street later, she met the superintendent of the Green's Alley Mission.

'We may count on you to lead our singing, I suppose, Miss Lennox,' he said, as he paused, lifting his hat courteously.

'I am very sorry, Mr. Gansse, but I cannot be counted upon this winter, except for a contribution now and then. Papa objects to my plan.'

Mr. Gansse looked his annoyance. 'But

who else is there, Miss Lennox, who can take your special work? Ought you to yield without a struggle? Mr. Lennox might give his consent if he were urged.'

'Somebody will be found to sing for Jesus in that little corner,' was Helen's answer. 'I wish it might have been myself, but as the Master does not show me the way yet, I must not complain.'

They separated, and Miss Lennox passed on. Her father's words, querulous as they were, had been to her as the opening of a window, and she had begun to think already how she might work in her own home, and among her own friends.

Her nature had not a trace of the morbid disposition which, because it cannot do what it would, declines to do what it can. Is there not room, for a fear lest sometimes our worship of the Lord is really a subtle form of self-worship, an unsuspected phase of self-pleasing, when we are so particular about the form of our service?

'Whatever they hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.' There is a blessed fullness and a hallowed minuteness too, in that precious 'whatsoever.'

Up the steps of a spacious mansion, over a thickly carpeted hall, into a richly-appointed chamber, Helen presently found her way.

'I came to wish you a Happy New Year, Agnes,' she said to a girl of her own age who reclined languidly on a luxurious bed. On the hollow cheek burned the stifled hectic, and the large eyes glowed with the fatal brightness, which is the token of the oncoming night. The consumptive's torch in this case was burning rapidly.

'A Happy New Year to me, Helen?' was the smiling yet pathetic return made to the cheery greeting. 'Wish me rather a little more strength to bear this weariness. Oh, if I could only get well once more!'

Helen's steady look did not waver, nor her cool hand falter, as she took her seat beside her friend, though it was not a slight pain which pierced her heart as she saw how Agnes had faded since they last met.

'I brought you something to look at, darling,' she said, untying a packet fastened with a silken thread and disclosing a portfolio. On opening it there were discovered a number of exquisite Christmas cards, fringed, tinted, hand-painted in lovely designs, and adorned with quaint mottoes or comforting texts and verses. 'You may keep them as long as you wish, enjoy them one by one, and when you are done with them I'll take them away. And this is for your dear self,' she said, placing in Agnes's hands a book which lay on the stand beside the couch, a narrow bookmark bearing sprays

of lilies of the valley, and the words 'The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by him.'

'Give me the Bible, Helen, and let me see where you have put the mark. I cannot wait until you have gone.'

So Helen opened the book, and lo! the mark, as if guided by an unseen finger—and who shall say it was not?—had been slipped 'over against' that love message of the Master to his own, 'Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.'

Thanks, ever dear and thoughtful, ever tender and considerate Saviour for that word, 'I would have told you.' How homely and familiar it is in its suggestiveness that not alone and unexpected, but as children going home, as guests anticipated, we shall be welcomed into a place prepared by our Elder Brother's self!

Agnes had already the transparent purity which makes the face of one tarrying in Beulah like the lamp through which the flame shines radiantly.

The chapter as Helen read it came to her like sweetest melody, and as the girls parted it was Agnes who whispered,

'I am sure of a happy New Year, dear, somewhere in my Father's house, whether here or beyond must be as he pleases.'

(To be continued.)

A GAME OF TELEGRAMS.

'Have you ever played "telegrams?"' It is a game for a crowd of young or old, or both. Not a deep or intricate game, nor yet a particularly elevating one, but nevertheless, full of jolly, mirth-provoking qualities.

To carry out the idea properly, slips of yellow paper should be handed to each participant, and pencils provided for them. Each one is to write thirteen different letters at the top of his slip. That is, any thirteen from the alphabetical twenty-six, but without repetition. For instance, 'one might write:

B, G, K, L, M, T, E, W, C, S, H, O, R.
Another:
A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, and so on.

The slips are then to be passed along to right-hand neighbors, who must make an understandable telegram of thirteen words, using the characters at the top of the slips handed them, for the first letter of each word. To thoroughly illustrate, take the first example given above. Here is a specimen 'telegram' from it:

'Better go Kingston late Monday. Try express Willie candy soldier. Hope orders rushing.'

Note the fragmentary sentences, such as are generally employed in correspondence of this sort. The possibilities for good-humored fun in the compiling of 'telegrams' among a crowd of friends are endless. But, of course, they cannot be satisfactorily illustrated in public print. As in any similar game, care should be exercised in not becoming dangerously personal.

At first glance the second example of letters as given above (the first thirteen in our alphabet), might seem to be difficult of extension. But such is not the case in the wide latitude of sense (and nonsense) allowable in the game. For instance, here is only one way out of the thousands of which it can be quickly written:

Any's bright colored dress excellent for Granville's hop. Key joins kisses. Loving mother.'

Upon completion, the 'telegrams' are gathered up in a basket and read aloud, either by a disinterested party or somebody selected from among the players themselves. The only way to appreciate the game of 'telegrams' is to try it.—Cleveland 'Leader.'

Trust in God! be calm and fearless,
Though the shadows darkly loom;
Never night so black and cheerless,
But a light shall pierce the gloom.
Though the hours be filled with sadness,
Joy and morn'g song shall come;
Pain shall but prepare for gladness,
Storms are sent to drive thee home.
—Annie Clarke.

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It takes a good while to get our sisters fairly started on some subjects but once started they kept on nobly. One or two of the latest marmalade recipes we are reserving for another occasion. Those who have studied all the recipes given will understand the general principle of marmalade-making by this time.

Such a number have responded to our competition offer that the results cannot be

announced at once. When those 'Summer Boarder' letters are published we may expect a pretty thorough canvassing of the subject.

Meantime, let us suggest a plan for the coming year. We want some more contributors for this column. Those who think of a great many things to say are not to be discouraged if their communications are not printed in full or do not appear as soon as they expect. Let them favor us again by writing whenever they have something special to say. If it is six times a year so much the better. There are some women, W.C.T.U. leaders and others, from whom we would be glad to hear every month. Would you try it, 'Justitia' and Mrs. Sanderson?

Let everyone who writes sign some name not at present used by any other contributor, and preferably some name that is easily remembered and recognized. The lady who sends us this week reflections on the dying year has only signed initials though her own first name is both pretty and uncommon. Initials are as a rule to be avoided.

The caution against the insidious wine-cup is never out of place at this time of year. The danger from intoxicants seems to become greater as the race becomes in these bracing latitudes more highly strung. Let the girls know that to offer wine to callers is old-fashioned as well as unkind, and to press it on those who refuse is unfadylike.

THE CRITIC.

THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR.

This is the 'retrospection week' when the most careless are forced to think, and the indifferent wish they could be indifferent still—but it will not do.

Humanity is strangely kindred in its longings; conscience will prick rich and poor, old and young, all sorts and conditions. Some can banish the haunting shadows—some will make good resolutions of which only this week next year will show the results.

Youth with God-given, light-heartedness, does not mourn the absent—content if the present is bright; think what a world of middle-aged people would be like!

'Peace on earth, good will toward men.' How the sweet evangel would smooth life's path were it but permitted to work its will in human hearts—not driven out by sin. Those who have felt its gentle power faint not in well-doing. We do not know; we cannot tell till the veil is rent, the great book opened, what fruit the individual effort has brought forth. Wordsworth writes: 'To will what He doth will, this is the only science that gives us any rest.' Ambitious, restless souls—as the New Year ushers in a host of vague yearnings for a higher, better sphere of action, let it be founded on a pane, the foundation of which is ever the motto to 'look aloft' far up, even to the 'great white throne.' Am I preaching too much? There is a mystic feeling in stirring up the ashes of the oldest week in all the year.

Remember, remember, if you are permitted the boon of the coming year that a word spoken at the right moment is the mother of ages. But hark! I hear the bells of the New Year—the 'dead must bury its dead.' A.B.

GOOD ECONOMICAL CAKES.

The following recipes have been sent in for the Home Department by Mrs. S. S., of Pincourt:

- Fruit Cake, No. 1.—Two cups butter, 2 of molasses, 1 of sugar, 1 of sweet milk, 2 well beaten eggs, 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 nutmeg grated, 1 tablespoonful each of ginger, cinnamon and cloves, flour to make a stiff batter; beat till light, add 2 lbs. raisins chopped, 2 of currants, 1/2 lb. citron; bake quickly.
- Fruit Cake, No. 2.—Two eggs, 2-3 cup molasses, 2-3 cup sugar, 2-3 cup butter, 4 cups flour, 2 cups raisins and 2 of currants, 1 teaspoonful soda, spice to taste.
- Oatmeal Cookies.—Four cups oatmeal, 2 cups flour, 1/2 cup sugar, 1/2 cup shortening melted, 1/2 cup cold water, 2 teaspoons cream of tartar and one of soda. Roll out, sprinkle with sugar and cut.
- Ginger Bread.—Two eggs, 1/2 cup lard or butter, 1 cup molasses, 1 teaspoon soda, 1 teaspoon cloves or allspice, 2 teaspoons ginger, 2 cups flour, 1/2 of sour milk.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

In 20,000 British merchant ships the crews never assemble for worship, according to a correspondent of a Liverpool shipping newspaper. An effort on the part of Christian shipowners to remedy this is advocated.

The waiting rooms of several large railway stations in Prussia are provided with open racks, which contain popular sermons neatly printed. The officials willingly hand them to all those who ask for them, and they are in constant demand.

A Chinese Imperial edict has been issued conferring the button of the third rank upon a foreign missionary. The edict also states that missionaries to China intend to persuade men to be good. This is expected to have a salutary effect upon the Chinese mind.

One of the agents of the London City Mission states in the annual report of that organization that, go where you will in his district, you will find more women than men in public houses, and these in many cases not over twenty years of age. Another missionary states that he had seen father, mother and children all dead drunk.

Liberal contributions have been made in the United States and Europe through the American Board for the care of the orphans in Armenia; and American missionaries are still looking after the needs of two thousand of these children. The care of the orphans at Aintab is assumed by a society of ladies in Dublin, and Swiss friends have undertaken to provide for five years for 250 at Sivas.

The Sultan of Turkey has built the largest mosque in the world at Mecca. It is intended for the accommodation of six thousand pilgrims, and is capable of sheltering six thousand persons. The next biggest house in the world is in a suburb of Vienna. It accommodates 2,112 tenants

Next in order are the three Rowton Houses in London, which will accommodate 800, 677 and 500 tenants respectively.

One of the chief features of a recent meeting at the Soldiers' House, Winchester, England, was that soldiers from the Sudan were present to speak of the many Christian men who had been in the late war, and how the literature had been prized when sent to the front. These men had held meetings among their comrades, with a few candles stuck in the desert sand. Other men, representing home regiments, also bore testimony to the value of Soldiers' Homes.

The Rev. Dr. Alexander Robertson, of Venice, has received a special honor at the hands of King Humbert, who has created him 'de motu proprio' Cavaliere of the Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus. In a letter accompanying the decoration King Humbert said—'His Majesty intends in this way to demonstrate his goodwill towards you, and the singular consideration in which he holds your literary work, in which you have always manifested a lively affection for the city in which you reside and loyal sympathy for the House of Savoy.'

Reuter's Agency has received notes made by Dr. Albert Cook, who, with Bishop Tucker, has just completed a very interesting journey across Uganda to the Congo Free State. Writing from Butanuka, Toro, on July 30, the doctor says: 'Bishop Tucker, Mr. Buckley and myself are on our way (from Mengo) to the Albert Edward Lake. We have marched 300 miles in the last four weeks, and although the country is disturbed we have travelled in perfect safety. I persuaded the bishop to come in a dug-out canoe to visit the island called Kizinga. Leobeni, the Christian teacher with us, was a Muganda, and acted as interpreter. The island was a small one, but I counted over 200 full-grown men alone, who quickly surrounded us. The chief was friendly, but of course the people were sunk in the deepest heathenism, worshipping the spirits of their fathers, and all wearing chains.'

It seems that in Chicago, as in New York, what the policemen, whose business it is to maintain law and order, were unable or unwilling to do, has been done under the lead of an energetic clergyman. This clergyman is the Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, who, with four detectives, furnished the facts upon which the grand jury has indicted scores of disorderly house keepers, policy gamblers, illegal liquor dealers and a variety of other law breakers. The evidence showed that while the policemen heedlessly patrolled their respective beats, the crusaders of the Law Enforcement League found more than a hundred law-breakers without the least difficulty. It has been made manifest by recent disclosures, in both New York and Chicago, that those who are appointed and paid to enforce the laws and suppress crime are, instead, protecting men in unlawful and criminal pursuits.—'Christian Intelligencer.'

The latest development of the French Temperance Society against the use of spirituous liquors is the establishment of a cheap temperance restaurant. Temperance in this case does not exclude the use of a limited quantity of wine and beer with the meals, but all spirits are prohibited. The society has no fewer than 380 branches in France, and is obtaining support from many educational institutions. It appears that General Gallieni, the governor of Madagascar, who is an absolute teetotaler, is a member of the society, and is doing his best to limit the use of alcohol in his colony. The Bishop of Nancy is another leading member, and the manager of the Paris and Mediterranean Railway is promoting the interests of the society among railway employees. To all who believe in total abstinence from alcohol in any form this may seem only a half and imperfect measure. But is not one step in advance, if only a short one, better than no progress at all in the struggle with the evils of the great drink question?—'The Christian.'

The Field of the Dead, as the Gold Coast Mission might formerly have been called, is now becoming the most fertile and the most encouraging of all the missions of Basle Society. . . . In the district of Chi, Christianity has really become a power which has to be reckoned with, and in the territory of Akropong alone its adherents form nearly a seventh of the whole population, more than four thousand souls out of thirty thousand. In Akem there will soon be hardly a village where some Christians are not to be met with. Here and there the heathen themselves help the converts in building chapels and houses for the teachers. . . . One great enemy which hinders conversions is brandy. In some negro villages every second house is a depot for the sale of liquor. On the coast you can get it almost for nothing, often much more easily than good drinking water. But let us add for the honor of the authorities that the taxes on the sale of brandy have been increased in proportions sufficient to reduce the traffic very considerably.—'Le Missionnaire.'

A branch of the English Zionist Federation has been established in West London. The Federation aims to give effect to the following resolutions, which were accepted by the Basle Congresses of 1897 and 1898: 1. The acquiring of a legally safeguarded home in Palestine for the Jewish people. 2. The fostering of the national idea in Israel. 3. The promoting and supporting of colonizing and industrial enterprises in Palestine. 4. The using of Hebrew as a living language, and the fostering of Hebrew literature. 5. The establishing of schools and local libraries, and the taking of all such steps as may tend to promote the educational development of the Jews. 6. The publishing of a universal Hebrew dictionary on historical and philological lines, embracing the whole of Hebrew

literature, ancient and modern. 7. The establishing of athletic clubs for Jews. 8. The founding of a Jewish colonial bank, as an instrument towards the accomplishment of the above programme. The gambling rooms at Ostend have closed their doors, the contract having expired. The management has this season made a clear profit of over seven million francs. Last season an Englishman lost at Ostend £28,000 and a Russian £36,000. Statistics show that on an average every man who has gambled there has lost about £80.

David Nasmyth who founded the London City Mission commenced a Paris City Mission in 1833, but it was found impossible to continue it, owing to the opposition of the Jesuits. At the Paris Exposition of 1878 the late Earl of Shaftesbury, after addressing a meeting of 'Ouvriers,' said to the late Mr. Wayland, we must have a 'Paris City Mission.' This was brought to the notice of a resident in Paris who had been for fourteen years meditating and praying for such a work to be commenced; and, as a result, after much effort, the mission was founded on June 23, 1879. Since then (under the Divine blessing) many souls have been brought to Christ, thousands of bibles, testaments, and portions of gospels sold or given, Christian literature distributed, meetings held, and visits made from 'house to house.' It is now the earnest desire of the committee of the Paris City Mission to obtain enough funds to employ twelve missionaries in the coming exposition of 1900, thus beginning the twentieth century by augmented forces, so as to work for the Lord during the year of the exhibition in Paris most vigorously amongst the various nationalities attending that great world's emporium. This unique opportunity must be utilized for the distribution of God's Word, for preaching the gospel, and giving Christian literature to the cosmopolitan crowds that will be assembled in Paris. For these objects speedy help is required.

An evangelist has arisen in England whose marvellous work in Lancashire prompts the local correspondent of the 'British Weekly' to say of him, 'With the eloquence of George Whitfield, the culture of Fletcher, the dramatic power of Christmas Evans, and a touch of the humor of Peter Mackenzie, the grand old truths of the gospel are declared.' Hundreds are converted in a day by this Celt, Rev. James Flannagan. Apparently he is much needed in England, for W. Robertson Nicoll, editor of the 'British Weekly,' says that as he goes about hearing preachers of many denominations he 'practically never hears an appeal to the unconverted or even a prayer for them. It seems,' he writes, 'to be taken for granted everywhere that all who find themselves within the four walls of a church are Christians.' And yet it is as true to-day as ever it was, as Professor James Denney has just reiterated, that 'there is nothing in preaching for a wounded conscience—at least, the one thing needful is not there—if the atonement is wanting. The sinner cannot even begin a new life, he cannot take any step whatever toward self-conversion, he cannot raise his head in the least from despair, till he has an initial assurance of God's pardoning love freely bestowed upon him—a love that goes deeper than all his sin and covers his whole life—and such an initial abiding assurance he gets only at the cross. Rather, perhaps, we should say he gets it only at the throne where Christ reigns in all the virtue of his passion.'—'The Congregationalist.'

The 'South American Messenger' calls attention to the moral and spiritual degradation of the Brazilian people under the aegis of the Roman Church in these words: 'The more one looks into the state of things in Brazil, the more appalling it seems. Every little mud hut has its household altar, with images and saints. "Christ" is often held up to the people, but alas! it is a brass Christ on a bronze cross. There are many saints but they are of wood and metal. To-day there was a procession: a few men with silver lanterns or lighted candles, a silver crucifix, a large rough image of the Virgin and Child, and then a long array of "angels"—children with white muslin dresses, silver crowns, and tinsel wings. All about here are "holy" crosses, kept in little open sheds, thatched or tiled, with candlesticks around. The majority of the people are in the deepest ignorance. Few can read, and when you tell them you have the gospels of Matthew, etc., for sale, many ask for the Gospel of St. Jose, St. Pedro, etc. I think they must have named all the saints in the calendar to me. Just now a beggar came to the window with a bag and metal cross. I asked him what he wanted. "Alms for the souls (to bring them out of purgatory)," he replied. "Our souls are already saved in this house." I said: "and those who have died don't need alms." "Yes, sir; but they serve to buy candles with." "The souls don't need candles," I rejoined. "Nao ha duvida (there is no doubt of that)," he admitted, with a grin, as he went off, finding there was nothing to be had.'

LORD RADSTOCK IN FRANCE.

Lord Radstock writes as follows from Paris to the London 'Christian,' under date Dec. 10:— Your readers will be encouraged to know that we have taken that God is answering prayer for France. The difficulties and trials of Christians in the past two years have drawn them nearer to God. I have seen in these two months nine priests who have come out of the darkness of Rome to a measure of light, and this week I have seen another, still in Rome, but to whom the light is com-

ing, and who sees he must come out. There are, I believe, many hundreds of them dissatisfied in the Church of Rome, but they need something more to lean on than a general denunciation of the errors of Rome, which millions see, and become unbelievers. Here, as in England, mere Protestantism is a broken reed, for it is honeycombed with worldliness or formality. Many churches have only one service a week. Thank God, there are centres of life and light, but they are almost lost in the huge masses of a godless population. But God is working.

France is in a transitive state. God has 'made void the counsel' of the Jesuits. They had urged on the Franco-German war thinking to crush Protestant Germany. But the defeat they brought on France necessitated the obligatory military service of the young men in the seminaries who had been trained for the priesthood. As a consequence the light of the outer world dispelled many illusions of the seminarian teaching, and numbers never went into the priesthood, and to-day 2,800 parishes are vacant because there are no priests for them. And apart from some special effort utter godlessness will increase.

But there are hundreds of thousands in France who are disgusted with the priests, and who yet have some fear of God as the result of their religious training, imperfect and corrupt as it was. Now, therefore, is the time for an advance all along the line. Personally, I am bound to say I find the working classes far more ready to receive tracts than in England. Out of a thousand recently given away I have not had a refusal, while not a day passes without someone coming and asking for more. There is a great call for qualified workers. I ask special prayer that the French Christians may be quickened in larger numbers.

DEEP SEA MISSION.

THE NEW LABRADOR STEAMER.

Dr. Wilfrid Grenfell, of the Deep Sea Mission, writes as follows to the 'Toilers of the Deep':—

And now for 'beloved' Labrador, so named by old Cartwright, in 1796, and so felt by all of us who have been there, and felt that God has given us a scope for usefulness and work there. How many a happy gathering and many a joyful memory rise to mind as we talk of it and the work there. There are three thousand and odd doctors in New York! That is one to every five hundred people. There is only one among five thousand in Labrador at the present moment, but we have the infinite satisfaction of knowing he is there, as Mackay, of Uganda, said, 'to try and heal in the highest and fullest sense, body and soul, and what's more, we have a hand in his being there. He holds the field for us. These things do make one glad when those passages are read out, "Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these little ones, ye did it unto me;" "Whosoever shall give a cup of cold water in my name. . . ."

Thank God, also, the new Labrador steamer is on the stocks. Messrs. Philip & Sons, of Dartmouth, are to build her at the contract price of £2,500, and deliver her at Dartmouth in six months from the delivery of the steel at their works. This price includes steel hull, engines, boiler, steam winch, anchors, chains, decks, and hatches. The cabin fittings, masts, sails, boats, skylights, cots, instruments, crockery, bedding, etc., we shall have to provide here at Yarmouth, and these will come to at least £400. That is, the whole will cost upwards of £3,000. The advanced prices of labor and material, and the final decision at all costs to have a steel and not a wood hull, account for the additional cost above the original estimates. She will have the M.D.S.F. flag on her funnel, and the usual 'Preach the Word' and 'heal the Sick' in letters of gold respectively on her starboard and port bows, while her wheel will bear the qualification for successful service which our Saviour himself gave, namely: 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.' We need not, I feel sure, specially recommend her to the prayers of all our friends. We have to be very grateful to a generous donor already of a good harmonium and a good chronometer also. There are, however, a few more things about her I should like to appeal for specially. One appeal should be to yachtsmen and yacht owners. Can anyone get for us, or help to get, a set of old yacht's sails? I know that after a couple of seasons' wear on gentlemen's yachts, they are often replaced, and the canvas, which is still really full of wear, is sold for a mere song. We bought once such a set of sails, and the entire outfit for the 'Temple Tate,' besides other sails, was made out of them. The canvas is just the weight and kind we need, and such a set would save us £50 in our outfit.

The steamer will be 83 feet on the water line; 18 feet beam, nine feet head room between keelson and deck, ketch rigged, but our own sail makers would adapt the sails and make them fit properly. She will carry only 30 tons of coal, so when we take her out in spring she will have to use sail power as well. Would anyone like to help in so necessary a way, and in a way which would so eminently help to send her quickly on her errand of mercy? We are appealing for her 'white wings.' Then there is a sextant needed. Has anyone a sextant they no longer need? Also a set of surgical instruments, such as our North Sea hospitals have. These are essential, and might well be given in memory of relief someone has themselves ex-

perienced at the hands of surgeons and physicians in this country. I had myself twice to decline operating on a blind Eskimo with double cataract merely for want of suitable instruments. The thought that we are thus enabled to do to some one else as we would they should do to us, might help to sweeten even some bodily affliction God has been pleased to lay upon us. Then there is a spirit compass to guide her, the side lights to protect her, besides the necessary crockery, cooking stove and utensils. Also the cots and furnishing of the cabins, the blankets, sheets, pillows, mattresses, pillow slips, and table cloths. A cabin clock will also be needed, an aneroid barometer to learn of approaching bad weather, a log to tell the distances travelled, and last, but not least, the cots themselves.

The Finance Committee agree that £25 per annum would be the least that could maintain a cot at sea. Possibly someone who has no other direct work for the master might make themselves responsible for collecting this sum annually. When we British realize our responsibility to our sailors, who maintain our supremacy at sea, and to our open bible—who carry more than half the commerce of the entire world, and so make us rich, and who, in our fisheries, also maintain our sea supremacy by dint of our God-given genius, and so reap that harvest of food invaluable alike for both sick and healthy, we might strain our efforts to do more for the toilers of the deep.

TEMPERANCE CRUSADE IN LONDON.

A well-attended meeting of temperance workers was held at Exeter Hall, Strand, London, recently to welcome the Rev. Leonard M. Isitt, of New Zealand, who is visiting London for the purpose of conducting a fortnight's 'temperance crusade,' organized by the London Auxiliary of the United Kingdom Alliance. Mr. Thomas Smith, president of the London Auxiliary, who occupied the chair, said that Mr. Isitt had rendered valuable service to the temperance cause in New Zealand, and his object in visiting this country was to revive interest in the movement there.

Mr. J. Kempster said the object of the mission was to arouse London to a due sense of the enormity of the evil of the drink traffic and the necessity for removing that evil. Dr. Dawson Burns expressed the belief that under Mr. Isitt's guidance the ensuing crusade would be an unprecedented and continuous success. Mr. John Hilton, and Mr. T. P. Whittaker, M.P., also spoke.

The Rev. L. M. Isitt, in reply, said that he and his friends were fighting the vilest, the most unscrupulous, the most cruel, and the most gigantic evil that had ever cursed a Christian and civilized country, and they were determined that sooner or later that evil should be removed. The people of this country should have the right to say whether they wanted liquor bars in their midst or not. As to compensation, he came from a country where the question was dead and buried, and whatever difficulties might be raised in their path, the question could never again be revived.

A SEVERE BLOW TO STUNDISTS.

The new Russian Minister of Education, M. Bogolietoff, has issued an ordinance which will have far-reaching consequences in its effects upon the Stundist movement. According to this the children of Stundists will only be allowed to remain in the national schools if they regularly attend religious instruction, and take part in the religious exercises prescribed for the orthodox scholars. As the Stundists are not recognized by the Russian government as a separate sect, the consequences of this regulation will be either that the Stundist parent must declare himself as conscientiously objecting to the teachings of the Church, or endanger the future of evangelical religion by permitting his children to be brought up in the orthodox faith. In the former case he leaves himself open to prosecution as a sectary or heretic. The Stundists, of course, are not allowed to have their own schools. The leaders of the evangelical movement in South Russia are deeply concerned about the new regulation; they believe it is the severest blow which has yet been struck at their unhappy co-religionists.—'Christian World.'

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON.

Jan. 15, 1899.

CHRIST'S FIRST MIRACLE.—John ii., 11.

BY JOHN R. WHITNEY.

Golden Text.—And His disciples believed on Him.—John ii., 11.

A very striking feature of 'this beginning of miracles in Cana of Galilee' is its comparatively unimportant character, only the providing against a momentary chagrin and the brief disappointment of a small festive company. On this point Dean Trench struck the keynote to his interpretation when he said, 'This beginning of miracles is as truly an introduction to all other miracles which Christ did, as the parable of the sower to all other parables which he spoke. (Mark iv., 13.) No other miracle has so much of prophecy in it; no other, therefore, would have inaugurated so fitly the whole future work of the Son of God. For that work might be characterized throughout as an ennobling of the common and a transmuting of the mean; a

turning of the water of earth into the wine of heaven.' The circumstances under which this miracle was wrought are very interesting. When Jesus was pointed out to Andrew and John, it was probably at 'Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing.' (j., 28.) He was on his way to Galilee. 'The day following' his interview with Andrew and John he continued his journey, taking them, and probably Simon Peter, with him. When he reached Galilee, he 'findeth Philip,' and Philip found Nathanael. Where this took place we are not told. Very naturally, however, he then bent his steps towards Nazareth, the home of his childhood and youth.

There, it is evident, he was informed of the marriage in Cana. This was a small village, apparently not very far away. Its exact site is not now known. His mother had probably already gone to the wedding, and an invitation awaited his arrival calling him 'and his disciples to the marriage.' (v. 2.) If they all accompanied him, it made an addition of at least six persons to the assembled guests. As the feast proceeded the supply of refreshments began to fail, and, very naturally, Jesus's mother—who seems to have been an intimate friend of the family—called his attention to the developed need.

The conversation which ensued between them, taken as it stands in our English version, has often perplexed the reader. It has generally been explained as being expressed in language common among the people of that day and place, and not at all wanting in respect or kindness, as the English rendering makes it appear. Moreover, it is said that in it Jesus evidently intimates that he is no longer to be considered as in subjection to his human parent; but, having now entered upon his official work, he is to be understood as the Son of God, rather than the son of Mary. This may be all perfectly true, but it does not make the matter much clearer.

There is, however, another explanation which is far more natural and quite as likely to be correct. It is based upon the interpretation of Bengel, in his 'Gnomon of the New Testament,' and Dr. J. H. A. Ebrard's 'Scientific Criticism of the Gospel History.' It states that the phrase, 'Woman, what have I to do with thee?' being, when literally translated, 'What to me, and to thee, O woman,' was, in reality, equivalent to saying, 'That need not be to either you or me any cause of anxiety.' Leave that to me.' It was Jesus's reply, when his mother said, 'They have no wine.' As an intimate friend of the family—knowing their circumstances and condition—she saw that if the festivities were prolonged the result would be embarrassment and mortification. In our every day language she had said, 'They have no wine; had we not better go?' And he answered, 'Do not be anxious; leave that to me. I am not ready to go as yet.' (See article by Pres. Thompson in 'S. S. Times,' of Aug. 11, 1894.) She was evidently satisfied with the answer, for she turned at once to the servants and said, 'Whatever he saith unto you, do it.'

Near the doorway, out of sight of the guests, stood 'six waterpots of stone, after the manner of purifying of the Jews' (v. 6), for 'the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not.' (Mark vii., 3.) On this occasion there was probably a more than usual necessity for the observance of this custom, as many of the guests, like Jesus and his companions, had come from some distance on foot over dusty roads. The capacity of these waterpots was between fifteen and twenty-five gallons each, the 'firkin' being equal to about seven and a half gallons according to some authorities and eight and two-thirds according to others. They were now probably empty, and the servants were hidden to fill them with water. 'And they filled them up to the brim.' (v. 7.) When this was done they drew out, not only wine, but 'good wine'—better than any that they had had before.

This gracious supply, however, was not furnished without the use of human hands and earthly materials, and they were the commonest and most earthly sort. So Jesus generally works. On this occasion, they were simply water, stone-jars and humble servants, but they all yielded themselves willingly to his demands, and they were all honored and enriched by being his instruments of blessing. And although the occasion was one of the most joyous known among men, yet his presence and gifts made even it to overflow with an unwonted gladness. So it is always. The poor he lifts up, and the rich he enriches when he pours into their midst the 'good wine' of his grace.

In this connection, it is interesting to notice that this beginning of miracles was not performed at a funeral, or in any time of sorrow, but at a marriage. Had it not been so, men might have been led to infer, with some show of reason, that Jesus's first and most important work was to lift up the sorrowing, and to comfort the mourners. And they might imagine—as many have done—that in their prosperity and happiness, they have no need of him and his ministrations. But here we see—in the very first recorded incident of his personal intercourse with men, the prophecy of all his fellowship with them—he makes the happy, happier, and fills the glad soul with praise. It was not, however, until dependence on their own resources had come to an end. It was when 'they wanted wine,' to be sure, but they did not know their 'want,' until that which they had provided for themselves was exhausted. Then, however, when they realized that 'the wine failed' (v. 3, R.V.)

they went to him. Then his 'hour' arrived and the 'want' was at once and freely supplied. This is always Jesus's 'hour,' men, whether rich or poor, whether prosperity or adversity, in joy or in row, are conscious of their need, and come to him, trusting all things into his hands, as Mary did, and ready to do 'whatsoever he saith,' as the servants were, then he gives abundantly of the very best. If they undertake to satisfy themselves with any of the wine of the earth, the more they drink the less satisfying will be the draught. But the more we drink of his fulness, and the closer we cling to him, the better and richer is the wine which he gives. His 'good wine' is better than the best from earthly foundations.

Moreover, 'this first miracle of the New Covenant has its inner mystical meaning. The first miracle of Moses was a turning of water into blood (Ex. vii., 20); and this had its fitness; for the law, which came by Moses, was a ministration of death, and worketh wrath. (II. Cor. iii., 6-9.) But the first miracle of Christ was a turning of water into wine; this, too, a meet inauguration of all which should follow; for his was a ministration of life.' (Dean Trench.)

HOME READINGS.

Monday.—John ii., 1-11.—Christ's first miracle. Tuesday.—Mark vii., 1-9.—Customs of purifying. Wednesday.—Luke vii., 16-23.—Miracles proofs of authority. Thursday.—John x., 31-42.—Evidence of Divinity. Friday.—Luke xxiv., 13-18, 25-32.—Good company. Saturday.—Rev. iii., 14-22.—A visitor. Sunday.—June xvi., 25-33.—Do ye now believe?

DEPARTMENT. Topic—Jan 15, 1899.

WHERE AM I GOING?

Ps. cxix., 57-64.

'Enquire, I pray thee, at the word of the Lord to-day.' (II. Chron. xviii., 4.) 'All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.' (Isa. liii., 6.) 'If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.' (I. John i., 6.) 'Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.' (Psa. i., 1.) 'I therefore . . . beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.' (Eph. iv., 1-3.)

Whither? The question is a startling one. It is fitting that in these first few weeks of the New Year we should set ourselves to find out exactly where we are in our spiritual life and whether we are advancing along the highest lines. Yet self-examination must not be too minute or continual lest it lead to morbid self-consciousness and discouragement. But for once let us examine ourselves upon the whole of this wonderful psalm (cxix). The marginal reading of the first line is, 'Blessed are the sincere.' How do we measure up to that beatitude? Do we walk in the law of the Lord, and keep his testimonies, and seek him with our whole heart? Are we diligent in his service and thankful and prayerful? Have we laid up God's Word in our hearts that we might not sin against him? Are his commandments truly our delight and the men of our counsel, are we humble and teachable enough to have revealed to us the 'wonderful things' of God's law?

Have we chosen the way of truth, and preferred God's will above everything else? What is our comfort in affliction, and which way do we turn for relief from trials? Do we make haste to keep God's law? 'What kind of companions do we choose, and how do we regard our afflictions? Where do we seek wisdom, in what do we chiefly rejoice and what is our hope? Do we take every step of our lives by the Light of the World, the Word of God? Does it grieve us to see others disobeying or making light of God's Word? Have we that 'great peace' which belongs to those who love God's law?

The Psalmist seems to have answered these questions over and over, and his praises welled up on all occasions. But we have far more to rejoice over, in that David had very little more than the law, the first seven or eight books of 'the bible,' while we have the gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, beside all the psalms and prophecies and epistles—an unfathomable depth of riches.

It is proposed that during this year of our Lord eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, all Endeavorers shall read through the whole bible. Wherever possible this will be done in connection with the Quiet Hour, and in a spirit of prayerful teachableness which will cause to be revealed to us fresh truths and new beauties in the Word of God. Unless we love and study the bible we cannot expect to be strong, well-armed Christians. If we do feed on God's Word with prayer and humility we cannot but grow into the likeness of God, having been born into his household by the regeneration of the Holy Ghost. Thus shall we journey on the straight and narrow way up to the heavenly country where we shall dwell with God forever and sing the praises of 'him who has brought us out of darkness into his marvellous light.'

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

ALL IN ADVANCE.

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

All the above papers sent free of postage to the Dominion, Newfoundland and United States. For Great Britain add \$1.00 for postage on "Weekly Witness," "Northern Messenger" add 50c; "Daily Witness" add \$3.00.

ADVERTISING RATES.

WEEKLY WITNESS.—Casual advertisements 25c per line per insertion, including cuts and large type. Contract Rates—1 year, \$7.50 per line; 6 months, \$4.00 per line; 3 months, \$2.25 per line. "Farm to Rent," "Farms for Sale," can be inserted for 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, 5c for subsequent insertions on order. CUTS OF LARGE TYPE, double rate. Contracts on favorable terms. "Employment Wanted," "Situations Vacant," etc., 10c per insertion, up to 25 words. Money must accompany order, as this section is reckoned on a cash basis. Births and Deaths, 25c per mention; Marriages, 50c. (Names must be authenticated by the name and address of the sender.) Inserted without charge for subscribers. All obituaries with portrait, 10c a line, agate measure. Money to accompany notices. 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 on Rouse's Point, 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 5 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.

The Witness,

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1892.

The Americans are hardly pleased with the Spaniards surrendering positions in the Philippines to the insurgents. No doubt it would have been more convenient if they had bravely held all their strongholds till they could hand them over to the Americans, who had demanded and obtained their cession. It is hard, however, to see what motive the Spaniards could have in wasting money and lives, enduring galling sieges and fierce assaults all for the honor of making the way of the Americans easier and receiving them with flying colors. The only reason the Americans had for taking the islands from Spain was that Spain could not manage them. The Spanish rejoinder to that argument naturally was that that constituted no title on the part of the Americans, as they could not manage them either. They were therefore under no obligation, legal or moral, to give the Americans peaceable possession. They only undertook to retire and let the Americans have a turn at obtaining and keeping order. It does look as though the Americans might have for a time to forward their American liberty to the islanders at Lee-Enfield range.

The King of Norway and Sweden was very earnestly urged by the members of the Norwegian Council to sanction the resolution of the Storting giving Norway a separate flag by removing from it the emblem of the union with Sweden. In refusing his sanction the king gave his reason, which was, in effect, that if in the future the emblem of the union is borne, on the Swedish mercantile flag, while it is removed from the corresponding Norwegian flag, the common token of equality will be found wanting, and this may lead to a mistaken appreciation of the position of the two countries, to the prejudice, of course, of Norway. This suggestion that the change in the flag would give the impression that Sweden was the superior and dominating nation of the union was very adroit on the part of the king, as it placed himself in the position of king of Norway acting in defence of its dignity and position. It appears that though the Storting was al-

most, if not quite, unanimous in resolving upon the change in flag, many Norwegians would greatly regret it. That all are not now enthusiastically favorable to the emblem of union, as they certainly were at first, seems a reproach to those responsible for the differences which have arisen between the two peoples. The Norwegians, who are the sailors of the united nation, have carried the flag over every sea, and ought to have become attached to it for that, if for no other reason.

The Toronto "World," which is the Dowager Empress of Canadian jingoism, whose chief doctrine is that Canada should wall herself in from the rest of the world, and that Canadians should regard and treat all but Canadians as "foreign devils," is just now in a fit of screeching hysterics. Some southern "general" named Wilson, while indulging in "hifalutin" oratory before the President in Georgia some time ago, became so wrought upon that he waved the speckly banner over the whole continent. The President, who had already spoken, did not rise up and protest or leave the meeting, or otherwise rebuke the orator, but simply took no notice of his spread-eagles. Moreover, the New York "Sun" has referred to this speech as a "notable one." Hence the "World's" hysterics. England and Englishmen are traitors to Canada, and are about to sell it to purchase the alliance of the United States, and the United States is ready, apparently, to accept the price. Canadians must, says the "World," break off the Washington conference, withdraw from entangling alliances with the United States, and, we presume, with the traitors' English also, and take up arms against the rest of the hostile Anglo-Saxon world on two sides of the Atlantic. Of course, this is only the "World's" way of saying that it does not like the 'preferential tariff,' which injures its beloved 'protection' policy, and hates reciprocity with the United States from the same motive. Being opposed by both common sense and reason, the "World" resorts to hysterics.

Perhaps the best way to settle the Newfoundland French shore question would be by some such arrangement as that suggested by the Paris "Matin." That the old conditions can be allowed to continue is regarded as impossible by all who have given consideration to the subject, and if the French Government is willing to accept compensation for the renunciation of its rights, the door will be opened for a settlement. In this, as in all such matters, there must be a basis of valuation, and it will be for those having charge of the negotiations to find a practical solution. It is a well-known fact, however, that the value of French rights is not by any means so great as it was, and the British Parliament has only to repeal certain acts in order to reduce them to the actual terms of the original treaty. Any interests which may be claimed as having arisen under the guarantee of those acts should no doubt be considered, but being clearly in the nature of concessions which could be withdrawn at any time, they should be easily disposed of. The sovereignty of the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon could be settled by concessions elsewhere. Almost any arrangement which would put an end to the existing anomalous conditions would be welcome, and clear away one of the greatest, if not the greatest, obstacle to the entrance of Newfoundland into the Dominion.

On account of its delightful climate, Algeria has been a favorite winter resort for tourists and health-seekers, but the disturbances, often culminating in riot, fomented by the notorious Max Regis, have turned this profitable tide away from Algiers towards Cairo. The Paris correspondent of the London "Times," commenting on this, observes: 'It is terrible to think that after seventy years of French rule Algeria is less free and less safe to-day than it was under the Arabs, and that the Dey of Algiers inspires more confidence than M. Laferriere, who is the present governor of the colony.' The present troubles are confined to the town of Algiers, whose Mayor, a young man, has made a bid for popularity and prominence in France by actively entering upon a Jew-baiting policy. The Jews are numerous and wealthy, and are hated by the Arabs and Berbers of Algeria. Since the protection of the law has been virtually withdrawn from them, their enemies have persecuted them, and hence the disturbances. Algeria has, on the whole, been well governed by the French, and the contrast afforded by the tribes immediately across the frontier in Morocco, who are always fighting one another or the troops of the Sultan, and who still resort to

piracy and brigandage, is very marked, and to the credit of France, which indeed has been encouraged by England to extend her rule westward over certain districts, whose chiefs are now being brought under the influence of French officials.

Lord Wolseley, speaking at a military gathering in London the other day of the wars of 1898, gave great praise to Lord Kitchener, his officers and his men for the way in which the Sudan campaign was carried through. But perhaps the most striking feature of his speech was his description of the destructive powers of the new British rifle, the Lee-Metford, as displayed at Omdurman. The range and accuracy of the rifle are such that an enemy comes within the zone of fire at two thousand yards, and even a remnant cannot advance within several hundred yards of the firing line, as existence becomes impossible even for scattered individuals as the range shortens. What Lord Wolseley tells of the terrible power of the British army rifle agrees with the report of the United States army ordnance department, which has recently reported that with the exception of the Lee-Enfield rifle, the Mauser rifle used by the Spanish is the best rifle now in the hands of any army in the world. The Lee-Enfield is a magazine rifle, which fires a comparatively small calibre bullet along a very low trajectory over a long range, and the bullet on striking expands somewhat after the fashion, but not to the degree, of what is known as the "dum-dum" bullet, into which it is easy to convert a Lee-Enfield bullet. In reference to the Spanish-American war Lord Wolseley remarked upon the courage and determination to bring the war to a victorious close which animated the United States troops, and which he thinks characterizes Anglo-Saxon soldiers above all others. General Grant, during his European tour observed in the British troops a certain force of determined movement which reminded him of American troops, and which he called 'the swing of victory.'

The State of New York is realizing the iniquity of keeping prisoners in idleness. No greater wrong could be committed against a man than to enforce idleness upon him. The interests of the individual prisoners and of the public alike demand that prisoners should be kept doing something that fully occupies both mind and body. The best interests of individuals and of the public are indeed always at one. It is impossible for those who are morally and mentally sane to remain so in absolute idleness. Still worse is the chance of those disordered natures which have sunk into crime. Even a muscle will atrophy that is not used, and the mind and soul are far more sensitive to injury than the body. Even a prisoner has a right to the use and development of his powers, and certainly the public interest is to make him better in every way, and not worse. Moreover, the public has a right to all he can earn while it is supporting him. The best he can do will not pay for the cost of his conviction and confinement, and otherwise repair the wrong he has done it. The idea that a prisoner's labor is an injury to the public or to any class is absurd. Unless some corrupt contract enables the exploiter of his labor to get it for less than it is worth in the market he competes on simply equal terms with others. Even under the contract system, if honestly carried out, the government is paid exactly what his labor is worth in the market as any other laborer has to be paid what his work is worth, and he does not, except when large and sudden changes occur in the application of labor, alter the value of outside labor. Six convicts were taken a day or two ago from King's County penitentiary and placed in asylums for the criminally insane—the despatch reads, but if these men are criminally insane the criminality rests with the legislature which has imposed the conditions whose natural and necessary result was insanity. In the opinion of the warden and the keepers scores of the convicts are on the verge of insanity. This is the result of a recent law forbidding the employment of convicts except on work furnished by the state, and then of failing to supply the work.

There is a sudden discussion in the American newspapers as to whether the financial centre of the world has not removed from London to New York. There used to be a story of a panic in a barnyard because the sky was falling, which, when traced to its origin in actual fact, was found to have been started by a leaf falling on a small chicken's tail. The present excitement has arisen from a Russian loan being raised in New York.

On inquiry it has been learned that some company or other having a contract in Russia was inquiring whether it could get any money in New York. It was also found that this was not the first time that attempts had been made to float Russian bonds in New York, but it was not found that it had ever been accomplished. If New York money is at present seeking Russia for investment it certainly affords no ground for self-gratulation on the part of the United States, in view of the fact that the best investments in the world just now are offered in New York itself. Even Canadian money has been taking risks there. That a centre with such a plethora of money as New York undoubtedly has, having to dispose not only of its own but of much from the west, should offer attractions to Canadian capital, calls for explanation. One reason may be that our laws require the investment in Canada, not only of the money which Canadians pay for insurance, whether in Canadian or in foreign companies, but also of a good deal of that which foreigners pay for insurance in Canadian companies, which is getting to be no inconsiderable amount. Another reason is that British money is now invested with more confidence in Canada than in the United States. This is not largely, if at all, due to imperialist sentiment. It is due to the fear of a collapse in American securities owing to the possible success of the silver heresy. Even Americans are for a like reason seeking out Canadian investments. The United States Secretary of War has, it is said, very considerable interests in Canada. The result of this preference for Canadian securities is that they cost more in proportion to the interest they yield than American securities of greater promise.

PENNY POSTAGE.

From the beginning of the New Year Canadians will be able to write to the long mysterious sources of the Nile, to the romantic vale of Cashmere, nesting in the recesses of the Himalayas, to the Malay dominions of the Sultan of Johore, to those of the Rajah of Sarawak, in Borneo, and to many another land and coast told of by Sinbad the Sailor, as well as to one another in all parts of Canada and to our kin in the United States, for two cents. There are some omissions from the list of countries of the Empire coming within the penny schedule as now published which were not looked for. Fiji was on the forecasts of it that have appeared; but it matters little, as we have few correspondents in Fiji. More important is Cape Colony, whose omission is surely due to some mistake. The Cape has always been a leader in imperialism, and was understood to have given its adhesion to the scheme from its very inception. Natal, its sister colony in South Africa, is in the list. We should have expected to find Hong Kong, the great British commercial entrepot of eastern Asia, in it. Singapore is included in the Malay states. There are some very out of the way colonies included, such as British Honduras, in Central America; Uganda, in Central Africa, and Sarawak, in Borneo. Ascension, the small island in mid-Atlantic, far off the west coast of Africa, is included, we suppose, because it is an 'on the way' stopping place for steamships between Great Britain and Cape Colony. St. Helena, not far distant from it, might also have been included.

The most striking omissions, and most to be regretted, are New Zealand and the Australian colonies, not one of which has as yet joined this family union for cheap communication. It is not impossible that some of these will shortly consent to the one way penny postage, that is, to the countries of the imperial penny postage system sending letters to them at the penny rate. The premier of New South Wales has intimated that that colony would probably consent. The Australian colonies, which have just come through a severe financial and commercial depression, do not see their way clear to reduce their very high rate of domestic postage, twopence half-penny, and until they are ready to do that are unwilling to adopt the imperial penny rate. Certainly, to maintain a rate higher for domestic than for imperial postage, which Canada did but for a week, is a very striking anomaly. But Canada has not hesitated to consent to other countries reducing their rate to this country below our rate to them, and, though the United States' two-cent rate did perhaps give rise to a demand for the same rate from Canada to the United States, the demand was not very urgent, and there was no dissatisfaction at all because of the lowering of the United States rate in itself.

CONTAMINATION.

An Anglo-French school has been suppressed in France owing to anti-British feeling nursed by expressions on the part of the clergy as to the contaminating influence of English thoughts and manners. English ways of thinking are certainly different from those usually inculcated in clerical schools; are indeed quite subversive of them, and it must be owned that they are peculiarly catching about the present time. These good clergymen no doubt find themselves like a hen that has been set to hatch ducks' eggs, and is quite scandalized by the results, especially when the chickens take to imitating the ducklings. The English boy's manners, if they can be called manners at all, are certainly not those taught by the maitre a d'ancer. Along with a certain shyness and awkwardness of address, there is at the same time a self-reliant swagger about him which, while it distresses the pedagogue, is quite 'contaminating' among his fellow urchins. We must look to such clerical apprehensions for the source of a great deal of the feeling which prevails in France against Britain, and which has no parallel counterpart in Britain. There are those in France who accuse the Jesuits of sowing hatred of set purpose that through it they may regain their lost hold on the French. It is probable that a great deal more of the process is quite unconscious. The worthy priest knows that the people of Great Britain and of the United States are heretics, and must consequently be God-forsaken and bad. With this established proposition to start from, whatever he hears to the disparagement of these peoples commends itself to him as true, while everything that tells in their favor is received with reserve. His own observations of British men and boys no doubt afford abundant material for buttressing his conclusions. They certainly have most offensive faults, and these faults are on the surface. Even their virtues being different in their expression from his own, appear to him as added faults. He may keep these convictions to himself or he may utter them; his solicitude that his flock and his country should not come under evil influence is always there, and will unconsciously have its influence. At times, when British and American progress attracts more than usual attention, it is his part as a faithful and fatherly pastor to be specially solicitous in his warnings. The spirit and wisdom of those who founded a school in France with the express purpose that English and French boys might get acquainted with each other is certainly to be commended. We have, of course, no knowledge as to what sort of a school it was or what sort of English boys may have been sent to it. It is not impossible that they were an off-colored lot like some of those who used to be sent to Dotheboys Hall. But it seems a pity that such a well-meant effort at cultivating good will should prove a failure.

THE KHARTOUM COLLEGE.

A correspondent strongly protests against making the Gordon college a Mohammedan institution, which, he says, is the Sirdar's intention. It would certainly be wise for the promoters of this movement to settle the public mind at once on this subject. There seems to be in the mind of the average Englishman of the present era a general vague feeling that it is better for every race to stick to what religion it may have. General Gordon himself insisted on the Sudanese building mosques and keeping Ramadhan. He said that the Mussulman worshipped God as well as he did, and was as acceptable to Him, if sincere, as any Christian. This was in accordance, no doubt, with the judgment passed upon a certain devout officer who preceded Gordon in those eastern parts, concerning whose prayers and almsdeeds it was said that they were had in remembrance before God, who was no respecter of persons, but in every nation accepted those who feared Him and worked righteousness. This story of Cornelius, however, affords no warrant either for the endorsement of false religions or for not seeking to bring men to the true. The only question is whether a college should necessarily be a propaganda for the purpose. We do not think, on the one hand, that the Christianity which makes the British people build a college for the Hubshee has become so indefinite that it proposes to start an institution for the maintenance or propagation of Mohammedanism, or, on the other, that the purposes of the Gordon college would be gained by making it into a Christian mission. If Carlyle's definition of religion be a true one, namely, that faith upon which each man acts, the people of the Sudan might be said in a sense to be Christians already. That is, they have faith in the

Christian British and have none in the fanatical Mohammedan rule which preceded ours. Much as these people are pleased, however, to see the change of rule, they are not going to send their boys to Christian schools, and would rightly be alienated by authoritative pressure to induce them to do so. The best constitution for the coming university would be that of McGill University. Let it be purely secular, but let each religion have in its shadow its theological school. The Egyptians might subscribe to start such another school of the Koran as that at Cairo. The Copts could start a school of their faith wherein, if they did not object, the Pope would be glad to take a managing part. The Protestant missions would of course have their school also, teaching the saving truth as found in the New Testament. The students of all these would get their minds enlarged by meeting each other on the benches of a common secular school, and that influence which had the strongest moral force in it would be the one which would gain upon the rest.

ONTARIO BY-ELECTIONS.

The Conservatives have reason to rejoice over their victory in North Hastings, which they on Tuesday carried by an old-time majority of about four hundred. The contest was for a seat in the Provincial Assembly rendered vacant by the unseating of the Conservative candidate for bribery by agents. The candidates on both sides were the same as in the general election in March last, when Mr. Allen was elected over Mr. Lott by a majority of 252. The Liberals hardly hoped to carry the riding, though no doubt they counted upon the advantage the government generally possesses in a by-election. It is not, however, extraordinary that the Conservatives should have pulled themselves together in this constituency and done well. It was the constituency of Sir Mackenzie Bowell, whom it elected at seven general elections to the House of Commons, where he represented the constituency from confederation down to the end of 1892, when he was elected to the Senate. In 1887 Sir Mackenzie Bowell's majority was 1,041, and in 1890 Mr. Carscallen, the present Conservative member, was elected by 743. The by-election which was also held on Tuesday in the district of Nipissing, was a triumph for the Liberals. In March last Mr. Loughrin, the Liberal candidate, its former representative, was very nearly defeated by Mr. Lamarche, his majority being only 61. During the campaign preceding that election the electors got the impression from the Opposition speakers that the Hardy Government was not in earnest in defending the lumber interests of Canada against those of the United States, and the constituency, being largely a lumbering district, had its confidence in the government's policy shaken. Since then the policy of the Hardy Government has become a matter of record, and the constituency accordingly has returned the Liberal candidate by a majority of over six hundred.

THE CLAYTON-BULWER TREATY.

Mr. Michael Davitt is credited with the statement that 'were Clayton, the American, alive to-day he would deserve to be put into a lunatic asylum, as he agreed with England to share with her 'in a purely American enterprise.' As an offset to this supercilious opinion may be quoted that of Mr. Schouler, the historian of the United States, a not unqualified supporter of John M. Clayton: 'A good scholar, courteous, highly honorable in all the relations of life, Clayton, who was ripe in public experience, proved himself at least a sagacious and prudent counsellor.' As regards the Nicaragua canal being 'a purely American enterprise,' the fact is that in 1850, the date of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, the United States had no material interests at stake in Central America, no American capital was invested there, nor had a single foot of land been legally acquired therein by citizens of the United States. On the other hand, the entire Mosquito Coast, with an extent of one hundred and fifty miles, or, to be more exact, from degree 10° 30' to 13° north latitude, and inland for a distance of forty miles from the coast, had from 1655 to 1850, or for almost two hundred years, been under the immediate protection of Britain. Considering, moreover, that Great Britain, then as now, included one-half of the continent, besides many of the islands of the Caribbean Sea in her empire, that the proportion of British mercantile tonnage was written in millions against hundred thousands pertaining to the United States, the fallacy of looking upon the inter-oceanic canal as 'a purely American enterprise' out

side of Britain's sphere is sufficiently evident.

If it be pretended that the conception of such a canal originated in the United States the claim is childishly absurd, as such schemes have been very plentiful from the days of Charles V. downwards. The truth is, American interest in Central America, as in Cuba, was begotten of the desire of the pro-slavery party to extend the territory within which slavery might exist. In pursuance of this policy, President Polk aimed at the maintenance of the British Mosquito Coast protectorate a re-proclamation of the Monroe doctrine, and for the first time a representative of the United States was accredited to a Central American state—Guatemala. This gentleman promptly negotiated a treaty providing for a United States protectorate over the isthmus, so flagrantly unconstitutional and internationally dangerous that the incoming President—Taylor—suppressed it. President Taylor and his party strongly suspected that the exploitation of the Monroe doctrine was a mere stalking horse for the expansion of slavery, and lost no time in trying to reach an understanding with Britain regarding Nicaragua and the Central American states in general. The result was the framing of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty based on the self-denial of the contracting powers, which gave mutual assurances that each would facilitate the construction of an inter-oceanic canal and maintain the neutrality of its common use. Of this treaty itself Mr. Schouler says: 'The friendly compact confirmed by the Senate and proclaimed on our anniversary of the fourth of July, was hailed by the American people as just and liberal to the commerce of the world and honorable in its forbearance.' On her part, Great Britain renounced the protectorate of the Mosquito Coast, and ten years later, by the Treaty of Managua, to remove any doubt as to her sincerity, she ceded the said protectorate absolutely to Nicaragua, which state, it may be added, has failed to act up to any of the terms of cession except that relating to possession. Great Britain then paid a liberal price for the signing of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, and would be fully justified in demanding its maintenance or, if otherwise, that she should be placed in as advantageous a position as she occupied previous to 1850.

Great Britain will, however, agree to the abrogation, or at least to the modification, of the treaty not only because it would be an act of friendliness toward the United States, but because the construction of the Nicaraguan canal would serve the interests of Great Britain, whose sea-borne commerce is greater than that of all other nations combined, to a far greater extent than those of any other nation, the United States itself, perhaps, not excepted. Moreover, the construction of the Nicaraguan canal would almost convert the Atlantic and Pacific North American squadrons of the British navy into one combined fleet. Some modification of the treaty seems necessary to the construction of the canal, seeing that for half a century under the 'joint arrangement' and 'joint protection' promised by the United States and Great Britain nothing has been accomplished, and if the treaty is to continue there is no prospect of anything being done. A joint protectorate of the canal would certainly be a fine demonstration of the unpledged alliance of the Anglo-Saxon nations, but joint protectorates, as Great Britain has found, are a fruitful source of difficulty and dispute, and she would probably prefer the single responsibility of the United States.

Great Britain does not want to build the Nicaraguan canal, either, under a joint protectorate or under her own sole control. It is doubtful if it will become remunerative for perhaps half a century. It will cost at least \$135,000,000, probably \$160,000,000 or \$170,000,000. The United States Government would find it necessary to grant large aid to a company undertaking its construction, and for that reason would have a fair claim to its control; it will probably, if Congress consents, undertake the construction as a national work. When constructed, it will have to face the possibility at least of competition on the part of the Panama canal, which is still under construction, not as a sea level canal but as a lock canal. The official estimate, probably a very low one, of the cost of completing it on the new design is \$150,000,000. The latest reports of the progress being made on the canal are more encouraging, the cost of the work under the new economical régime being very considerably lessened and the rate of progress much quickened. Twice as many men were employed on the canal in 1897 as in 1895. M. Hutin, the managing director of the company, visited Washington the other

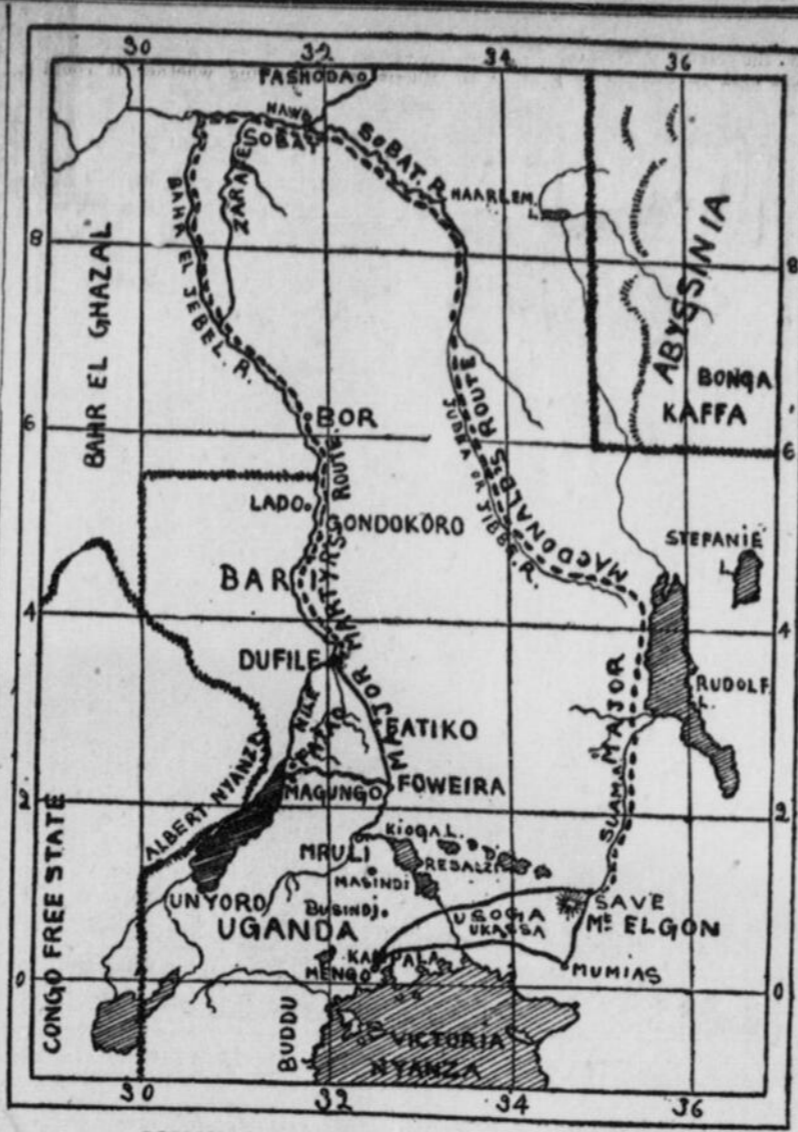
day and offered the concessions to President McKinley for \$900,000,000, accompanying the offer with a threat of keen competition in case it was not accepted, but the President is reported to have rejected the whole proposition very summarily. If the United States is willing to undertake the construction of the Nicaragua canal, in view of all the circumstances, Great Britain certainly should not stand in her way, though probably some 'compensation' will be agreed upon, in addition to the use of the canal by British vessels on the same conditions and terms as American vessels.

JOINING HANDS WITH KITCHENER

Two British military expeditions, duly authorized by the Imperial Government, and therefore of an altogether different character from 'scientific' or 'exploring' parties, have started from Uganda, and are now well on their way north to join hands with Kitchener's forces at Fashoda. One of these is under Major Macdonald, who, it will be remembered, had started on this mission over a year ago, and was compelled to turn back owing to the revolt of his Soudanese soldiers. There were at that time ten or twelve hundred of these Soudanese troops scattered in garrisons throughout Uganda, Usoga, Buddu and Unyoro. Some of the garrisons joined the mutineers, British officers were murdered, and it was feared the revolt would spread until all the Soudanese would be up in arms. The Uganda auxiliaries, as the native troops of Uganda were called, were not very reliable owing to lack of sufficient training and discipline under their native chiefs, and it was feared that they might seize the occasion to join their former king, Mwanga, who had revolted a year before, and, though defeated and driven into German East Africa, he still gave a good deal of trouble. King Kabba Rega, of Unyoro, was also at the head of the rebellious forces in the western part of what had been his kingdom.

Major Macdonald therefore had some pretty hot work before him in Uganda when he returned to Mengo, the capital, with the remnant of his expeditionary force last fall. Indeed, there was danger of Uganda being lost for the time. But when the news reached Colonel Harrison, then at Machiko post, the half way station between the coast and Uganda, with some troops, he immediately started with his forces for the scene of the trouble, picking up the small garrisons of Soudanese on his way, thus at once preventing their joining the revolt and strengthening his own forces, he quickly reached Usoga, driving before him the mutinous Soudanese, who had reached the western part of that province, and with his aid Major Macdonald drove the mutineers back from the Uganda coast of Lake Victoria, and pacified Buddu and Bankole to the west, where King Mwanga's rebellion had gathered considerable strength. In December, 1897, Major Cyril Martyr arrived at Uganda in command of a force of British East Indian troops, and with instructions to reorganize the Soudanese forces of Uganda if possible, a task for which he was fitted by a long experience as an Egyptian officer and a thorough knowledge of the Soudanese. It has been a work of weary months to drive Kabba Rega out of Unyoro, finally to scatter the mutineers, and thoroughly to reorganize the still considerable body of Soudanese troops. It was not until the end of August that Major Martyr found himself and his forces ready actually to undertake the long delayed Equatorial Provinces expedition which Major Macdonald had started to carry out more than a year before.

The strength of the forces now gathered in Uganda was so great and the rebellions so thoroughly quelled that the scope of the expedition could be greatly enlarged, while still leaving enough of troops behind to police the country and watch the scattered bodies of mutineers. In fact, instead of one expedition, two were now determined upon. Major Martyr decided that to this end it was safe to divide his force of eight hundred Soudanese troops, who, re-clothed in new uniforms, paid all arrears, and accompanied by their wives, had thereby been converted from sullen, mutinous, disarmed men into a contented, smart looking, laughing body of troops, who fought bravely and loyally in the last two battles against their own kith and kin, the rebels, whom they had been on the point of joining a few months earlier. The forces for the first expedition, commanded by Major Martyr himself, were gathered at Fauvera and Fajao, the former at the great north-east bend of the Someroet Nile, north of Unyoro, and the latter near the mouth of the same river at Lake Albert Nyanza. On the third of



JOINING HANDS WITH KITCHENER. Map showing routes of the two British expeditions under Major Martyr and Major Macdonald, from Uganda to Sobat and Fashoda.

September the first column of this expedition left Fajao in a steam launch, a steel boat and a flotilla of canoes, and descended the Nile as far as Wadelai, which they reached three days later. Here a fort was erected and the British flag hoisted. The second column of this expedition, under command of Captain Carleton, started from Fauvera on the second of September to march overland by way of Fatiko to Dufile. On the fourteenth the river column reached Dufile, where the British flag was raised, and there it awaited the arrival of the second column. When the expedition united at Dufile the whole would march to Lado, carrying the steam launch and steel boats, which are in sections, with them, the river between these two points being full of falls and rapids, which do not admit of the passage of boats. At Lado the boats would be put together and launched, and the expedition would continue its journey down the river by way either of the Giraffe or Jebel branches of the Nile to Sobat and Fashoda. It is just possible that the ultimate destination of this expedition is the Bahr-el-Ghazel province.

The second expedition, under Major Macdonald, started from Kampala, the military post some miles north of Mengo, and it also was divided into two columns. The smaller of these marched by a direct route through the heart of northern Usoga to Mount Elgon, in order to obtain information as to the feasibility of constructing a road along it. The larger column took the regular route eastward to Mumias, on the Nzoia river, and from there marched north to Save, on the northern slope of Mount Elgon, where it was joined by the smaller column, whose report of the northern route proved very favorable. From Save the route of the expedition was to be down the Suam river to Lake Rudolf, north along the west coast of Lake Rudolf, then westward down the Jubba river to its junction with the Sobat, which they would follow north-westward to its junction with the Nile at Sobat. At Lake Rudolf a small column was to be detached to explore the Lake Stefanie region. One of the objects of this expedition was to occupy effectually the whole Lake Rudolf and Sobat river country on behalf of Great Britain, so as to avert the possibility of trouble in these regions with the Emperor Menelek, who claimed them, and appointed a Russian governor-general to take possession of them and organize them, a mission which for some unknown reason had failed.

'FINEM RESPICE.'

In 1896 the nominal capital sum of the funded debt of France was \$6,240,572,700, probably the heaviest debt ever yet incurred by any nation. With a smaller population than that of Great Britain, France persists in maintaining a larger annual budget, and this notwithstanding the fact that in the ten years from 1886 to 1896 the population of the latter increased by less than 300,000. Much of

the enormous debt now accumulated is of course due to the payments to Germany on account of the Franco-German war, but unfortunately no small portion is attributable to ill-advised colonial projects and enterprises, at best of a speculative character, and which for the most part have proved mere sink-holes of capital, and threaten, moreover, in some instances to bring about such international complications as may seriously affect the position and prosperity of France itself. While the national debt of the United Kingdom is steadily decreasing, that of France is constantly increasing, and each rapidly succeeding ministry, whatever else it fails in, appears to regard it as a sacred duty to do something in that direction. What will the end be, and how long will it be before it is reached?

The latest instance of this suicidal tendency is the proceeding of the present government in loaning \$40,000,000 for the construction of railways in Indo-China, nominally guaranteed, by the government of that possession. The railways in question are, in fact, those projected to penetrate the Chinese province of Hunan by way of the valleys of the Upper Mekong and Nam How, in order to forestall the British in that region and pave the way for substantial extension of Indo-China, at the expense, of course, of the Celestial Empire. That this long-contemplated scheme will not be carried far without the development of considerable friction with other powers than China goes without saying, but apart from this contingency there is something of melancholy humor in the proviso that the loan is to be guaranteed by the government of Indo-China. This colony has never been anything but a source of expense, and does not nearly pay its way. Up to the present time it has cost the mother country approximately a sum of \$300,000,000, and even last year the charge in the French budget on account of Indo-China was \$5,500,000. Although the population numbers at least 20,000,000, the total export trade in 1896 was valued at only \$18,000,000 and the imports were but half as much in value. Moreover, the tendency of the trade is to diminish rather than increase. Unless, therefore, the unexpected happens, the large sum just voted as a loan may reasonably be regarded as merely an increment of France's already stupendous national debt. The enterprise in question is a magnificent one, well worthy of the former greatness of France, and, under more favorable conditions, might attract the admiration and sympathy of the world, but as matters now stand it is impossible for the well-wishers of France to regard her present financial—to say nothing of her political—course without uneasiness and misgiving. No one in governmental or legislative circles appears to have the courage, if he possesses the disposition, to suggest retrenchment or to stem the current of unremunerative expenditure. France is undoubtedly a wealthy country, but even a much wealthier one must within no lengthy period

of time recognize the impossibility of reconciling national stability with an ever-increasing burden of debt.

GALABAT.

Galabat, which, according to a despatch from Cairo, is reported to be in the possession of the Abyssinians, is a large and fertile district at the sources of one of the tributaries of the Blue Nile, among the foothills of the Abyssinian mountains. It is on one of the routes by which the Mohammedans of the Darfour and the central Soudan districts make their pilgrimages to Mecca, and it was colonized by these Soudanese, who established a great trading town there, sometimes called Matamma, sometimes Galabat, where the products of the central Soudan were bartered for those of Abyssinia. Owing to its trade and its fertility Galabat was a comparatively wealthy province, and after Egypt overran the Soudan she took possession of Galabat also, though it had long paid tribute to the emperors of Abyssinia. The exactions and oppressions of the Egyptians were so great that the people of Galabat, though Soudanese and Mohammedans, were always strongly inclined to Abyssinia, and whenever Egypt's grasp was loosened on account of trouble elsewhere they returned to their ancient allegiance. The Mahdi extended his empire over it, and it was by the route on which it lies that his generals invaded Abyssinia when they defeated and slew King John, and again when they were defeated by the Emperor Menelek. After their defeat by Menelek the dervishes retreated from Galabat, and it was supposed to be under the rule of the Abyssinian emperor. When Colonel Parsons, with his Kassala troops, drove out the dervishes and captured Gedaref, the province lying immediately north of Galabat, it was supposed that his forces would march south in the direction of Galabat until they came in touch with the Abyssinians; and this is probably what is now reported. There will be no war between the British and Menelek over Galabat. It will probably for the present remain under Abyssinian rule, but eventually become part of British Egypt when some tribal war arises in Abyssinia over the disputed emperors, which will probably be on the death of Menelek. The Abyssinians have a good claim to Galabat, and will in the meantime be allowed to retain it if they are actually in possession, as reported.

WOMAN AND THE DEATH PENALTY.

The Ontario papers are discussing the probable course of the government in regard to the execution of the death sentence in the case of Mrs. Poirier. Although it seems almost indecent, as well as injudicious, for publicists to express opinions in regard to the execution of a fellow-being, while the judge and the executive have still under consideration the question of his life and death, yet the publicity of the proceedings of our whole judicial system implies and tends to encourage public supervision of the administration of justice. The criticism freely indulged by the British press has had a good effect, judging by the character of British courts and their work. The general opinion of the Canadian press is that the executive is inclined to over-leniency, and this is deprecated in anticipation in the present case. In at least one notable case in which a double, almost a triple, murder was committed, the commutation of the death sentence seriously disturbed, if it did not absolutely shock, the public conscience. The effect upon the public mind in this case was such that political organs sought to make capital out of it by unfounded charges of over-leniency against Sir Oliver Mowat, when he was Minister of Justice. Needless to say, this veteran statesman, administrator and judge, was easily and fully vindicated. The political motive seems, we are sorry to notice, not to be wanting in the present discussion.

Apprehension of over-leniency in the present case arises mostly from the consideration that the felon is a woman. The members of the executive and the judges are not the only ones influenced by the feeling of reluctance to require the forfeited life of any human being, a reluctance which becomes greater in the case of a woman. Probably public opinion, as well as executive leniency, is responsible for the fact that of ten women convicted of murder from confederation down to 1884 only in the cases of two was the death penalty executed. One western newspaper, however, goes so far as to imply openly that Mrs. Poirier's nationality will save her from capital punishment. This is a turning of the tables on those who imported similar charges into the

Shortis case. There is, of course, not a shadow of a ground from a political point of view for any such implication. Even if on this, as possibly on other questions there was some difference of view between the French judges, who, for the most part, administer the law in Quebec, and the English judges in other provinces, that would not afford the slightest ground to impute race favoritism to either. But we have never heard of any such difference. French-Canadian women have, unhappily, ere this committed murder and suffered the extreme penalty for it.

That the judges practically decide the cases in which the death sentence shall be commuted seems to be shown by the London 'Advertiser's' description of the procedure of the Department of Justice:

We understand that the judge is asked for a report, but there is not, nor has there ever been, a suggestion made to the judge as to what the character of that report shall be. No Minister of Justice in this country, and no Secretary of State in Great Britain, has so far forgotten his duty and his oath of office as to have recourse to any such proceeding. The judge hears the evidence, he pronounces the sentence which the verdict calls for; but the impression which he receives, and the judgment which he forms, may be somewhat different from the verdict given and from the sentence which he is called upon to pronounce. When asked to make a report upon a case he does so; it is a part of his duty, and if that report is in favor of a less severe punishment than the proceedings in the court required him to pronounce, it is the duty of the executive government to act upon his advice. Mr. Walspole, when giving evidence as Secretary of State, says that if the judge's report favors the commutation of the sentence, it is invariably followed, although if it be in the opposite direction, it is not. That is the English practice, and the practice is a part of the law. It is an observation of the coronation oath, in which the Sovereign has sworn to temper justice with mercy. When the 'Spectator' suggests that because Mrs. Poirier is French, therefore, she will not be hanged, it not only calumnates the government, but it calumnates the whole French-speaking population of Canada.

What Judge Taschereau's report will be in this case is not a matter for speculation, but this perhaps may be said, that if he recommends commutation it will only be for very strong reasons, as his address to the prisoner preceding the sentence was extremely stern, and was calculated to deprive her of any hope. It does not seem probable that the petition for the commutation of her sentence will be largely signed.

[For the 'Witness'] TWO-CENT POSTAGE.

To smoky London's millions, Auld Reekie, or Belfast, Where women ride on pillions, And jaunting cars go past; To Welshmen's rocky quarry, To every Highland glen, A two-cent stamp will carry The product of your pen.

By India's ancient river, And Afric's burning sand, The postman will deliver The message from your hand. Two cents on any letter, Half-ounce—you understand— You could not wish for better Than Mulock now has planned.

To every fishing station On bleak Newfoundland's coast, A kindly salutation For two cents goes by post— Orange or cane plantation, On rich Jamaica's plains, By this new proclamation The same great boon obtains.

Oh! would that wheresoever Great Britain's flag's unfurled, The same rate might deliver, Our letter through the world. May Canada's young nation, Favored by Heaven's Lord, Send men of every station The pen—but not the sword.

E. S. ORR. Cookshire, Que., Dec. 28, 1898.

SPEAK FOR THE 'WITNESS.'

Reader, say a word to your neighbor for us just now. This is the time of year when people think of taking a newspaper. Do not let the 'Witness' want a word to your friends that will induce them to send for the 'Witness.' Please send us a list of friends whom you think do not take the 'Witness' already. We shall be glad to send them sample copies at once.

A GRAIN ELEVATOR DESTROYED.

Pierson, Man., Dec. 28.—The Ogilvie Milling Company's elevator at this place, together with fifteen hundred bushels of wheat, was burned at two o'clock this morning.

LAW AND JUSTICE
IN PITCAIRN ISLAND.

Judicial Visit to the Home of
the Mutineers of the
'Bounty.'

A correspondent of the London 'Graphic,' on board H. M. S. 'Royalist,' writes:—The enclosed sketches may perhaps prove of interest, not much being generally known about Pitcairn Island, I take it, beyond the fact of its being the home of a community founded something over a hundred years ago as an outcome of the mutiny on the sloop of war 'Bounty' in 1789, when Fletcher Christian (master's mate), headed the rising, and sent his skipper—Bligh—adrift in an open boat with certain others to perform their memorable cruise to Timor.

The island is only two miles long, by a mile and a half wide, if that, and lies in the South Pacific Ocean, between Australasia and South America. Communication with it is very rare and confined mostly to sailing vessels that may happen to find Pitcairn somewhere within easy access during their passage; then they sometimes head away for the little heap of land and take in such supplies of fruit and vegetables as the place affords. Such vessels as do call rarely, if ever, stay longer than a very few hours, for the island is absolutely sheer up and down on every side, and affords no sort of harbor.

It has been customary to send a man-of-war to the island about once a year. These visits have up to last year been paid by a ship detailed from the Pacific Station, and the call has, according to all accounts, been eagerly looked forward to by the islanders, constituting as it does the only occasion during the year when the isolated people can have opportunity (and that but for a few hours) of obtaining supplies of good clothing and luxuries in the matter of tinned milk, butter, jams, etc.

It has always been considered that these descendants of the old mutineers have been so blessed as to be able to live in absolute harmony—a 'Happy Family'—far beyond any requirement of the strong arm of the law, and that the incursion of a clergyman would be analogous to the importation of coal to Newcastle. All of the male inhabitants officiate by turns in their little church, and such lures of the 'evil one' as ardent liquors and even tobacco, are religiously 'tabooed' by everybody on the island.

Such being the case, the amazement of the people on board H. M. S. 'Comus,' last year, may be easily understood, when upon their visit to the island during the voyage home, information was given by the inhabitants that one of their number named Harry A. Christian had murdered a young woman, twenty years of age, named Clara Warren, together with her infant of a year old.

Mother and child were killed in the bush on one Sunday evening—the murderer returning after dark to drag the bodies down a steep cliff side known as 'Isaac's Patch' on to the great rocks below, when he thrust them down through a 'blow hole' into a cavern beneath, and there very shortly the huge rollers of the Pacific must have dashed them to pieces, for not a trace of either was seen afterwards. The only indication in explanation of the disappearance of the poor girl were the trampled, broken, and bloodstained brushwood on the summit of the bluff, the smear of dragging down the cliff side, and a wisp of the girl's hair found adhering to the rocks near the blow-hole.

The murderer confessed to the crime, and it is believed that his motive in committing it was that he might be free to 'marry' another girl on the island for whom he had already ineffectually applied to the 'parliament' in conformance with the island law.

Satisfied that the fellow was in custody, and there being no jurisdiction under which a trial could then be held, the 'Comus' left Pitcairn and proceeded home, giving information which resulted in the recent visit of the 'Royalist' to the island with Mr. Hamilton Hunter, judicial commissioner of the Western Pacific, from Suva in Fiji, on board, deputed to hold a trial of the case.

Notwithstanding his former confession the prisoner pleaded 'not guilty' to the charge, but the circumstantial evidence was so strong, and his confession having been proved beyond question, the only sentence possible was pronounced, and the murderer was taken on board the 'Royalist' and conveyed to Suva 'for the final satisfaction of the demands of justice.'

The 'Royalist' remained four days at

Pitcairn, anchoring off a slight indentation named by the islanders 'Bounty Bay,' this being the spot where the mutineers burnt and sank the remains of the sloop after determining to remain on the island.

There are but two small thatched dwellings high up on the hillside amongst the coconut palms to be seen from seaward, besides the flagstaff (Isaac's) point. At the anchorage closer in, however, two boat sheds were observed down on the rocks, and shortly after the 'Royalist' had anchored a whale-boat came off to the ship with some dozen men in it, chief amongst whom was a man named McCoy, who is President of the island.

The islanders elect a president annually, as well as a kind of legislative committee of seven members, called by them 'parliament,' enfranchisement of women being recognized in all elections. As may be supposed, there was nothing 'remarkable' about the appearance of the men. The President wore a grey frock coat and somewhat battered brown 'bowler' hat (clothes have to last a considerable period on Pitcairn Island), and the other men were attired in all the freedom of singlets and well-ventilated blue dungaree or white duck trousers, while for head-gear, mercantile marine uniform caps seemed fashionable.

Everybody we met spoke with a more pronounced 'Yankee' intonation, with a liberal use of 'Americanisms,' due, possibly, to their contact from time to time with 'Frisco' sailing craft of all sorts and conditions, as well as to the fact that several of their number have visited the United States. They appeared to be not only perfectly contented, but happy with their lot, and, indeed, not a little proud of their island, bearing themselves with absolute independence, though expressing at the same time unbounded pleasure at the ship's visit. They speedily fraternized with everybody on board, freely offering all the hospitality that the island affords to anybody who would accompany them on shore. It was ascertained during our stay that there are 141 souls on the island, constituting the four families of Christian, Young, McCoy and Buffet, all descendants of men of those names who were in the 'Bounty,' and a fifth man named Coffin, an American, who arrived at the island in a whaler about eighteen years ago and settled there. There is consequently an amount of intermarriage which cannot but be deeply deplored. As a case in point, the victim in the late murder was first cousin to her murderer.

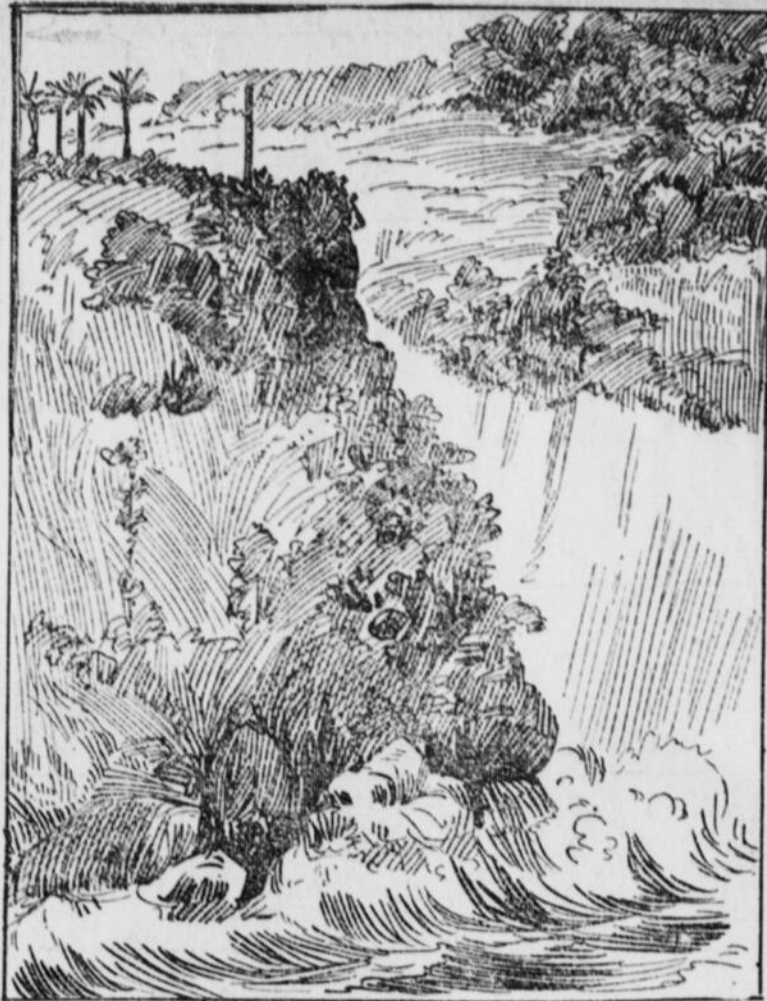
The passage to the shore is one that may be described as 'tricky' to a degree, the way lying between immense rocks and boulders, through a 'truly boiling surf'; the great rollers from the 'infinite Pacific' poured in after the boat in a most embarrassing way, the backwash rushing out, leaving her all but high and dry to wait for the next wave to float her in—and these waves required watching.

The descendant of the 'Middy' (Young by name) of the 'Bounty' steered the boat on most occasions when communicating with the ship, by means of a long oar rigged out abaft all, and the skill shown by him and his success in getting the heavy boat through the rock-studded outer and inner lines of surf and into the narrow rock-bound cove, where the boat-houses are of necessity situated, was a matter for the admiration of anybody, and in our case, as persons of some experience in such matters, demanding unqualified praise by reason of our great anxiety to get ashore dry.

There are three large boats in the two thatched-covered sheds, but, although serviceable, they have undoubtedly suffered severely from the unavoidably rough usage to which they must be subjected. At the boat-sheds, on each day of landing, was a small crowd of women and children waiting to be taken on board the ship, in response to the cordial invitation they received from both the ship's company and the officers.

Jam and ship's biscuit seemed to be an irresistible attraction to the youngsters, all of whom were fair-haired and brown or blue-eyed, as soon as their seasickness had worn off and they had grown accustomed to the rolling of the ship. Before leaving again for the shore, they on each occasion all sang a hymn very prettily, in 'parts,' on the quarter-deck, and went away as pleased and excited as youngsters at home who have been to the pantomime.

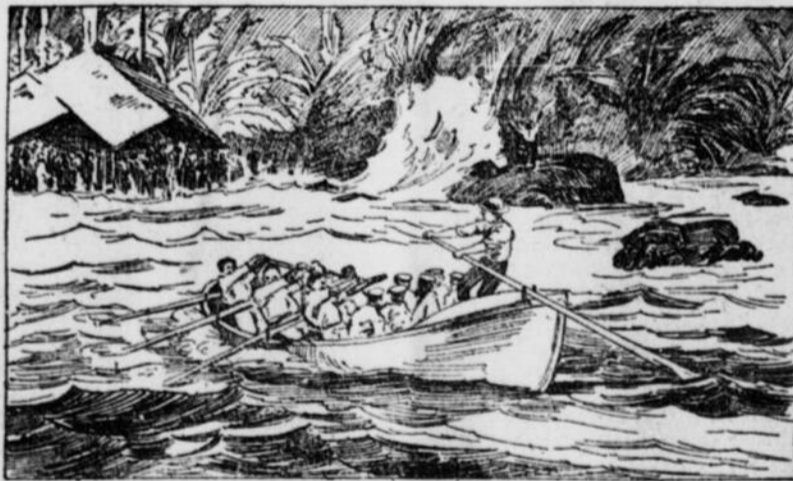
The pathway from the boat-sheds runs steeply up the hill, overhung by palms of every variety, and huge tree and other ferns, continuing right along over the brow of the slope throughout the small settlement. It forms the one and only 'street,' and passes through the groves of orange trees (laden with golden fruit during our stay), and coconut palms, guava trees, etc., under the shade of which are the cottages of the islanders. These are built of wooden boards, the



ISAAC'S POINT, THE SCENE OF THE MURDER OF CLARA WARREN.

framework being of rough-hewn logs laid upon large boulders as a rule, the roofs thatched with pandanus and coconut palm leaves. The best house in the settlement is that occupied by the President. It is in a more open situation than any of the others, being the first arrived at after the climb up the hillside, and one of the two that are visible from seaward. It is, like the remainder, built of wood, and with thatched roof, but the windows are glazed. It moreover contains the 'organ,' which bears a silver plate with the inscription, 'A present from Her Majesty the Queen, to her loyal and loving Pitcairn Island subjects, in appreciation of their domestic virtues.' It was presented in 1879, being taken to the island in H.M.S. 'Opal.' Having since that date seen considerable service, it is now so sadly out of gear that one could believe it had pumped out the burthen of a whole cathedral full of anthems daily since its arrival on the island, and it

should have been left so severely to itself by his descendants; but so it is—we had to force our way through bush and bramble to get near it. A cave facing seawards to the east and north, up near the mountain top, is an object of interest. It was the hiding-place of the mutineers whenever a sail was sighted during the first years following their offence, and is known as Christian's Cave, for there he used to spend certain hours of each day, it is said, on the look-out for any vessel passing, in order that 'All hands might douse the fires and go aloft,' when there appeared any possibility of their existence being discovered. They did not descend to the village again until not only the coast, but the offing as well, was clear. The height above the landing place at Bounty Bay was pointed out to us as an object of immediate interest by reason of the rather curious form taken by the rock just below the summit. The islanders



OFFICERS GOING TO BOUNTY BAY FROM H.M.S. 'ROYALIST.'

On the left of the sketch are the boat-sheds where the landing is effected. The man on the rock is directing the boat's passage through the rocks.

would be all the better for an external rub over with plate powder and coconut oil.

The next building in importance to the President's house ('The White House' we called it) is the church, parliament and school-house combined. It stands about midway along the pathway spoken of, and is divided within by partitions into three sections, having doorways communicating. The school-house end was the scene of the first criminal case tried in Pitcairn. Behind the judge was the blackboard, on which the day before we observed an illustration in chalk, depicting Pharaoh's dream of the seven fat and seven lean cattle—this being veiled on the day of the trial by a large map of Europe. The schoolmistress of the island is Miss Young. Her brother is the boat-steerer whose skill so highly appealed to us. The supporting framework of the building is formed of some of the original timbers of the 'Bounty.' But these, with, maybe, a copper nail and a bolt or two, and a single earthenware jar in the possession of the Youngs, are the sole relics remaining of the old ship. In front, under a little wooden belfry affair, is a large ship's bell.

In the bush, about fifty yards from the nearest hut and closely adjoining a sweet potato plantation, stands the headstone of old Adams's grave. Adams was the last of the mutineers to survive, and it was he who instituted what may be called the 'present era' in the lives of the descendants of the men with whom his lot was cast. He taught them to read and write with such facilities as he possessed, and finally communicated with the outer world by means of a passing ship, begging that someone would come and join him to assist in properly rearing the community—an appeal that was responded to. It appears curious that the grave of this old island patriarch

call it 'The Old Man,' and are pleased to consider that the aspect of the 'face' is one of benevolence overlooking Bounty Bay.

One is glad to hope that the distressing errand which took the ship to Pitcairn seemed lost sight of by the inhabitants during the short time we passed off the island, for upon the last day of our stay the whole population appeared to be gathered on the rocks of Bounty Bay to say 'good-by.' The boat which took the last consignment of ship's people aboard, remained astern of the ship while the anchor was coming up to the cat-head, and sail upon sail was let fall to a fine fair wind, and the ship slipped fast away to the west again, we heard coming from the boat's crew of islanders the strains of 'God Save the Queen.'

THE PARIS OF TO-DAY.

THE CAPITAL OF CIVILIZATION.

(By G. W. Stevens.)

I blush for the French as red as anybody. I realize as clearly as anybody that if they wish to remain a nation they should send for British governors, British judges, and a British army of occupation, leaving to themselves the cultivation of the arts in which they excel. I am loath to break my journeys in their capital, and especially shrink from pretending that I can speak a little of their language. Yet I here admit at the very beginning that, if anything could make an Englishman ashamed of England, it would be two days in Paris.

It is useless to contend against the truth. Paris is the capital of civilization. Paris has been the capital of civilization ever since civilization began. In the course of our national business of empire, we have often occasion to use the word, but one look at Paris is enough to inform even the partial mind how little we know of civilization, the fact, the life.

Our civilization is of the kind we can pass on to lower strains of humanity, to their great benefit and our own. The Parisian civilization is

A RARE VINTAGE

that loses its bouquet the moment it passes outside the fortifications. Therefore Parisian civilization is of limited use to the world; but it is of very great use to Paris.

London was obviously made—had to work for its living—and won its imperial greatness gradually and with pain. The streets of Mayfair are patchwork, and the houses and alleys of the city squeeze each other till you expect to see them pushed off their legs. The people who began these things seem never to have guessed that they were to become great. But Paris gives the impression of having known her imperial destiny from the very first brick.

You go to your window in the morning and look out on to a forest of twisted zinc chimney-pot, less beautiful than sign-posts; beyond them, may be, rises the arc of a great wheel, and that straddling, graceful monstrosity, the Eiffel Tower. From the streets rise the lumbering of antiquated omnibuses and the clattering grunts of precocious automobiles. There ought to be nothing at all beautiful or dignified about it. Yet the air is so clear and still, the light so sharp and serene, the lines of the houses so correct and harmonious, everything so bright and clean, that you might be in a seventeenth-century court instead of in a nineteenth-century capital.

Outside there is everywhere space and light and air; Paris has grown without cramping. You come on vast facades, whether of palaces or private houses, all blending into a large effect, that is

BOTH LIGHT AND STATELY

—neither heavy, like the Quadrant, nor trumpy, like South Kensington. The smaller streets are clean-paved underfoot, silent, and not jammed by traffic; they might be rides cut through a wood. The very workmen's quarters bustle without choking; the very tenement houses remember that they owe a duty to the eye.

At this season Paris smells of falling chestnut and pine; your feet rustle in the leaves, and through the half-striped boughs you peep at sixteenth-century mansions and advertisements of the phonograph.

For Paris is both old and new—the oldest and the newest of ruling cities, the most primitive and the most complex. At night the central streets are all electric light and transparencies; to our one 'Vinolia' or 'Mellin's Food' they have fifty 'Express Bar,' 'Folies Bergère,' or 'Café Chose'; the whole boulevard twinkles with the vari-colored lights. Yet beneath them go men in blouses and women in aprons who might be peasants. At Paillard's you will hardly dine for less than a sovereign; but there are a thousand places where you can fill yourself for 4d. The bicycle is almost a solecism in Paris by now, and the petroleum tricycle or landau whirrs in and out the traffic at twenty miles an hour. Yet the fiacre still crawls rheumatically over the cobbles at two, and the cocher has

NOT YET BEGUN TO LEARN TO DRIVE.

Steam tramways will carry you twenty miles out of Paris, yet the omnibus is slower, heavier, uglier, more uncomfortable than a prison van.

You see your neighbor in a restaurant bow and smile with a gracious charm that makes you feel a cub and a barbarian. Then you take up 'La Libre Parole' and find one of the most influential men in France beginning his article,

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Enameline

Is perfectly ODORLESS, and that is another reason why it is the Modern Stove Polish. You will not have to move out of the house until it "burns off," if you use Enameline. "My stove shines in the night," a lady writes. Put up in paste, cake or liquid form. No other has so large a sale.

J. L. PRESCOTT & CO., New York

I understand the indignation of Frenchmen at the trio of rascals trading as Loew, Bard and Manau—M. Loew being the most venerable judge in France, the others grave legal functionaries, and their crime being that they decided the Dreyfus appeal according to the evidence.

Paris is full of these contrasts, and the reason for them is itself a paradox. Paris is the unchallenged capital of civilization, yet Paris is the most insular spot in the whole world. We are called insular, but the most aboriginal islander of us all would be cosmopolitan in Paris. Paris has dropped out of the world through her own cleverness. She has been too far ahead to lead others and now she is too proud to keep step. If the new amuses her she goes wild about it; but, if not, as long as she is antiquated is her own, she is well pleased with it. Full of amenity, of beauty, of intelligence, she has made a life for herself which satisfies her, and she cares nothing at all for the world outside. The Parisian knows no language but his own, no literature, no manner of thought, no mode of life. He has heard of the achievements of other peoples, but he has no concern to study, still less to imitate, them. He is quite satisfied that

WORLD MUST COME TO PARIS, and never dreams of troubling himself to go to the world.

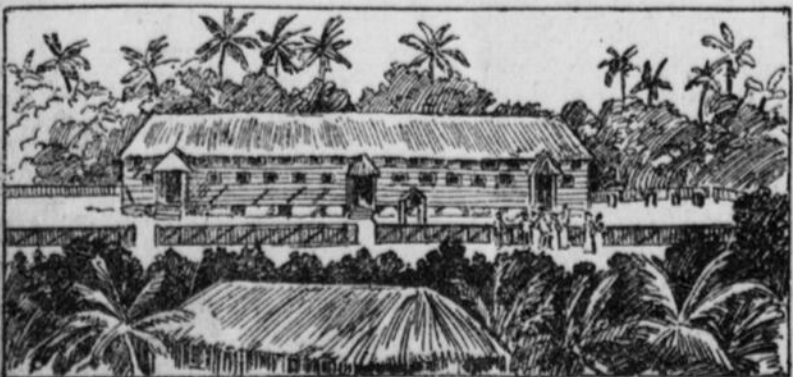
The other day one of the newspapers brought out a placard which cried, 'Automobilism in the Soudan!' I supposed it was the advertisement of a circus; I now learn that it was a serious project. A gentleman who made a remarkable and courageous journey in the neighborhood of Timbuctoo is going to make a Soudan expedition in motor cars. He observed that much of his route was suitable to the automobile, and he pertinently points out that if automobiles had been running in the Soudan Marchand need not have taken two years to reach Fashoda and Kitchener need not have troubled about the desert railway. All you want to get from anywhere to anywhere is automobiles, and plenty of them.

He has not, I fancy, explained what you do in those not inconsiderable parts of the Soudan which are not suitable to the automobiles. Probably he smiles to himself; but to explain things like that is not the Parisian point of view. Paris is logical; the petroleum tricycle is successful in the Rue de la Paix; therefore it must be successful in Timbuctoo.

De Lesseps made the Suez canal; therefore, argued Paris, he could make the Panama. The extra-Parisian circumstance that Panama was not Suez did not come into the reckoning. Prefets and procureurs and chefs de bureau are necessary to Paris; therefore they are necessary to Pondicherry. France cannot exist without her army; therefore a general is sacred. Syllogisms like this make France great at home and

BRITISH PUBLIC SPIRIT.

Public spirit is more general in England than in any other country in the world. England is on this account the happiest country in the world. Every politician from the most fossilized Tories to the mob orators at the street corner is animated and inspired by a public spirit which elevates every controversy to a war of principles, and excludes from public life the demons of personal hatred and mutual jealousy. Lord Kitchener owes his popularity not so much on account of his military feats as to the fact that he is the quintessence of public spirit.—'Neue Freie Presse' (Vienna).



THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE AND CHURCH.

A peculiarity of the Parliament House is the double row of portholes, which make the side of the building look like a ship. In rainy weather the upper tier under the eaves only is opened for ventilation. The supporting timbers are the only remaining relics of the 'Bounty,' except a copper nail or two, which may or may not be genuine relics. The bell shown in the sketch is an old ship's bell.



ADAMS'S ROCK. BOAT SHEDS. GENERAL VIEW OF BOUNTY BAY, PITCAIRN ISLAND, FROM THE SEA

BARON CORVO.

BURIED ALIVE, YET ESCAPED FROM HIS TOMB.

There have been many tales about people buried alive, but few have ever lived to tell of the horrors of that experience.

Baron Corvo relates his experience in the 'Wide World Magazine.' He says that his delicate constitution had been broken down by the rigors of the life of a religious student.

The young man gained in strength, although he had one or two shocks from toads and snakes. One night, it was St. Michael's eve, Sept. 24, he went to the chapel for a mouthful of prayer before going to bed.

Coming back through the dark still Italian night I heard a strange slip-flap on the path behind me.

I looked around, and I found that I was being followed by a lot of yellow, humpbacked frogs, who had been attracted from the fountain where they lived by the light of the lantern.

I swept them away with the Duke's great walking-stick and they solemnly picked themselves up again and went on hopping after the light.

This gives a clear idea of the temperament of Baron Corvo. The next day he was very drowsy and all his limbs ached.

In the afternoon he hunted butterflies. When he returned from his walk he saw a small gray lizard on the top of the parapet of the terrace steps.

I gave a yell and Toto came rushing up the steps. Frantic, I tore off my clothes, explaining the reason for my fright amid gasps for breath.

Let it be clearly understood that I was perfectly conscious. I made an effort to move, and I tried to speak, but I could do neither.

This is curious—that I did not feel them carry me. I saw the men stoop and I saw that I was lifted and carried through the studio window and upstairs into my bedroom.

Toto came in with the doctor and the old lady. She sat at the foot of the bed while the doctor attended me. While

ADVERTISEMENTS.

What is Scott's Emulsion?

It is the best cod-liver oil, partly digested, and combined with the hypophosphites and glycerine. What will it do? It will make the poor blood of the anæmic rich and red.

It will give nervous energy to the overworked brain and nerves. It will add flesh to the thin form of a child, wasted from starvation.

It is everywhere acknowledged as The Standard of the World.

50c and \$1.00; all druggists.

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Boys & Girls

We are giving away watches, cameras, solid gold rings, sporting goods, musical instruments and many other valuable premiums to boys and girls for selling 12 packages of Royal English Ink Powder at 10c each.

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

they were making a bath ready the Dowager kissed my hand and when she stooped I saw she was crying.

Baron Corvo describes in great detail how he was bathed. Pure ammonia was placed at his nostrils. He recognized the pungent odor, but otherwise the ammonia did not affect him, which caused him to marvel.

The Italian law requires that burial must take place within twenty-four hours of death. The Capucines made Baron Corvo ready for burial.

The method of burial is simple enough. The coffin was placed on the shelf prepared for it, the masons filled up the space with concrete, and closed it with the marble slab.

It is impossible for Baron Corvo to tell when he first awoke, but it was during the service. He heard the strong voice of Fra Leone chanting near him.

Whether my eyes were open or shut I could not tell, for I could not feel them, but I knew that I was in darkness and covered with perspiration.

Presently I heard Fra Leone break out again: "Pater Noster," and then the clanking of the chains of the thurible and the rustling and the footsteps.

"This," I said to myself, "is a requiem." I lay there quite undisturbed and listened to the rest of the service.

When the pall was removed Baron Corvo was able to open his eyes. The air became much cooler. He felt the coffin being raised to its loculus.

"Still I was not able to make any sign," he says, "nor did I feel any anxiety, or fear or interest of any kind whatever, I was quite comfortable and rather drowsy."

When Baron Corvo awoke again it was with a start. He began to recall what had taken place, although at first he could not collect his thoughts.

Then he considered how he should get down. He was afraid to jump on the hard, slippery marble floor. He remembered that the coffin was raised by a pulley.

Except my scratched legs and the chafing of my hands as I slid down the rope, I found I was none the worse for what I had gone through, declares Baron Corvo.



THE RIGHT SORT

Afrikaner (to John Bull)—'I did think of giving you a ship, but I'll make it thirty thousand a year instead.' John Bull—'Thank you, my boy! It's uncommon handsome of you!'—'Punch.'

whole world that I wanted at that moment was my eye-glasses. My short sight was bad enough, but added to that I could hardly bear the light which streamed in through the open door.

Then he considered how he should get down. He was afraid to jump on the hard, slippery marble floor. He remembered that the coffin was raised by a pulley.

Except my scratched legs and the chafing of my hands as I slid down the rope, I found I was none the worse for what I had gone through, declares Baron Corvo.

SECRET DRINKING.

(By T. D. Crothers, M.D.)

There is a large number of secret drinkers, both men and women, who delude themselves with the idea that no one is aware of their addiction.

The secret drinker soon shows defects of memory and want of attention. He does not follow any connected line of thought; the mind moves from one topic to another rapidly and without reason or connection.

Some of these subtle changes have come to me to determine. A most exemplary woman became irritable and untruthful in small matters.

accomplish this. A fourth woman became profoundly religious, and wanted to spend all her time in church and prayer-meeting. In all these cases this unusual conduct and change of thought was due to spirits taken secretly.

Of course these obscure changes of conduct and thought are not always due to the secret use of spirits, but it may be considered a marked symptom of some rapid changes going on in the brain.

The secret drinker is no doubt injured in the same way as others, and his foolish efforts to conceal this fact, intensifies the injury, which after a time breaks out in some unexpected form ending fatally.

bitters at first is responsible for much of the secret drinking. The bitters create a demand for alcohol or opium and then its use is continued secretly.

ALTERING NOSES.

SURGERY SAID TO HAVE REDUCED ONE AND MADE UP ANOTHER.

Two young men had their faces so completely changed yesterday at an institute of dermatology that their friends will not recognize them when they reappear to public view.

There was a large, hard lump on his nose about midway between the tip and the bridge, and the point of it was bent over and flattened.

Lendrum was placed in an operating chair. With a delicate knife a slit was made in the angle between the left side of his nose and the face.

The operator took a small electric buzz-saw and cut off the knob, after which he removed a portion of the point of the nose and forced the remainder back straight.

'A man with a full face like yours,' he said to the patient, 'should not have a pointed nose. I think I'll round it up a little more.'

Then the skin was stitched together, and the operation was completed.

Lendrum observed himself in a mirror with much complacency. 'I'll be a bird,' he said, 'as soon as I get the sewing out of me face.'

WINTER IN THE MOUNTAINS

'Tis winter in the mountains, A world of flint and frost, Of adamantine fountains, In frozen rivers lost.

A mighty silence slumbers, Among the ridges steep, Where late in rhythmic numbers Was heard the freshest icap.

And all the rocky ledges Have draperies of ice, Along their ragged edges, Inwrought with strange device.

Who knows the desolation, Which summer never cheers, Where since their first creation, Have dwelt the frozen years?

On summits tall and lonely, Above the mist and cloud, Where wind and winter only, With icy feet have trod.

Among the ice-built masses, What hosts of cold encamp; Along the deep crevasses, What freezing tempests tramp!

Before them fiercely driving, The frightened flocks of snow, That downward huddling, striving, Fill all the air below.

Till boulders and sharp ridges, With fleecy white are capped; And solid streams have bridges Of drifts on drifts o'erlapped.

But Spring will come, old mountains, And down your furrowed side, Cataracts leap from fountains, By melting snows supplied.

And pale green things up-springing, Show where the sunbeams stray; And eagles skyward winging, Salute the golden day.

And Summer's old, old story, In leaf and flower be told, Her radiant dream of glory, Impressed in green and gold.

The valleys all lie sleeping, In sunshine warm and sweet, And joyful streams be leaping, Like lambs, around your feet!

But summer suns are powerless, To thaw your locks of white; Forever cold and flowerless, Remains your awful height.

Days fade, and nights are falling; And seasons come and go, And years to years are calling, Across your breasts of snow.

Unchanged while all else changes— O mighty mountain wall! Against your flinty ranges, The centuries break and fall!

In awestruck silence kneeling, Our shrinking spirits bow; Your height and strength revealing How weak we are and low.

Then comes the soul's uplifting,— The touch of the divine— Our lives like vapors drifting, A better life enshrine.

Our Father who hath moulded, Your granite forms like clay, Your rocky strata folded, Like garments laid away—

Who scooped the hollow under, The great old, solemn sea, And bade the heavenly wonder, Of sun and stars to be.

To us the gift hath given, To suffer, love and know; Which makes us kin to Heaven, And all that's great below.

(Mrs.) P. A. HENRY. Bowmanville, Ont.

ADVERTISEMENTS.



Lasts long—lathers freely—a pure hard soap—low in price, highest in quality.

Read the Directions on the wrapper to learn how to obtain the best results in washing clothes. A quick easy way.

SURPRISE SOAP is the name. New York 'World,' Dec. 7.



DREYFUS CASE
STILL BOILING

JETTE SUCCEEDS CHARLBAU

LIEUT. GOVERNORSHIP OF QUEBEC

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OPENS AT QUEBEC

THE MAINE

ZOLA PROSECUTED

TERRIBLE SUFFERING IN CUBA

THE DUKEDOM OF PORTLAND

THE LONDON ONT. CITY HALL HORROR

THE S.S. LONDONIAN

SIERRA LEONE REVOLT

UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE KING GEORGE OF GREECE

SPREADING EVERYWHERE

VICTORIAN ORDER OF NURSES

3RD SESSION OF EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OPENED BY LORD ABERDEEN

THE SENATE KILLS IT

UKON RAILWAY BILL

HARDY GETS IT

RECRUITS WANTED FOR THE BRITISH ARMY

ILL. FLOOD DISASTER

THE GREENLAND DISASTER 48 LIVES LOST

BREAKING UP

RUSSIA

CHINA

GREAT BRITAIN

NEW CLOTHES FOR THE VILE ROY FROM 'PAPA IN LAW'

IN MEMORIAM
GLADSTONE
BISMARCK
EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA
QUEEN OF DENMARK
SIR H. HATFIELD ALAN
MISS WILLARD
MISS BARBER
SIR ADOLPHE CHAPLEAU
MR. FREDERICK TENNYSON
LIEUT. GEN. SIR F. HODDLETON
SIR EDWARD BURNE-JONES
SIR THOMAS ACLAID, BART.
SIR R. RAWLINSON
SIR CASIMIR GZOWSKI
SIR GEORGE GREY
SIR BADEN POWELL
HON. D. AMES WELLS
HAROLD CAMERON
SIR BAYARD
SIR JACQUES CARNOT
SIR DE KINGSFORD
SIR ARTHUR WELSH
GEN. GARCIA, PAF. CARD.
LIEUT. COL. VAN STRAUBENZEE

SOUNDLY THRASHED

CUBA

OUR NEW PEER

GEN. BOOTH VISITS AMERICA

INDIA

THE VICERIN

RETOUILLING THE FORCE

THE HOOLEY SCANDAL EXPOSURE

RETOUILLING THE FORCE

JOSEPH EARLY

WHEAT CORNER

CHICAGO

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JOSEPH LEITER

LA BOURGOGNE DISASTER

IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE

BIRTHDAY HONORS THREE NEW CANADIAN KNIGHTS

WHEAT

WHEAT

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WHEAT

THE ROYAL INVALID

CANADA AGAIN DEFEATS THE U.S. AT SMALL YACHT RACING

DOMINION

LAKE ST. LOUIS

THE BLACKWELL LONDON DISASTER 34 DROWNS

ARND SHIP LEWIS CELEBRATES HIS JUBILEE



A.P. Racy '98.

KITCHENER'S REVENGE

POWDER MILL EXPLOSION AT SHANGHAI.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEW BOOK ON CONSUMPTION

DR. HUNTER'S AND ALL LUNG DISEASES

PUBLISHED FOR FREE CIRCULATION. DR. ROBERT HUNTER recognized everywhere as the greatest living authority on diseases of the breathing organs...

The book is of such great importance to the welfare of the whole people that it has been decided to issue an edition of 50,000 copies in paper covers for free general distribution.

From the New York Herald: 'It seems after many disappointments and false rumors of the cure for consumption, that the treatment as discovered and practiced by Dr. Robert Hunter, 117 West 45th street, New York, has accomplished results so satisfactory that this dread disease need no longer be classed among the incurable.'

From the New York Sun: 'Dr. Hunter's recent book on Consumption and its wonderful cures that have been reported, effectually remove all doubts as to the curability of this dread disease.'

Dr. ROBERT HUNTER, 117 West 45th St., New York.

BRITISH NEWS.

ENGLISH.

Arrangements are being made for one hundred officers and men of the New South Wales Lancers—a regiment which was strongly represented in the jubilee procession last year—to be brought to England in the spring...

A remarkable banquet took place in Yarmouth, presided over by the Mayor. The only article in the menu was sprats served in various styles.

An infant died at Scarborough from the effects of swallowing a morphia pill. A three-year-old brother told the mother that he had given the baby a sweet...

Edward Pooley, the famous Surrey wicket-keeper, was recently admitted to the Renfrew road workhouse. On Pooley being taken before the Lambeth Guardians in the ordinary course...

A small sailing vessel broke away from her anchor, and dashed into the pier at Southend-on-Sea, about nine o'clock in the morning, the other day.

Fire broke out in Carlisle Cathedral during divine service, a week or two since. Clouds of smoke rolled out of the clerestory near the organ.

A young gentleman named William Pilkington Shaw, son of Captain Shaw, of Buxton, met with a shocking death there the other evening.

A novel dispute has occurred between the bellringers of St. Peter's Church, Thetford, and the authorities of the church.

One of the passengers by the ill-fated 'Mohagan,' in a letter sent to his friends at home previous to the departure of the vessel, wrote thus: 'I am not superstitious, but if there is any ill-luck about the number thirteen I ought to get it this journey, as I have taken No. 13 cabin and paid £13 for it.'

At Messrs. Farren's quarries, Carnarvonshire, the other day, there was a gigantic blast. A level had been driven into the rock with cross levels, at right angles, which terminated in a spacious chamber.

Sir Frederick Bridge has won his fight concerning musical degrees at Oxford. A certain number of non-musicians wished to alter the practice of the past 400 years and to insist upon three years' residence and the B.A. degree before a musical degree could be granted.

There is a pretty little story, the accuracy of which is vouched for, in 'Nature Notes,' for December. At a house at Shanklin, Isle of Wight, at which he was recently staying, a correspondent was shown the window by which a robin entered daily into the larder.

A convincing proof of the good effects of active temperance work is afforded by the experience of the town of Kinghorn, in Fifeshire, where there had not been a sitting of the Police Court for seven months until the other day.

tons of rock have been removed, and seven tons of explosives were used.

At the recent Liverpool assizes, before Justice Phillimore, Alexander White McLean, formerly a corporal in the Gordon Highlanders, was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for bigamy.

At the Halifax Police Court recently Harry Cooper, laborer, Brunswick court, Lister lane, was charged with cruelly neglecting his wife and child.

On Thursday morning, Dec. 8, at Chingford Mount Cemetery, Jane Cakebread was buried. The body of the woman whose name was known by many thousands of persons in all parts of the country was consigned to the grave with but one mourner, Mr. Thomas Holmes.

Austin Parnall and Alfred Ernest Cann, aged 14 and 11 years respectively, were charged at Roxborough, the other day with placing stones on the Great Western Railway, near Bickleigh.

The death of Colonel Heygate as the result of a recent accident while hunting with the Hundred of Hoo hounds is deeply regretted throughout the South-eastern district as well as at Chatham.

The death of Mr. Charles Trusted Richardson, a justice of the peace for the county of Durham, and owner of Richardson's Paper Mills, Jarrow, formed the subject of a coroner's inquiry a few weeks ago.

High Wycombe Guardians, the other day, received a strange report from the ladies' committee which visited the Poor Law Schools at Bedlow, Bucks, with reference to the food given to the children.

An amusing incident occurred the other night at a meeting held at Lone End, near High Wycombe, at which Viscount Curzon, treasurer of the Household, was addressing his South Bucks constituents.

The body of Peter Macdonald, shepherd, residing at Tarperton, near Dunblane, has been found hanging suspended by a rope round his neck from a tree in a plantation on the Sheriffmuir.

John Houston, a native of Johnstone, who fought through the Crimean campaign in the 57th Regiment, and was present at the battles of Balaklava, Inkerman and Alma, has just died at the age of seventy-three years.

Lord and Lady Aberdeen were at Aberdeen on Saturday, Dec. 10 last, entertained at luncheon on the occasion of their return from Canada.

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after a prolonged debate, decided should not take place.

A statement made by the Magistrate at Worship Street Court, in the course of the hearing of a summons between mistress and servant, will come as a surprise to many, appearing, as it does, to upset hitherto preconceived rights.

At Swaffham, the other day, William Brown, aged 14, and Alfred James Champ, aged 15, were convicted of attempted train wrecking on the Great Eastern Railway, on Nov. 18.

Much laughter was caused at Malling Police Court the other day during the hearing of a curious charge of stealing against a young man named Walter Henry Brown, who was accused of having stolen sixpence, a purse, a pair of spectacles and other articles belonging to Mrs. Allingham, an old lady living at East Malling.

Mrs. Ayling, an old woman who lived with her husband, an invalid, and kept the household going by 'taking in washing,' and with the help of charity now and then, has just died, and, to the astonishment of the good folk of Southwick, left a considerable sum of money.

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the household, bringing her close to the bounteous hostess, and chirping cheerily the while. Henceforth the pair paid daily visits, until the claims of the nest unavoidably prevented the little lady from attending her spouse.

A young fellow named Thomas Price, aged twenty-one, was walking along the East Cliff, Margate, in the direction of Kingsgate, on Sunday, when, in stepping aside to avoid a pool of water, he fell over an unprotected spot to the sands below.

When temperance speakers refer to the dangers of the public house they are apt to be regarded as being 'prejudiced,' or speaking without knowledge.

Last summer the Rector of Atherington, near Barnstaple, who owns the only public-house in the village, and whose personal wish was to close the place, decided to take a vote of the parishioners on the subject.

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sides this happy state of affairs is openly attributed to the energetic work throughout the neighborhood of the Good Templar Lodge. The case which necessitated a resumption of Police Court proceedings was that of a man who falsely represented himself to be a bona fide traveller, and so obtained drink on the Sunday.

At the Sheriff Court, Dunfermline, the other day, George Anderson, farmer, Kitchengreen, Saline, and his wife, Betsy McKelvie, or Anderson, were charged under the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act with having seriously assaulted Margaret Jessie Shand, a servant girl of 13 years of age, who had been in their employment from Oct. 7 until Nov. 28 last.

A shocking accident, which resulted fatally, occurred recently to a man named Henry Wilson, aged 32, whose parents reside at Winhill. Deceased was the son of Mr. T. Wilson, coachman to Dr. Mascen, and landlord of the Old Gate Inn, Winhill.

With the rearrangement of the mediaeval room at the British Museum, a prominent place has been given to an object which all Scottish visitors will like to note. This is the large Lochbry brooch, the silver of which, we are told, was found on the Lochbry property in Mull, and made by a 'tinker' on that estate into a large shawl fastening, set with stones, about the year 1500.

On Friday night, Nov. 25 last, at Newmains, the death occurred by suffocation of Harry B. Cross, sixteen years of age, eldest son of Mr. J. K. Cross, head master of the Coltness Iron Company's school, at Newmains.

IRISH.

A daring moonlight outrage was committed two miles from Rathen on Thursday night, Dec. 1 last. The house of Mrs. Flannery, an extensive land-owner, who recently buried her husband, and has only an aged male and female servant living with her, was fired into, over a dozen shots entering the building.

The trial of Philip King for the murder of his mother-in-law, Mary Reilly, and his wife, Mary King, at Nolah, County Cavan, on Jan. 30 last, concluded at Ulster Assizes on Tuesday, after a hearing of two days.

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conduct. To plunge into the River Shannon and rescue a suicide, and, on his breaking away from them, for one to follow him again into the water while the other ran for help, is surely bravery of a high order, and yet Katy and Sarah Reddy, of Shannon Bridge, are but eleven and ten years old, quiet, intelligent children, who do not seem to think they have done anything wonderful.

On Sunday, Dec. 11 last, a patient in the Ballinasloe Asylum, named Michael Mannon, of Kiltormer, Ballinasloe, committed suicide by throwing himself into the River Suck at the back of the asylum. As the patients were being marched to their quarters after mass, attended by several keepers, he started from the ranks at full speed for the river, about two hundred yards away, throwing off his boots on the way.

On Friday, Dec. 9 last, John Doyle, an epileptic patient in the Ennisecorby District Lunatic Asylum, was killed in the dormitory by an inmate occupying the same apartment. An inquest was subsequently held, James Newcombe, night attendant, stated that he took charge at ten o'clock the night before, and visited the patients in each dormitory every two hours until seven o'clock that morning. There were nine patients in the idiot and epileptic ward, including the deceased, John Doyle.

A ROMANCE IN BOSTON.

It is not often a real romance is attached to the modern marriage, but there can be such a remarkable combination, for it has occurred, in all places of the world, in this very town. Less than a year ago a swell young bachelor, breakfasting at his club, began reading his morning mail, which a servant considerably brought in with the first course. Among various invitations was one for a dinner party in a fashionable suburb, but the hostess's name was utterly unknown to the recipient. Who could this lady be? Had he ever seen her? No, he thought not; yet the note was an enigma, and the address all right, so, fearing to make a blunder, the young gentleman said it was better to accept than to offend some one whom he had probably met in his various wanderings, and he would go.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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BEECHAM'S PILLS

FOR BILIOUS AND NERVOUS DISORDERS such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Giddiness, Fulness after meals, Headache, Dizziness, Drowsiness, Flushing of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Costiveness, Blisters on the Skin, Cold Chills, Disturbed Sleep, Erratic Dreams and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations.

THE FIRST DOSE WILL GIVE RELIEF IN TWENTY MINUTES. Every sufferer will acknowledge them to be

A WONDERFUL MEDICINE.

BEECHAM'S PILLS, taken as directed, will quickly restore Females to complete health. They promptly remove obstructions or irregularities of the system and cure sick Headache. For a Weak Stomach Impaired Digestion Disordered Liver IN MEN, WOMEN OR CHILDREN Beecham's Pills are Without a Rival

And have the LARGEST SALE of any Patent Medicine in the World, at all Drug Stores.

LETTERS FROM READERS.

THE DOUKHOBORS.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.') Sir,—One can hardly be surprised at the dismay voiced by your correspondent, 'D. H. L.' as he meditates upon the prospective results of the coming among us of the Doukhobors, seeing that we westerns, whose religion in so large a measure consists in assent to some half-understood dogma, plus the adoption of a conventional code of ethics, will doubtless feel utterly ashamed of ourselves when placed alongside these men in the full strength of their genuine attachment to the wholesome, broad, manly principles of primitive Christianity.

One, indeed, cannot but fear that their simplicity will find a more deadly and insidious foe in the ease of our civilization than ever it did through the terrors of exile and the knout, and it suggests itself to an earnest thinker that we who license such a financial and moral monstrosity as the drink traffic, who allow luxury and want to co-exist, who permit a man willing to work to starve, and one unwilling to work to 'fare sumptuously every day,' who support such a Christian anomaly as a professional hangman; we, whose staple conversation is on anything rather than things true, honorable, just, pure, lovely and of good report; we, whose national and municipal politics are besmirched with selfishness, deception, dishonesty and oppression, should go through a course of 'sackcloth and ashes' before we consider ourselves sane enough and worthy enough to fitly welcome these people who, through many generations, have 'counted not their lives as dear unto them,' if they could but live out the life of universal brotherhood.

But your correspondent's principal dread is that the 'spirit wrestlers' will taint Canada with their doctrines of peace. The writer cannot help, in this connection, remembering the fear of a section of the Jewish people, that if certain teachings were allowed to prevail 'the Romans would come and take away the Hebrew place and nation,' or avoid comparing this modern attitude with that of their contemporaries toward the early Christians, who, on somewhat similar grounds, were accused of being 'contrary to all men,' and of 'teaching customs which were not lawful for Romans to receive or observe. Without at present definitely dissenting from the position that war is at times necessary and just, I would quote the 'Outlook,' which but echoes the utterance of many leaders of thought when it recently tells us that 'throughout the civilized world there is manifest a rising tide of conviction that war must soon take its place with other instruments and methods of barbarian times.'

The progress and happiness of the race has ever been due to the men who loved and suffered rather than the men who fought. Europe owes more to its Francis Assis and Luthers than to its Charlesmagnes or its Ferdinands. Even the Duke of Wellington cannot be compared in beneficent influence to John Wesley. It is from Bright rather than from Disraeli that Britain's high and successful standard of politics is derived. The most secure colony in the warring days of New England was that of William Penn, and above all one hardly needs to be reminded that the Personality which lies at the back of all that is truest, and noblest, and most manly in our civilization is that of a Hero who, in his hour of direst need, refused the aid of a sword. JAS. W. ROCH. Montreal, Dec., 1898.

A PROTEST.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.') Sir,—I am pained and surprised beyond measure at the plan of General Kitchen-er for a college at Khartoum, to be carried on on Mohammedan principles. And not less so that professed Christian people should approve and assist the enterprise. Does not he know, and do not they know, that Mohammedanism is one of the things, if not the chief thing, that curses that dark country? Where is there a country that is ruled by Mohammedanism that is fit for an honest man to live in?

It seems to me that it is time that all should see, and might see, that without the Word of God there can be nei-

ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Beginning of HEALTH 25c The trial size of ABNEY'S EP- FERVESCENT SALT is on the market at the above price. It has been so put up to enable everyone to try this wonderful health-giving preparation. Of all druggists. Large bottle 60 cents.

ther peace, purity nor prosperity in human society. This has been tried until any further trial is worse than idle. Better put money into the fire than into a scheme like that. After sixty-five years of experience and observation, this is my solemn conviction. C. L. PERCIVAL. Mississippi, Que., Dec. 27, 1898.

LIQUOR IN ALASKA.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.') Sir,—The following, taken from one of our local papers, here, on the distant Pacific coast, may be of interest to many of your readers, and will give strength to those who are fighting this evil here and wherever your paper goes. May valuable testimonies of this kind be multiplied. Yours, D. V. LUCAS. Seattle, Wash., Dec. 13, 1898.

EX-GOV. LYMAN E. KNAPP ON LIQUOR LAWS OF ALASKA.

Ex-Gov. Knapp should certainly know whereof he speaks and should be recognized as the highest authority on the subject of liquor laws of Alaska. It is understood the government will substitute high license for prohibition in Alaska, because it is alleged that prohibition is a failure. Gov. Knapp, however, takes the position that prohibition has not been a failure in Alaska because no harmonious and continuous effort has yet been made to enforce the law. He makes an eloquent appeal in favor of prohibition for that territory, and closes with the following words: 'It is possible that the liquor laws of Alaska are defective, but the true remedy does not lie in sweeping away all safeguards and opening up the fountains of crime and debauch for the moral and physical destruction of the wards of the nation for the purpose of covering up incompetency and disregard of the obligations of official oaths on the part of officers sent there to administer the laws. May God open the eyes and quicken the consciences of senators and congressmen to prevent the calamity and crime of opening the flood-gates of destruction upon the native tribes we have taken under our protection.'

A DUMPING GROUND FOR MORAL GARBAGE.

(To the Editor of the 'Witness.') Sir,—A leading Ontario paper has, every week, a page for 'The Children's Circle.' In a late number it devoted nearly two columns in small type to a very minute description of the several 'rounds' in the fight between Corbett and Sharkey, which took place a few days ago. The language used was the 'fancy' dialect. What excellent reading to send in a family! True, it was not in 'The Children's Circle.' But it was in the circle of the paper. The latter, of course, includes the former. The members of 'The Children's Circle' would be very apt to read about the Corbett-Sharkey 'mill.' T. FENWICK. Woodbridge, Ont.

BOOKS FOR LUMBERMEN.

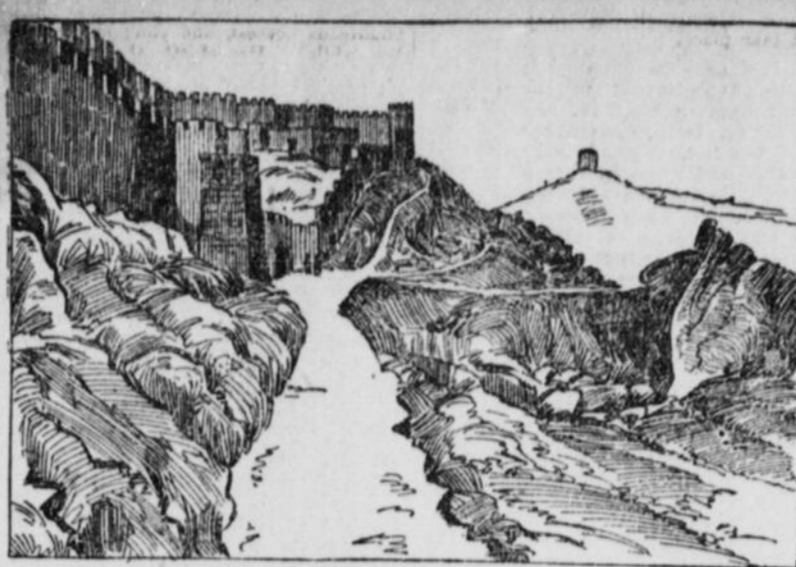
(To the Editor of the 'Witness.') Sir,—In the two past winters there was a request in your paper for reading matter to be sent to lumber-camps in the Algoma or Muskoka districts of Ontario. I sent some parcels to the addresses then given, and if books or magazines are wanted may do so this winter if you can procure and publish the proper post-office addresses. I may mention that I have not heard and do not know whether or not my books reached their destination. I think in one winter Mrs. Hodgson, of Grassmere, Ont., made an appeal for books to be sent. READER. Montreal, Dec. 20, 1898.

CORBETT COOKING DEPOTS.

There is no doubt Sir Thomas J. Lipton has got his ideas for providing the working classes of London with wholesome and well-cooked food at a price which will cover its cost, and therefore remove all taint of charity, from similar experiments started in Glasgow many years ago.

In 1862, Mr. Corbett, the father of Mr. A. Cameron Corbett, member for Trades- ton Division, of Glasgow, started in the Broomielaw a diningroom which he called 'The Great Western Cooking Depot.' He was philanthropic thus far, that he wished the working men whose jobs were away from their homes to have the opportunity of getting a good meal at a cheap price, but he laid down this principle in carrying out the undertaking: 'The business must be conducted either on commercial lines or as a charity pure and simple.' Now, he knew the Scotch nature well, and possessed also the common sense to see that if the business was to be carried on at all, the only course to pursue was the former. He decided that unless the business yielded a five percent profit, he would not carry it on, for he maintained that if it yielded that, then he was not treating the general trading community unfairly. Sir Thomas Lipton aims at a profit of two percent on the capital. What did Mr. Corbett offer to the public? Take breakfast, for instance. Here was the bill of fare: A big bowl of porridge and sweet milk, a roll and butter, cup of tea or coffee—threepence halfpenny. If a customer wished a boiled egg, he could have it by paying a penny more. And the gentleman who furnished the writer with these details added: 'And there was nae par- rish ever made that could come up to Corbett's! Oh! they were grand! And the milk was none of your skim, but had the warm frothy taste o' milk straight frae the coo. Let Lipton bate that if he can!'

Then, as regards the dinners, they consisted of a bowl of broth or soup; a plate of meat, hot or cold; plate of potatoes;



THE ENTRANCE TO FORT ALI MUSJID. WHICH WILL BE MAINTAINED AS A BRITISH POST.

After carefully thinking it over, the Indian Government has settled the new arrangements for taking over the control of the historic, majestic and blood-stained Khyber Pass, so long known in the annals of British-Indian warfare. Forts will be built both at Landi Kotal and Jumrud, and at intervals between those two points and, most likely, a railway will be built at an early date. The police duties of the pass will be discharged by a militia force raised among the Afridis and commanded by British officers. The allowances will be renewed to the tribes, but will be suspended for every offence. The fort of Ali Musjid is, with the exception of Landi Kotal, the most important military post, and has long been regarded as the key to the Khyber Pass. It is situated about eight miles from the entrance to the pass, and twenty-six

from Peshawar. It stands on a conical hill about 600 feet high, and consists practically of two small forts connected by walls. The pass at this point is about 120 feet wide, and the position is one of considerable strength, although in the year 1839 Colonel Wade took it by assault. In these days of long range artillery, however, the position possesses one great drawback, as it is commanded by two heights of considerable elevation on the south and west. In fact, it was mainly owing to these heights that the second comparatively easy capture of Ali Musjid by the British troops under General Sam Browne on Nov. 22, 1878, was due. General Browne's army numbered in all 6,500 British and Indian troops, with about 21,000 camp followers and thirty guns. The fight lasted but a few hours, the British loss being but about forty men and three officers killed and wounded.

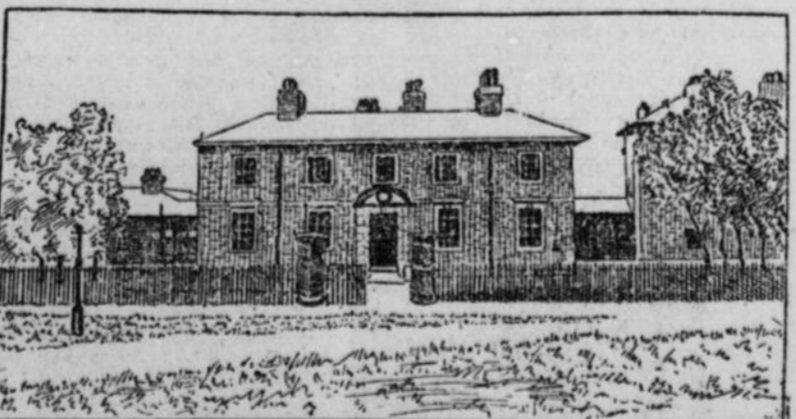
an extent that even London in its best parts is totally ignorant of. These tea rooms have not only supplied a felt want, but really created the want, alike as regards residents shopping in town, and very specially as regards the daily influx into the city from surrounding districts. Indeed, in many of the warehouses a cup of tea and light refreshment may be had, but, over and above that, in every street, and in the centre of the city, the popular tea and luncheon rooms with numberless conveniences, are open, and the fact that there are so many, and more still being opened, prove that they are fully appreciated.—From the North Britain 'Daily Mail.'

THE USE OF ALCOHOL.

THE SUBJECT BEFORE THE NEW YORK STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

A valuable paper was read before the New York State Medical Association at its annual meeting by Dr. J. M. Farrington, of Broome County. The subject of Dr. Farrington's paper was 'The passing of alcohol.' The speaker quoted the commendations formerly bestowed on alcohol by standard medical authors, and noted a great change within forty years. He declared that those of the profession who believe in the general use of alcohol as a remedy are now in the minority, and said that with the light which has been thrown upon the subject during the past few years a physician subjects himself to adverse criticism, and has need to apologize for using alcohol in cases in which but a few years ago he would have been censured had he refrained from using it. Dr. Farrington said further:

'Life insurance companies have become convinced beyond question that alcohol, used even in moderate quantities, impairs the vital powers and shortens life. Railway companies have learned that even a moderate use of alcohol affects unfavorably the brain and muscular power, and, therefore, require all engineers, conductors, brakemen and switchmen to be



HOSPITAL FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES AT ALDERSHOT.

The new hospital for soldiers' wives at Aldershot which was opened by Her Majesty the Queen last July bears the name of the Duchess of Connaught, Margaret Louise. The Duke himself is president of the committee of the fund formed in connection with the hospital, and has taken a great interest in the erection of the building, the foundation stone of which was laid by the Duchess on March 1, 1897. The fund has for its object the provision of extra articles of comfort

which are not provided by government. The hospital is open to women and children on the strength of their regiments, who are treated free of charge, but the fund provides also for help given to soldiers' wives not on the strength to the extent of sixpence per day—that is, half the sum which they must pay when under treatment. The new building contains twelve wards, and in all fifty-three beds, and is laid out with due regard to modern ideas of sanitation.

total abstainers. Religious societies that formerly made use of alcoholic wine in the celebration of the Lord's Supper have discovered that the use of it at the communion service has, in many instances, aroused the appetite for intoxicants in reformed persons, and thus has started them again on the declivity to ruin. Churches have likewise learned that the use of alcohol as a beverage is the greatest barrier to the progress of religious truth. Therefore, a majority of the Christian societies have banished intoxicating wine from their communion rites, and use only the unfermented juice of the grape.

'Public state ceremonies, such as the inauguration of the President of the United States, and of the governors of states, which were once scenes of bacchanalian revelry, have so far been modified in deference to public sentiment that in many instances no kind of alcoholic beverage is furnished. Social gatherings and banquets, where formerly champagne and other mild intoxicants flowed freely and were considered essential, are now frequently conducted without any form of alcoholic drink. . . . The attention of the civilized world has been called to the conspicuous fact of the accuracy of gunners of our battalions in the recent war with Spain. The contrast between the fire of the men of our navy and that of Spain was chiefly to be attributed, no doubt, to the custom that prevails on the ships of the latter, where daily rations of grog are given at all times, and when an action is going on or anticipated double rations of grog are furnished to the men; while, since 1862, when that custom was abolished by our government, no rations of grog are allowed at any time on board our ships. The custom just alluded to as followed by Spain is true of all the navies of the world but ours. Yet Great Britain has abandoned the double rations of grog when a fight is on, and then no liquor is allowed.'

Dr. Farrington appealed to his hearers to assist in driving alcohol from the domain of medicine.—'Christian Work.'

AN ELEPHANT EXECUTED.

BARNUM'S 'NICK' STRANGLING IN ENGLAND FOR SHOWING TEMPER.

(London 'Daily Mail'.)

The second execution of an elephant by strangulation that has ever taken place in the United Kingdom, occurred at Stoke-on-Trent, on Saturday. The victim, as was the first elephant ever strangled in England, was the property of Messrs. Barnum & Bailey, who concluded their provincial tour at the above-named place on Saturday night.

'Nick,' the victim of the decree of the circus management, was one of the largest elephants in the herd, and until within a week or two ago one of the best behaved. He was a 'tusker,' and a trick elephant besides. The monetary loss was, therefore, far beyond even the market value of an elephant of 'Nick's' description, which is about one thousand pounds.

Two or three weeks ago Mr. Conklin, the veteran manager of the elephant herd, reported to Mr. Bailey that Nick was rapidly becoming very hard to manage. The breeding season was coming on, and Nick's jealousy of the other bulls was such that a sudden and ferocious attack both upon them and upon the keeper, was feared at any moment.

'He has been one of my best elephants,' Conklin said, 'but I cannot attempt to control him if he ever runs amuck with the herd.'

When the circus reached Stoke on Friday, Mr. Bailey gave orders not to take any further risks with Nick, but to execute him on the following day. Conklin put him through the parade on Friday. And that was Nick's last public appearance. On Saturday morning arrangements were made for the execution. It was held in the big tent, and took place in view of all the other elephants, possibly as a sort of warning to them of the results of disobedience.

'Nick' was led into the tent, and his four ponderous feet chained fast to heavy posts driven into the ground at proper distances. The big fellow watched the operation with strange interest and some mizgiving. He had never been chained like that before, and he seemed to understand that something serious was in hand. Once or twice he uttered a

short 'trumpet,' that was responded feebly by his mates, and then shaking his ponderous body from side to side, like a ship in the trough of the sea, he uttered a low, guttural sound. Conklin succeeded in getting a hemp hawser about his neck, bow and a noose having been made in this was drawn well up to the neck and hangman's knot arranged. The other end of the rope had been run through a block and tackle. And fifty-six stalwart canvasmen grabbed hold of the end of the hawser.

At a given signal, when Conklin cried, 'All right,' the men started running with the rope in hand. At once the noose tightened about 'Nick's' throat, and he tumbled over on the grass like a collapsed balloon. Not a groan escaped him, and in less than a minute he had ceased to move. In less than two minutes he was pronounced dead.

Prof. Cross, a Liverpool naturalist, secured the head and tusks. The tusks were three feet nine inches in length. 'Nick' stood seven feet four inches in height, and weighed four and a half tons when he left America, on Nov. 13, of last year. He was purchased by Mr. Bailey in 1871, at a cost of one thousand pounds.

THE MAD MULLAH.

The Mad Mullah must not be taken too lightly. These fanatics, from time immemorial, have exercised enormous power over unthinking multitudes; and just as Solomon Eagle, in Ainsworth's romance, imparts his insane frenzy to thousands of his fellow-creatures in a wave of superstitious magnetism, so the Mullah,



THE MAD MULLAH.

—'Black and White.'

by sheer force of character, carries low masses with him. Many of the humbler folk to this day in Great Britain regard a lunatic as the inspired mouthpiece of the Almighty, and attach unutterable importance to his mouthings; and this is much the sort of significance attached to the wild music and raving utterances of the Mullah. He has power of a sort, though it would appear from the photograph reproduced that the adults about him are amused rather than awed by his ferocious song. Only the little children peep with scared faces at the fantastic creature.

A SPECIAL DELIVERY.

'A Holyoke teacher who has been studying manual training in Sweden at a point where the cars run only twice a week recently received a letter from home in a flag envelope, which the authorities thought to be a communication from the United States Government, on account of the flag. Immediately a special train was made up and took that letter forty miles for the benefit of the recipient. This looks as though we enjoyed Sweden's good will.—Boston 'Transcript.'

ADVERTISEMENTS.

BIAS VELVETEEN S.H. & M. SKIRT BINDING Art-Quality The Redfern Brand of 'S. H. & M.' wears—no other binding has its durability—it outwears the skirt of strongest fabric—to this superlative durability is given the highest art of deep soft richness, costing but a few cents more than the commonest binding—it adds 25 per cent to the dress of the skirt. R. H. & M. stamped on back of every yard. If your dealer will not supply you, we will. THE S. H. & M. CO., 54 Front Street W., Toronto, Ont.

WOLESELEY ON THE WARS OF 1898.

KITCHENER PRAISED—THE BRITISH RIFLE A MAGNIFICENT ONE—ANGLO-SAXON TROOPS GOOD FIGHTERS.

At the annual distribution of prizes to the volunteers, held recently at London, Lord Woleseley spoke of the wars of the past year. He said:—

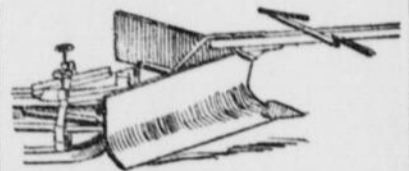
There have been three wars, all of them of considerable importance, and from all of them we have a good deal to learn; and I hope the lessons of them will be taken to heart. There was first the war on the frontiers of India, a very difficult war, carried out by a large force of English and native troops vying with one another which should do best service to the state. We can look back to the events of that war with great pride. It was a campaign where all the men were exposed to great hardships, and it was one in which something is to be learned from the enemy—namely, that it is the first function of a soldier, next to being well disciplined, to shoot well. (Cheers.) I believe that the men whom we engaged so often in those great passes in Afghanistan and on the frontier, although they had never been through a course of musketry, proved themselves to be admirable shots, and the best proof of that is the large number of killed and wounded which they accounted for. The next war was the one carried out on the Nile. I am sure there is not a man or woman present who does not look back at the record of it and the story of it, as told by those admirable newspaper correspondents in the various newspapers, with the greatest pride (cheers) for the manner in which it was planned and carried out, and the steadiness and determination of the men who were able to fulfil Lord Kitchener's plans so thoroughly. From first to last it was a campaign executed, I may say, without a hitch, and it was carried out not only well, but with the greatest possible celerity, and to the very hour almost—to the very day certainly—that Lord Kitchener told us he would occupy Omdurman. This not only shows great skill on the part of the commander and reflects great credit on the officers concerned, but it shows the fine spirit and the admirable discipline with which our men moved. There was one point, also, 'apropos' of firing, upon the occasion of the battle of Omdurman, which is very well worthy of notice, because it refers to the two great qualities so essential to a soldier—I know a good deal about that battle, having not only read much about it, but having had many opportunities of seeing a large proportion of the staff officers and most of the generals who took part in it, and they all told me that what struck them most was the extraordinary power and accuracy of our long-range rifle. (Cheers.) Remember, that at this present moment we have a weapon in the hands of our army which is a wonderful weapon, far exceeding in accuracy and in range the rifle with which you were all so well acquainted two or three years ago. That rifle ranges quite easily up to 1,000 yards, and the volleys about that range fired by our ranks by orders from the officers, by companies or sections, exercised a very great and material effect over the result of the battle. In fact, if I were to describe that effect, I would say that from the moment the enemy's line, an immense line filled with the most determined soldiers, came within the zone of fire of 2,000 yards up to the time when they ceased to advance, because they were knocked down and killed by hundreds and thousands—our line virtually and literally pumped lead upon them. The fire was so heavy that no one could live under it. Our artillery did admirable service and so did the Maxim guns, but the great feature of the battle was the terrible power of the rifle when in the hands of men who can use it, and when in the hands of disciplined troops who will reserve their fire and not blaze away heedlessly, but wait for the word of command given them by their officers. (Cheers.) The third war is one which perhaps I ought not to refer to here because it was a war in which we took no part, although, of course, we had strong sympathy with the great Republic, people of the same race as ourselves. Certainly that fact added to the interest we took in the war, and, indeed, I am sure no war which has ever been carried on by Her Majesty's soldiers attracted more attention on the part of the British public than the war, now happily at an end, which was fought by the American people in Cuba and also on the other side of the world in Manila. The only feature I would remind you of in regard to the campaign is this, that the great bulk of our cousins and our brother comrades in the American army, to the proportion of ten to one, were volunteers. As you know, the United States army is a very small one, so small that it would have been impossible for them to put an army into the field that would have enabled them to do the work which was before them. They, therefore, had to call out a large force of volunteers from the various states of the Union, and these were the men sent down in such large numbers to Cuba. Of course, there was a leaven, though a small one, of regular troops, but those volunteers underwent great hardships, and they showed the same gallant spirit which our troops, and all troops speaking the English tongue I have ever known, have always displayed—the same courage, the same desire to bring the war to a rapid conclusion, the

same determination to win which I am quite sure the volunteers of this country will display if ever they have an opportunity. (Cheers.) I have listened with very great interest to the statement made by the Colonel regarding the condition of the battalion, and I congratulate him and every man belonging to it upon the satisfactory statement which he has made to us. There has prevailed throughout this battalion a feeling of discipline which I cannot but think well worthy to be imitated by others, and I earnestly hope that that feeling may go on becoming more intensified as years go on, by taking to yourselves as a model our own army, and not least the historic regiment with which your name is associated. I hope you may long continue to prosper and flourish in the future as you have in the past.

GOOD WINTER ROADS.

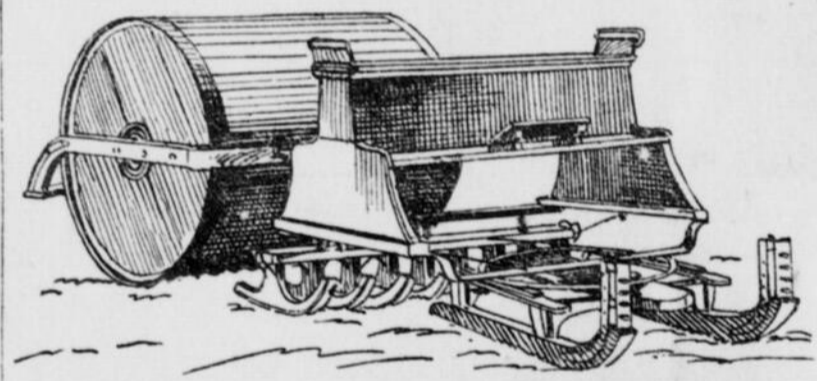
A TIMELY INVENTION BY A BEAUBARNOS COUNTY CLERGYMAN.

What promises to contribute largely to the convenience of the travelling public throughout the country is a new and ingenious device for keeping the roads firm and level throughout the winter. A glance at the accompanying illustration will explain the manner of its working. Cut No. 1 represents a snowplough, with swinging wings, attached to the front of a sled constructed specially for this purpose. The wings, which are made of half-inch polished oak, with metal ribs



(Cut No. 1.)

and sharp iron edge, are joined to the tongue and plough point by means of small bolts, which serve as pivots upon which the wings move freely. By simply drawing a bolt and backing up the team, the wings swing out to a horizontal position. This forms a sharp scraper, by which a drift crossing the road is cut off and scattered forward. Cabs, or pitch-holes, invariably follow these drifts, and often the traveller encounters as



(Cut No. 2.)

many as seven, or eight of these holes in succession, the value of such a scraper, shaving off and filling in by a single forward movement, can thus be readily seen.

This scraper-plough can also be adjusted to any desired height by means of the cog arrangement, showing on the front of the runner in Fig. 2, and the bunk shown in Fig. 1, with a pair of screws; journaled in the beam of the sled. Cut No. 2 represents the machine with the plough removed. It shows a set of 'bobs,' comprising nine runners nine inches apart, followed by a heavy snow roller, the combined effect of which is to produce a firm, smooth surface six feet wide. The return trip adds another six feet to this width, the intention being to make turning out easy, by providing practically a double track road all winter. If the roads are taken at the beginning of the season, the farmers along a two-mile section of road, by taking their turn for half a day with a team at the call of the roadmaster, could keep that length of road in excellent shape all winter at slight inconvenience and cost. The price of such a road machine when divided up would be a mere trifle, and the machine would last for years.

When the snow is wet and inclined to stick in places—the roller by its own motion clears itself of clinging snow, by means of a simple device attached to the rear foot board. The roller, however, is constructed of hard maple strips two inches in thickness, and so carefully dressed and joined that no crevices are left to cause snow to adhere. It is further weighted in the centre with a hard wood log which forms the axle. While very heavy, and packing the snow firmly, it does not appear to be hard to pull. This is due to its large diameter, and weighted centre. The diameter of the roller is five feet; its length six feet. The plurality of runners serves to prepare the snow for the roller by crushing it into pieces, any packed snow that may be in the way, and by helping to form a hard bottom.

Under the driver's seat is a box to hold broom and shovels and other incidental requisites. This seat-box is raised level with the roller, for the double purpose of affording the driver a good view fore and aft, and of permitting a chain connection between the roller and the tongue, so that whatever jerk and strain there may be in special cases will come directly upon the whiffle-trees. This part is also designed to accommodate a certain number of passengers, when additional weight is desired. The whole combination can be easily drawn by an average team, under ordinary conditions,

with the addition of a third horse in times of special difficulty.

Patents have been granted for the Dominion of Canada and the United States to the inventor, the Rev. S. F. McCusker, of St. Louis, Beauharnois County, Que. The scraper plough can be slipped off and used alone in case of a snow blockade. There are three points at which the machine may swing to either side, making it comparatively easy to round a corner or turn about.

ENGLAND'S UNITY AND STRENGTH.

Yes, we must get that idea well into our heads that all the English, of all parts, and in all conditions of life, pursue—for the time at least—the same object, and co-operate towards the same results. This policy is not determined by the preferences or the passions of the moment. It is the result of a concourse of national necessities, and is really the struggle for life. In the first place, England is governed on the aristocratic principle. All the changes, all the progress, that in other countries tend to enfeeble the aristocracy, to scatter its influence and its wealth, tend here on the contrary to strengthen the aristocracy and to concentrate the riches in the hands of the powerful. Besides the landed aristocracy there has become established the industrial and commercial aristocracy; to the lords are adjoined the great bourgeois representatives. There is no antagonism in their aspirations and their interests; on the contrary, they have the same needs and they march together, on the same route. They do not hinder each other; they aid each other. England's Government is not in the least in danger of a revolution like ours. No class has the desire to destroy the one above it. The Englishman loves liberty; he does not care at all for equality.—The 'Matin' (Paris).

HOW A PIG 'BROKE' A FARMER.

LIVELY FIGHT OVER A PORKER BETWEEN TWO FARMERS IN DAKOTA.

'Up in the Dakota town of Grafton,' said W. P. Sterling, a traveller, at the Hoffman House, recently, 'is a rusty axe which represents an expenditure of

\$208.35. It originally cost fifty cents and now adorns, or did so not very long ago, a wall in the office of the justice of the peace, a memento of the folly of some kinds of legal battles. Underneath it is this legend: "I cut a pig and broke a farmer."

"Two farmers lived on adjoining quarter sections near the outskirts of the town. Once they were friendly, but the episode of the axe broke up all such relations, and one was compelled to move away."

Farmer "Bill" Williams had a pig that could generally find nothing better to do than to encroach upon the kitchen garden of neighbor Haskin. A post fence ran between the two houses, and Haskin's garden was within a small light fence enclosure. Haskin protested mildly at first, but finally relations became strained and he warned "Bill" one day that the next time he found the pig in his enclosure he would confiscate it. But Williams laughed at him. Two or three days later Haskin caught the pig in his bean patch. He made for the animal and caught it by the hind legs as it was going through a hole in the fence. Williams rushed out of the house and managed to catch the squealing porker by the forelegs. One jerk and Haskin had it, but "Bill" reached over the fence, which stood about four feet high, and got another grip on the animal's forelegs. Then began the tug of war, both men pulling at the pig's legs. What with "cussing" back and forth and the pig's squealing there was a terrible commotion. The pig stretched taut was in a fair way of being torn apart, when Haskin's son came out of the house, and seeing "Bill's" axe on the woodpile, jumped the fence and seized it with presumably murderous intent.

"Cut the pig, Si!" yelled Haskin to his son. Si ran up with the axe aloft and let fly. As luck would have it, the porker's body was directly over a post. Well, the blade came down and cut the pig clean in two. The men fell over backward, but presently, each with half a pig in one hand, was shaking his free fist at the other across the fence and making threats. Si had run into his father's house with the axe. Then their wives came out and got them apart.

"I'll sue you!" yelled "Bill" as a parting shot.

"Sue away! Tarnation hokey!" retorted Haskin. "I'll beat you, and you don't get no pig and no axe."

"Now, up in that part of Dakota every

one can tell you of the celebrated case of Williams vs. Haskin, although it was tried four years ago. Williams brought suit before a justice of the peace for the return of that axe. Somehow the value of half a pig was lost sight of, Haskin put in a bill for damages to his garden. By the time the suit passed the County Court and had gone against Williams the costs and fees reached \$208.35. He had to sell out and move away. Farmer Haskin gave the axe to the justice, who nailed it on his wall, and one day, soon after the trial, some wag posted the legend.

NO POSSIBLE FRIENDSHIP.

We ask Mr. Chamberlain to put all hypocrisy aside, and to speak no longer of friendship between France and England, when, in the same breath, he threatens us with war. After Fashoda, there can be no possible friendship between the two nations. The most that can be hoped for is a continuation of the 'statu quo'—a state which is a kind of undeclared war.—'Autorité' (Paris).

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.)

THE DOCKING OF HORSES.

It is matter for congratulation that the absurd and cruel custom of docking horses has at length received its death blow. At a recent meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, of England, Sir Nigel Kingscote, pursuant to notice, moved the following resolution:—

That at and after the Maidstone Meeting of 1899 no foals with docked tails be allowed to be exhibited at the society's country meetings; that, at and after the meeting of 1900 the same rule shall apply to yearlings as well as foals, and that at and after the meeting of 1901 to two-year-olds also.

It is only as a fad or fashion of aristocratic stables in the Old Country that this practice is tolerated at all, and now that the Royal Society has taken decided action the silly custom is doomed, the above resolution having been carried by a vote of 25 to 21. The resolution proposes to make the change in a most considerate yet effective way. It will only affect young horses, and by the time three or four years have passed the eyes of people generally will get cultivated to the beauty of a long-tailed horse instead of a short one. In the course of the debate which took place on the resolution before its passage, Earl Spencer made a very sensible speech, in the course of which he said:—

That for many years he had had a very strong opinion on this subject of docking. He maintained that the inconvenience of having a long-tailed horse instead of a short-tailed one was very little indeed. It was entirely a question of fashion. In old days it was the fashion to crop horses' ears, and it was a singular thing with regard to this question of horses' tails that the horse which they considered the pride of England, viz., the racehorse, always had the longest tail possible. Where they required to diminish weight they still kept the tail. He was very glad to think they did so. With respect to hunters there was no doubt in his mind that it was an enormous addition to the beauty of a horse to have a good tail, and he went so far as to say that the docking of a horse was prejudicial to its power of turning. He had had horses, and he had one now—a hackney—with a very short dock. They were obliged in his part of the country to have horses quick at turning, and he could not screw that particular horse around to open a gate. This was due to the docked tail. The greatest discomfort and cruelty to a horse was its being deprived of the power of whisking away flies while in the field. The system of leaving foals and breeding mares with a miserable pretence of a tail was barbarous, and he might almost say indecent. He most earnestly hoped that the Royal Agricultural Society would show an example in this respect and try to point out that there were, at all events, a certain number of people in England who did not think it necessary to disfigure their horses. He trusted that the example which the Council proposed to make would be followed elsewhere. It was only a question of fashion.

The idea advanced by Earl Spencer that the docking of a horse is prejudicial to its power of turning is new to me, as I think it will be to most people, but it is very reasonable to suppose that it should be quite correct—the tail operating as a rudder to a boat or ship—and the instance cited by the Earl is a very convincing example of the truth of the statement made by him. The consideration as to the discomfort and cruelty of depriving a horse of its only defence against flies, will have great weight with all on whom the horse's claim on its owner for humane treatment has any influence.

HANDY CONVENIENCES.

A HAY PULLER.

Many a climb up the ladder in the hay mow will be saved by having a hay puller inserted in the ends of a curved

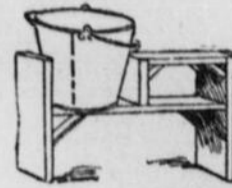
stock, as shown in the illustration. Any old used-up fork will answer for the



puller. Have threads cut on the end of the shank so a nut can be put on, and in this way the fork can be securely attached to the stick. One can reach away back on the mow and pull down hay without going to the top of the pile.—Cor. 'American Journalist.'

A MILKING STOOL FOR RESTLESS COWS.

The accompanying sketch is of a milking stool that is found to be very convenient in fly-time or in milking restless cows at any season of the year. Its construction is described as follows by the 'New England Homestead,' to which I am indebted for the cut:—

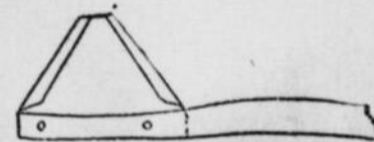


The two upright pieces forming the legs and end of the stool are made of two by fours, about a foot long. The three-cornered blocks under the seat and made of inch boards. It is well to put three-cornered blocks under the seat and bucket boards as stays or braces. The most restless cow cannot upset a bucket on this stool.

A RASPBERRY TRIMMER.

It is not the time of year to prune raspberries canes, but it will pay those who raise this fruit in quantity to preserve the cut and description of this simple device until pruning time comes round again, and then avail themselves of it. A correspondent of the 'Rural New Yorker' writes that excellent journal as follows:—

'I have noticed in the 'Rural New Yorker' several tools for trimming raspberries, etc., but never the simple, inexpensive one used by us. We use for



A RASPBERRY TRIMMER.

the knife a mowing machine section, for the handle an old hoe handle. Saw a slit in one end.'

A LOG CHICKEN HOUSE.

I do not remember in the whole course of my agricultural reading ever having come across a sketch of a poultry-house made of logs until now. It is applied by a correspondent of the 'American Agriculturist,' and I can easily conceive that there are many parts of the country where timber is still more abundant than lumber, not to say cheaper and more convenient, where a smart and ingenious man could advantageously build a chicken-house such as the one pictured in the accompanying engraving, and described as follows:—

'I enclose you the plan of chicken-coop I built of logs. In building the roof that way I saved lumber and shingles. I cut all logs exactly the required length. The average size was about seven inches in diameter. I did



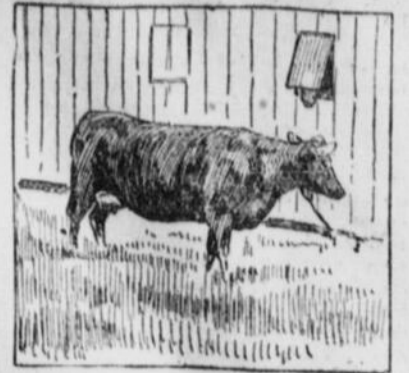
A SUBSTANTIAL POULTRY HOUSE.

all the work alone. First lay the sill logs and dovetail on the corners, making the logs two by four by eight feet and two by six by eight feet. Spike these two together and brace from the inside so they will be perfectly plumb. Now start putting up the logs, one side at a time, or build all sides evenly as you go. Drive a spike into your two by four and two by six inch sills and into your logs as fast as you go, so as to hold them in place. You can put a round log in the corner six inches in diameter and eight feet long. After the house has been built, spike the two by four on to this and also the plate logs. Peel the logs.'

ANOTHER POLLED JERSEY.

I am glad to learn that attention is being directed to the development of a hornless breed of Jersey cows, and that a Polled Jersey Association has recently been formed with this view. Polled Jer-

seys are not common, but I should think would become favorite family cows if once introduced. The 'N. E. Homestead,' from which the following cut is copied, says of the animal represented:—'This polled cow is three-fourths Jersey, and now owned by Mr. H. A. Tanner, of



Volusia Co., Florida. She is an excellent milker, very gentle, and makes a first-class family cow. May her tribe increase.

LINDENBANK.

FARM GLEANINGS.

Growing cranberries under favorable conditions is undoubtedly favorable in Nova Scotia. There are not enough grown to supply the home markets. Mr. Henry Shaw, at a recent agricultural meeting, stated that his 1897 crop netted him \$839 for 174 barrels.

Farm prices of leading crops on Dec. 1, according to Mr. John Hyde, of the Department of Agriculture, were as follows: Corn 28.7c per bushel, against 26.3c last year; oats, 25.6c, against 21.2c one year ago; barley, 41.4c, against 37.7c; rye, 46.3c, against 44.7c; buckwheat, 45c, against 42.1c; potatoes, 41.4c, against 54.7c; hay, \$6 per ton, against \$6.62 last year.

The best parts of manures are the most soluble. They will wash away in the surface water, and be lost before the frost is out of the ground, and absorption is possible. Thus the best part of manure applied upon frozen ground is sure to be carried away altogether, or else carried upon lower ground where it is not needed.

If the National Grange, besides putting itself on record as in favor of certain reforms, would fight for say two, each year, or year after year, until successful, it would lose its present character of ultra-conservatism, and we believe gain a much larger support from farmers. Less of social functions and more of aggressive business work, would give the opportunity for bringing about the suggestion outlined above.—'American Agriculturist.'

At a recent meeting of the English Shorthorn Society's Council, it was moved by Mr. R. Stratton, seconded by Mr. Herbert Loney, and unanimously resolved: 'That the sum of £200 be given in prizes for pure-bred Shorthorn cows in milk, and that no prize be offered to any society which does not adopt this Council's resolution of 1897 respecting the milking capacity and form of udder, etc., in the Shorthorn cow and heifer classes; and that the general purposes committee draw up a scheme of prizes in accordance with this resolution.'

An excellent way to preserve manure and prevent loss of ammonia, is to add a small quantity of kaint with the manure thrown out daily. Kaint contains potash and also common salt. The potash is not in a caustic state, as is the case with wood ashes, and during the decomposition of the manure, chemical changes occur in which the kaint itself is also broken up in its composition, causing many ingredients of the manure to become soluble, and fixing the ammonia as a salt. One of the greatest losses that occur in manure is the escape of ammonia, as it passes off in the form of gas, which is imperceptible and gives no indication of its loss except by its odor.

Moist—Mr. E. C. Forbush, director of the Massachusetts gypsy moth committee, speaking of the progress in exterminating the moth, declares that in six towns of the infected district no moths have been found during the past year, and in all but two the insects were comparatively scarce. The committee are to ask the Legislature for \$200,000 this year. The new pest, the brown-tail moth, is spreading rapidly, and has been found in 26 towns, mostly within a radius of 15 miles from Boston. Mr. Forbush admits that to exterminate it at this stage will be difficult, if not impossible, but regarding the gypsy moth, which he says is the most dangerous of the two, he is very hopeful.

I have used the following paint in starting an orchard of 500 trees and found it entirely effectual. At butchering time, or by a visit to the local butcher, I secured a quantity of blood. This was set away until it began to emit an odor. Then lime, which had been thoroughly slaked, was mixed with the blood, stirring it until about the thickness of whitewash. A little sulphur may be added. To apply it to the trees, take an old whitewash brush, and cover all parts which the rabbits can reach with the mixture. They will not trouble a tree treated in that manner. One painting will last a season, and it is much easier to put on than winding with paper or covering trunks in any other way, besides being more effectual. The lime in the mixture is also beneficial to the trees.

The best crop of mixed hay I ever had was on a new seeding. After the wheat was cut several showers brought forth the seeding to such an extent that several

neighbors warned me that if I did not cut and remove this second growth from the field it would smother out the plant life and ruin the crop for the coming season.

fifteen pounds of mangels morning and night. In the absence of mangels I give wheat bran. Water twice a day.

My colts never get loose boxes; they are haltered when weaned and kept tied. I think colts that are tied up are much easier handled when their time comes to be broken to harness.

WINTERING BEES.

In winter, bees are in a semi-dormant state, one closely bordering upon hibernation, as that word is popularly understood, and the amount of air necessary for their maintenance is very slight.

Special ventilation, simply for the sake of securing fresher or purer air, seems to be almost unnecessary. The few beekeepers who plead for special ventilation do so almost wholly upon the ground that they can thereby more readily control the temperature.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Timothy hay, taking price into consideration, is one of the most unprofitable rough feeds for fattening cattle.

Animals confined in barns in diffused daylight increase in weight more rapidly than in full daylight. The increase is greater in case of full grown animals than with younger ones.—Prof. Henry.

In a western steer feeding experiment, roots had the effect of increasing the appetite without producing a proportionate gain. This agrees with the tests made at the Vermont station to the effect that roots are not profitable for dairy cows.

Steps are being taken in England to organize an association of agricultural and horse shows, in order to avoid the clashing of dates, to arrange for uniformity in prize colors, and to take a common line of action regarding exhibitors and attendants who 'misbehave' or transgress regulations.

Soft bacon does not mean fat bacon. In fact, observations during the present year indicate that softness is more likely to develop in hogs that are too lean than in those that are too fat.

I think it a great mistake to keep any pig for breeding purposes that does not possess every valuable property, but in making a selection if it is necessary to leave out any of the points drop the fancy ones. Do not breed from a boar or sow that has light hind quarters, and the breeder who knows what is for his interest will not have one such creature on his premises.

I have obtained the best results from feeding my cows, during the winter months, oat sheaves and mangels—the oats having been cut as soon as the first grains upon the head began to turn, or about one week before ripe enough to cut for threshing.

The Government of the North-West Territories announced early this fall their intention of assisting bona fide farmers in bringing pure-bred bulls into the Territories, by paying the expense of transportation from Ontario points to any point in the Territories, less \$5.00 per head, which amount is to be deposited by the purchaser with the Department.

If one finds in winter that sheep are lousy or covered with ticks, Dr. Smead would not advise dipping them, so says 'Rural New Yorker.' However, they may be treated without injury. Place the sheep on its back; with some of the dips advertised, commence at the head and pour slowly the whole length of the sheep.

HORSE BREEDING IN 1898.

(By F. J. Berry.)

Believing as I do that raising American horses is the most profitable branch of industry in the agricultural line, I want to impress upon the minds of farmers and breeders the great importance of producing the two following classes of horses: First, the light harness or coach horse, with size, action and all of the qualities that the market demands at the present time; and, second, the heaviest draft horse, with all the shape, quality, style and action that can possibly be produced.

THE TUBERCULOSIS INVESTIGATION.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture is at present digesting the report of Professors McEachran and Adams, (of McGill University), who have been making a series of experimental tests with the object of determining the extent to which tuberculosis exists in Canada, and the best means to combat and root out the ailment.

There are said to be special reasons for the apparent greater prevalence of the malady in the two last named divi-

sions of the Dominion. But this is, taking it all together, a very small percentage of affected animals, when compared with other countries. Then, it must be remembered that only those who have entertained suspicions of the health of their animals have, as a rule, applied for the application of the test; so that if compared with the total number of cattle in the country, the percentage actually diseased would be infinitesimal.

DAIRYING DOTS.

In an investigation in Ontario by the agricultural college it was found that out of 170 dairy farmers, 149 used green fodders, the most common combination of fodders consisting of oats and peas, or oats and tares, for summer feed, with corn for autumn. A large number used corn alone.

If the cream is thick and rich, it should be cool when put into the churn. If it is thin, poor cream, the temperature should be at least sixty degrees. If the cow or cows are near being fresh the cream will sometimes not churn easily.

That many farmers are becoming awake to the importance of more rapid work in the manipulation of milk and cream is shown by the large number of separators which have been purchased by them within the past year and a half.

Cattle that are being forced to their full capacity for milk production require a lower temperature than cows moderately kept. For instance, at the Michigan Agricultural College there is a cow that weighs something like 2,050 or 2,100 pounds, that gives (so says Prof. C. D. Smith) one hundred pounds of milk each day.

To make the dairy pay best, plans must be laid for feeding all the rough forage that the farm produces to turn it into butter. But all rough feed is not liked by the cow, so enough concentrated feed should be given in connection to suit the cow, and reasonable care should be taken to 'balance the ration'; that is, that all the food shall not be of the starchy nature, but some of it rich in nitrogen.

Milking is an art, and a farm hand who is a skilled milker is a valuable servant to the dairyman. Nearly every one can milk, but not every one who can go to the cow-house and milk ten or twelve cows is a good milker. A fast milker is not the best. A fresh cow ought to be milked in about five minutes, or as fast as the milk comes down, for if this is not done the cow will hold her milk, and it is difficult to milk her.

The temperature for ripening cream varies with the seasons, cows and kind of cream. The temperature should allow of the ripening in twenty-four hours with or without a 'starter.' To make a 'starter' heat some skim milk from a fresh cow to ninety degrees the day before the cream is to be set to ripen. Throw away the top portion of the thick skim milk and add to the cream from two to ten percent of the finely broken starter.

WINTER DAIRYING.

Dairying in winter has this advantage, that if the farmer can grow cheap feed in the summer, and convert it into good butter during the winter, he will not be complaining so much about the farm not paying. Then, in nearly all cases, a reader market at better prices can be found for the butter product during the winter, and this is often a considerable advantage.

work. Another advantage in having the cows come fresh in the autumn is that they can be kept giving a full flow of milk for a longer season with less extra work. Good feeding during the winter will maintain a good flow during the winter, and, with plenty of good pasturage, the flow can be kept up during the summer.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

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

GENERAL.

THE HYMN 'LEAD KINDLY LIGHT.'

H.R. Blyth, Ont.—Please give an account of the origin of the hymn, 'Lead, Kindly Light amid the encircling gloom.' This hymn was written by the Rev. John Henry Newman, that time a clergyman of the Church of England. The hymn is by many supposed to refer to the author's contemplated subscription to Roman Catholic dogmas, and his consequent doubts and fears.

See was in progress and filled my mind with thoughts against the Liberals. It was the success of the Liberal which fretted me inwardly. Especially when I was left to myself the thoughts came upon me that deliverance is wrought not by bodies but by persons. I began to feel I had a mission. I said to Cardinal Wiseman: 'We have work to do in England. I went down at once to Slidly, and the presentment grew stronger. I struck into the middle of the island, and fell ill of a fever at Leonforte. My servant thought I shall not die for I have not died since the light.' At last I got off in an orange boat, bound for Marseilles. We were becalmed for a whole week in the Straits of Bonifacio.

And with the morn those angel faces smile, Which I have loved long since and lost awhile!

Five principal interpretations are given: 1. That the angel faces signify not only the youthful dreams of the writer now vanished, but even the consciousness of divine faith and assurance now also wanting; 2. That angel faces refers to the faces of those spirits sent to minister to those who shall be saved; 3. That the lines indicate the existence of a hope of reunion in heaven with loved ones gone before; 4. That when weared with the turmoil of the world the heart seeks divine aid and then catches sight of the angel faces when the period of darkness has passed away; 5. That words refers to the communion with the world of spirits, which some believe infants to have, and which sense of communion is often lost in late years.

CONCERNING MINERALS.

X.Y.Z.—What is the value and use of (1) serpentine, (2) soapstone, (3) lardstone, (4) poystone, (5) steatite, (6) horablene, (7) talc, (8) jade. Ans.—It is difficult to give the value of such minerals as it depends mainly on the quality and finish, together with the demand. (1) Serpentine is cut and polished for ornamental purposes as marble. It is largely used in Germany and Russia.

and is used by glassmakers for marking plates of glass before cutting with the diamond. (2) Soapstone is used for marking cloth, and for cutting it, and shoemakers to give unctuous to the heels of stockings when trying on new boots. It is sold for such purposes under the name of Briancourt chalk, French chalk and Venice talc. It is the basis of rouge used for imitating engraved stones and for a variety of other purposes. (3) Probably a local name for a variety of the following: (4) Lapla Ollaris of the ancient Romans, a variety of the talc, or rather a mineral formed by the action of talc with chlorite, etc. It is generally of a grayish-green color, sometimes dark green; is soft and easily cut when dug up, is greasy to the touch, and infusible even before the blow-pipe. It becomes hard after exposure to the air and used by the natives for making household utensils. There is also a variety of it in the great St. Bernard Convent, Lake of Como, near Pleurs. (5) Same as No. 2. Hornblende schist is a schistose mass of black or dark green hornblende but often interlayered with felspar, quartz, or mica. When the schistose character disappears, the mass becomes a hornblende rock (amphibolite); lustre vitreous; in some, the rocks are metallic pearly. It is a constituent of many rocks, and is generally found transparent, in thin plates, and optically biaxial, sometimes it is colorless, but generally greenish or yellowish white to gray or olive green. Fools very greasy. Used as crayons, also for forming crucibles and for porcelain. It is a mica, only its thin plates are not elastic like the mica. It is composed entirely of silica and magnesia. It approaches in character to a talc and is used for similar purposes. (6) A black tough, greenish silicate, used for making ornaments, especially in China. Called also astaxone and nephrite.

ORDINATION OF PRESBYTERIAN MINISTERS.

R.C., New Glasgow.—What is the form of procedure for the ordination of a minister among the Presbyterians? Is it the same form as that used in the case of an elder or deacon? Ans.—A deacon is ordained by the session of some particular congregation for services to be performed by the session of the congregation of which he is a member. No special form has received the formal authorization of the Presbyterian body. Liturgical forms are, however, sometimes used. A minister is not ordained by the session, but by the governing body of his district, the Presbytery. The laying on of hands is observed in the ordination of a minister, and this form has sometimes been observed in the ordination of an elder, but the usual practice is to receive the elder with the right hand of fellowship. The elder is ordained by a moderator appointed for the occasion, who must be a member of the Presbytery. Having put the necessary questions to the candidate the moderator commends him to the grace of God and extends to him the right hand of fellowship. The ordination of a deacon resembles that of an elder. Deacons do not do with the temporalities, elders attend to the spiritual needs of the congregation. A combined form of ordination and induction to the charge of a congregation is often used by Presbyterians. The moderator says: 'In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the only King, and Head of the Church, and by the authority of the Presbytery of — I invite you to this ministry of — with us; and induct you to this ministry of — and admit you to all rights and privileges thereto pertaining.'

YELLOWSTONE PARK.

N.S.—Please explain or describe 'Yellowstone Park.' Ans.—Yellowstone Park is a district famed for natural curiosities. It is a north-west corner of the State of Wyoming. It comprises 3,575 square miles and is more than 5,000 feet high. The entire region was, at a comparatively modern geological period, the scene of a remarkable volcanic activity. The most striking features of the place are its geysers, hot springs, waterfalls and canons. Some of the springs deposit lime and some silica. There is every variety of color, and the deposits form around their borders elaborate ornamentation. By an act of Congress in 1872 this district now known as the Yellowstone National Park, was reserved and withdrawn from settlement, occupancy, or sale, under the laws of the United States, and dedicated and set apart as a public park and pleasure ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, and was placed under the exclusive control of the Secretary of the Interior.

MEDICAL.

[Letters for this department should be addressed 'Medical Editor 'Witness,' Montreal.' Should a subscriber ask any question which is not suitable for publication, a reply will be sent by mail if a stamped addressed envelope and \$1. physician's fee, be enclosed with each question.]

HAIR FALLING.

Young Teacher.—Healthy, hair falls, is dry and harsh; dandruff on the scalp. Is it soose oil injurious? Ans.—Some sort of oil is needed for every sort of dry hair to make the skin and its appendages soft. Goose oil is not harmful unless rancid. A cool head is apt to retain the hair. The perplexities of teaching draw an active circulation into the head and may overheat it. The close air of some school rooms, with over activity of the mental powers, while digestion may be imperfectly performed, and the action of the bowels very sluggish, tend to overheat the head. Teachers require exercise of the limbs in the open air to draw circulation from the head, and increase the activity of circulation in the internal organs. Exercise is of little value unless the air breathed is pure. Bedrooms, sitting rooms and schoolrooms, should be well ventilated. Dandruff is a local disease, probably due to the multiplication of certain organisms found in the follicles. In dealing with hair locally one must remember that nothing will reach the health of the hair which cannot sink into the follicle, a little invasion of the skin, where the hair, in the nails, is developed out of the outer layer of the skin. In dealing with diseases due to organisms, efficient application has to be made to prevent the development of new crops of organisms. Very constant treatment and thoroughness will give the best results. Ringworm, for instance, may never be cured, if time is given between applications of an antiseptic for the fungus to increase, or if the fungus can exist in the follicle while the application does not sufficiently penetrate to destroy it. Some have used refined carbolic soap, which relieves the irritation of dryness and of dandruff.

Organisms can be got rid of to some extent by mechanical means, as thorough washing with a lather of soap; warm water and dissolved borax. Less oil is needed, and more spirits when the scalp tends to be oily. Wilson's lotion, often given, is as follows: Oil of sweet almonds; liquor amygdali, one ounce each; spirits of rosemary, water and honey, three drachms of each, mixed to make the lotion. This should be rubbed into the roots of the hair where it is thin, or the head is becoming bald. The ammonia is a stimulant which may be required to increase circulation. In other cases a quinine lotion would be better. One drachm, dissolved in dilute sulphuric acid, might be added to three drachms of rosemary water, and spirits of rosemary, and these mixed with a decoction of nut oil to four ounces. Sulphur,

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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10 to 40 grains to an ounce of vaseline rubbed into the roots of the hair, is found serviceable in severe cases of dandruff, when the hair is dry, at the same time washing the hair with a hot soapy lather. Vidal's prescription is as follows: Precipitate of plaster, one and a-half drachms; cocoa butter, two and a-half drachms; tincture of benzoin, a few drops to make it fragrant; also a lotion is needed containing spirits of some sort, which assists the other ingredients to penetrate the follicles. Any form of spirit is trying to the hair and need not be used without oil to counteract this result. A strong antiseptic may be employed to discourage the life of vegetable parasites. Quinine sulphate needs to be dissolved in a little dilute sulphuric acid, and added to a penetrating vaseline. It is very penetrating; hair will not sink in the same way. Vasoline is very useful for this reason.

Aromatic substances are also useful to the hair follicles, as they are internally as antiseptics. Persons who soothe their heads in oil strongly scented, a common practice forty years ago, did not injure the hair, but encouraged it by this much despised method of dressing it. Without going to the length of using so much oil the present generation can hardly afford to neglect entirely the means of preserving the hair. The complexity of life tends to baldness of both men and women; oil as an emollient and nerve feeder ought to be in the fashion.

INDIGESTION.

C.H.R.—I am a young man, twenty-five years of age, farmer. My stomach is too weak to digest the food. I become very tired and weak about two hours before my meals. My appetite is very good, but I feel very heavy meals on account of indigestion and distress in stomach. After eating a light meal my stomach feels very full and I have to lie down for ease. I am very weak in the mornings, and have pains in my wrists. There is a twitching or trickling that seems to be in the veins, over various parts of the body, and it is difficult across the kidneys and cannot work in a stooping position. I have been in this way since last March. I have been troubled with chronic constipation for two years, but during the summer and fall, have been taking extract of cascara, and have to continue every night. I have quit eating meat and potatoes, and take but very little bread. I eat oatmeal porridge with milk and sugar, baked apples, rice and apple sauce. Ans.—You can digest better if you take strong meat soup, or beef or chicken tea, with a little cayenne pepper in it, or mixed underdone beef steak. Weakness comes from poor digestion of the food you are taking, and the constant use of the purge. A syringe would be safer to empty the rectum; anoint the nozzle with vaseline, and use a pint of warm soap suds. The following remedy will help digestion: Tincture of nux vomica, two drachms; tincture of ginger, one drachm; dilute hydro chloric acid, one drachm; mucilage of acacia and infusion of calumba, two ounces of each. Occasional use of a tepid enema, which cleans the teeth carefully before breakfast. Take your meals at regular hours; eat something very rich; a little bacon or kippered herring, on breakfast, and good butter digestion, which is very apt to be neglected if people live on spoon food. A relish starts digestive juices. If sweets or sugar sour, avoid them as far as possible. Eat a comfortable meal of easily digested food, if possible drinking cocoa or chocolate boiled with water and milk added. Use spices, nutmeg, cloves, etc., which relieve the distress caused by gas. Boiled California prunes, raisins and figs, relieve constipation. Drinking a good deal of hot water or hot milk (not boiled) in the morning, relieves constipation. If not able to improve on this treatment, get the urine and heart examined to throw light on the case.

ADVANTAGES OF VEGETABLES.

Rice is heating, but very binding, especially if boiled in milk. Mealy potato and tender vegetable, served with white sauce, if well chewed, are very useful to persons having indigestion, with gas and constipation, because these vegetables supply starch which increases digestive juices and act to relieve obstruction, both by their salts, and by the cellulose they contain, which provide an unobstructing bulk needed to excite peristaltic movements in the stomach and whole food canal. Rice, on the contrary, is constipated, is apt to sour. Rice contains 20 percent starch; potato, only 20 percent of starch. Potatoes contain useful salts; rice, none. If equally well digested, rice is the most fattening. If badly digested, it is due in both to the starch, which may sour. The disaster is then given in the case of rice. Of cereals; barley, oatmeal, and whole wheat, are the best. In flour, or fine meal preparations, they digest most easily. With milk, eggs, or meat, they build up sound tissues.

VARICOSE VEINS AND CORNS.

A. W. L. and Hyacinth.—Have been troubled for some time with varicose veins in calf of leg (aged 20). Is there any cure? If so, kindly prescribe as to treatment. Is walking bad for them or cycling? Have been troubled for some time with corns on toes; very painful. Cannot stand anything but a placed between the toes, then use the corn cure. Varicose veins are semi-paralyzed because too full. If the external veins are supported by an even bandage from instep to knee, or by an elastic stocking they will allow circulation to go on more freely and so relieve the distress. The stretching should be measured for, before rising and always put on before letting the weight come on the feet in the morning. If the veins are not badly varicose they will recover by support and attention to keep the bowels working easily. The more the foot is kept up on a sofa or high stool in front of the patient the better the veins will empty. Standing very much should be forbidden. Operation is not done until all measures have been tried. A course of mineral waters and heart tonics has done good in some instances. Bicycling would be impossible in some cases of varicose veins; but in slight cases a little bicycling might possibly not signify enough to prevent recovery, while improving the sluggish circulation, weak muscles and toning the heart, all of which would help the veins. Great moderation should be observed until the result of such exercise could be ascertained.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills

STRENGTHEN WEAK AND NERVOUS PEOPLE.

NERVOUS DEBILITY.

Mr. Jas. Purteile, a well known farmer living near Crofton, Ont., says:— 'For several years I have been a sufferer from nervousness and general debility. I believe my troubles originated in over-work, aggravated by a severe cold. I had advice from doctors in Picton and Belleville, but did not get any better. Then I went to Toronto for treatment, and for a time experienced some relief, but it was only temporary, and soon I was worse than before. Some of my neighbors advised me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Before the first box was gone I found relief, and after I had used a few boxes more I was rejoicing in complete recovery, and my health has since been excellent. Words fail to express the value I now place on the little pink messengers of health, and I only hope other sufferers will follow my example.'

NERVOUS AND RUN DOWN--CURED

Mrs. C. Roblin, of Kingsville, Ont., says:— 'I have derived much benefit from the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. My nervous system was completely run down, and the nerves of my eyes were so much affected that I could scarcely see, and I had to go to an oculist and have glasses made to order so I could walk about. I tried many kinds of medicine without any beneficial effect whatever. One day a little book advertising Dr. Williams' Pink Pills was left at my house, and after reading it I determined to try this medicine, and to my surprise I began to feel better before I had finished the first box. I have used three boxes and find my nervous system as strong as ever it was, and my eyesight has improved to such an extent that I go around half the time without using my glasses.'

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills build anew the blood, strengthen the nerves and restore the glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. They are a cure for all troubles peculiar to the female system, young or old, and also cure such diseases as rheumatism, neuralgia, partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, St. Vitus dance, nervous headache, nervous prostration, the after effects of a grippé, influenza and severe colds, diseases depending on humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. Do not be persuaded to accept any imitation, no matter what the dealer may say who offers it. Imitations never cured any one. See that the full name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People is on the wrapper around every box you buy.

Nervous People.

Nervous people not only suffer themselves but cause more or less misery to everyone around them. They are fretful, easily worried and hence a worry to others.

When everything annoys you; when your pulse trembles and your heart beats excessively; when you are startled at the least unexpected sound, your nerves are in a bad state and should be promptly attended to.

NERVOUSNESS IS A QUESTION OF NUTRITION. FOOD FOR THE NERVES IS WHAT YOU WANT TO PUT YOU RIGHT, AND THE BEST NERVE FOOD IN THE WORLD IS

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

They give strength and tone to every nerve in the body, and make despondent, easily irritated people feel that life has renewed its charms. But you must get **DR WILLIAMS'**. Substitutes never cured anyone—the genuine pills have cured thousands who are willing to say so.

If your dealer does not keep them they will be mailed, post paid at 50 cents per box, six boxes for \$2.50, by addressing the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

EXTREME NERVOUSNESS

Frequently brings its Victim to the Verge of Insanity. The Case of a Young Lady Given up by Two Doctors.

(From the Smith's Falls 'News'.)
Many cases have been reported of invalids who had suffered for years, and who had been given up by the attending physician who have been restored to health and vigor through that now world-famed medicine, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, but we doubt if there is one more startling or more convincing than that of Miss Elizabeth Minshall, who resided with her brother, Mr. Thos. Minshall, of this town. The 'News' meeting Mr. Minshall, asked him if the story was correct. He replied:— 'All I know is that my sister had been given up as incurable by two physicians. She is now well enough to do any kind of housework, and this change has, in my honest conviction, been brought about by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. My sister is 29 years of age. She came to Canada from England about ten years ago, and resided with a Baptist minister, the Rev. Mr. Cody, at Sorel, Que. In April of 1890, she took ill, and gradually grew worse. She was under a local physician's care for over five months. The doctor said that she was suffering from a complication of nervous diseases, and that he could do little for her. The minister then wrote me, and I had her come to Smith's Falls, in the hope that a change and rest would do her good. When she arrived here she was in a very weak state and a local physician was called in to see her. He attended her for some time, but with poor results, and finally acknowledged that the case was one which he could do very little for. My sister had by this time become a pitiable object: the slightest noise would disturb her, and the slightest exertion would almost make her insane. It required some one to be with her at all times, and often after a fit of extreme nervousness she would become unconscious, and remain in that state for hours. When I went home I had to take my boots off at the doorstep so as not to disturb her. When the doctor told me he could do nothing for her, I consulted with my wife, who had great faith in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I concluded it would do no harm to try them anyway, and mentioned the fact to the doctor. The doctor did not oppose their use, but said he thought they might do her good, as they were certainly a good medicine. In September of last year she began to use the Pills, and before two boxes had been used, she began to show signs of improvement. She has continued their use since, and is today a living testimony of the curative power of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

but it is better that she went before me. I am anticipating.
'Kindly present my love to your household.
'As ever yours,
'H. F. BLAND.'

DEATH OF MR. JOHN JAMES DAY, Q. C.

Another of Montreal's oldest residents has passed away in the person of Mr. John James Day, Q.C., whose death took place at three o'clock on Thursday at his residence 'Casa del Monte,' 731 Pine avenue. Mr. Day was taken suddenly ill the Friday before with a type of influen-



THE LATE MR. J. J. DAY, Q.C.

za, complicated with double pneumonia, which, notwithstanding all the efforts made by his medical attendant, Dr. J. L. Day, a grandson of the deceased, made rapid and fatal progress.
The late Mr. John James Day was the oldest of Montreal's advocates and therefore the Father of the Montreal Bar. He was noted for his energy and his clear and comprehensive mind and was greatly respected both in legal and other circles. Mr. Day was born in London, on Sept. 11, 1805, and was therefore 93 years of age at the time of his decease. He always retained a vivid recollection

RECIPROCITY SURE TO COME.

(New York 'Evening Post'.)

There is probably little foundation for the report that Great Britain will ask compensation for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty—still less that she will ask for Canadian reciprocity in return for it. Reciprocity is a term much too vague to be used as a 'quid pro quo' in another and widely different negotiation. To negotiate a treaty of reciprocal trade with Canada would require at least one year of steady work and hearings by a commission, before it could be brought to the attention of Congress, and it might then drag along another year in Congress. Moreover, it would, not improbably, re-open the whole tariff question, since the particular interests affected by Canadian competition would demand equal treatment with those affected by transatlantic trade. Manufacturers of wooden tooth-picks would see no reason why they should be offered up as a sacrifice on the altar of the Nicaragua canal. Dairy men and poultry-dealers in the neighborhood of Buffalo would object to the competition with those on the other side of the Niagara river—and so on. All this would make delay, whereas time is of the essence of Clayton-Bulwer negotiation. As regards reciprocity with Canada, that will come before long, but it cannot be brought in by a side wind. The trading interests of New England are becoming more urgent for it every day. They are hampered by the old pagan superstition of the tariff, but the latter is losing its strength visibly, and will soon be in the gutter, not only in New England but in western New York as well. The city of Buffalo would vote for free trade with Canada to-day if it had the opportunity. Probably Rochester and Oswego would do the same.

SPANISH ESTATES.

The Old Confidence Trick Again Being Worked.

THIS TIME A CASTLE IN SPAIN FIGURES IN IT.

No less than three times has the 'Witness' exposed the now familiar confidence trick, wherein an alleged prisoner, an orphan heiress and estates in Spain figure largely. The confidence men appear now to be invading with their correspondence some districts of Ontario, using the old trick, with slight varia-



THE WOMAN IN THE CASE.

tions. A 'castle in Spain,' i. e., the Castle of Fort of Valencia, figures in the correspondence. In it, or rather was, detained one Agustin Laiuente. Agustin represents himself to have been a friend of Martinez Campos in Cuba, and afterwards a Cuban patriot, driven by Weyler and other enemies to seek an asylum in England. There he deposited £37,000 in the Bank of London, and secreted the security in the false bottom of a portmanteau. His wife next dies in Spain, and in his effort to reach and comfort his daughter he is arrested, and himself sentenced to sixteen years of drudgery in the Castle Fort of Valencia. Then he remembers that his wife had relatives in Canada—a large number of them, apparently—and he writes, thanks to the connivance of his trusty chaplain and confessor, apprising the Canadian of his relationship, offering to make him executor of his estate and asking him to become the protector of his daughter. He hints that the law costs would be considerable, and, alas, the holy father is poor and would solicit some 'metallic help' to work the tribunal. The prisoner dies and the priest then writes, and also encloses a letter written by the poor prisoner just previous to taking the final sacrament. He has made his will, leaving his Canadian relative a fourth of his estate and the chaplain £1,000. The daughter also writes endearingly, and encloses a photograph. The priest is just going to rescue the portmanteau and start with it and the daughter for the home of her Canadian protector, but they never arrive. Mr. James Dickenson, a Niagara Falls, Ont., hotelkeeper, is a recipient of one of these series of letters. Having some bogus and Confederate bills on hand, he could afford to respond. On receipt of the first letter he sent ten dollars, and on receipt of the next a hundred dollars. Then he thought it about time to stop the little confidence game of these Spanish grandees, and he has published the letters. The author of them has certainly missed his calling, as he might have made an honest living as a novelist.

QUEBEC'S ALLEGED INFERIORITY.

Replying to charges of alleged inferiority made against the province of Quebec, the 'Semaire Commerciale' says: 'In the sciences, arts and letters? Through how many of the other provinces would one have to go to find a number of scientists, artists and men of letters equal to that furnished by the province of Quebec alone? In commerce and finance? Well, we must admit that the province of Quebec is certainly not so far advanced as those of Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, as far as regards fraudulent bankruptcies, hidings behind bills of sale and chattel mortgages, equivocal compositions and loose transactions. But ask the merchants and manufacturers of Europe, say, which of the provinces in Canada inspires them with least fear. In the family? Is it because we speak two languages that the province of Quebec should be more ignorant than the one where they jabber in one language only?

SOME SPREAD EAGLEISM

Which is Treated Too Seriously.

An incident of President McKinley's tour in the Southern States some time ago is attracting some attention in Canada, but though interesting it can hardly be regarded as important, except for the manufacture of political capital against reciprocity and of jingo sentiment against the United States.

At a meeting to welcome the President, held at Macon, Ga., after Mr. McKinley had addressed the people, some old-time southern fire-eater or humorist named James H. Wilson, who is given the title of general because he was in the Southern army during the Civil War, gave vent to the following grandiloquence:

Now, just one word more. The President has come among you; your President and my President, and he comes as the exemplar and the head of the great American nation. (Cheers.) He has done more for it than any President since the days of Washington, for he has added vastly to its extent and striven to make it a continental republic, as the fathers designed it to be. (Cheers.) He has extended its borders to such a distance that the sun rises upon it in the east before it sets upon it in the west. (Cheers.) He has added vastly to the west his the Philippines, our Oriental possessions, and two thousand miles to the east the beautiful island of Puerto Rico. A line joining one extremity to the other of these new possessions reaches half-way around the earth. (Cheers.) But splendid as the President's work has been, there still remains greater work for him to do. It is a glorious work, and don't you forget it. It is work which justifies the President in saying we are at last all one, and that the Confederate soldier should receive the same treatment as the Federal soldier. This is work which the American people are profoundly interested in, for it touches their permanent and paramount interests, and I hope to see it speedily accomplished. I hope to see the day when our starry flag shall float everywhere from the frozen north to the sunny clime of Central America. We are too big and powerful and progressive to have neighbors on this Continent, and I trust that before the next Administration of the President closes, the flag will fly over every foot of the Continent, from the northern extremity of the Dominion of Canada to the Gulf of Mexico.

'General' Wilson's nonsense was not taken any notice of by the reporters who give daily accounts over the wires to the more prominent American journals of the incidents of the President's journey, probably because they regarded it as mere trifling.

But the New York 'Sun,' which has, apparently for the purpose of advertising itself and attracting attention by its oddity, supported every sort of notorious bankrupt public scoundrel and which has been giving a good deal of space to an insolent advocacy of annexation of Canada, apparently copied the 'General's' oration from some local paper and spread it forth upon its editorial page one day, probably when gravelled for other flapdoodle. The 'Sun' described it as a 'notable speech' under the heading of 'Continental Enlargement,' whatever that may mean.

The whole thing has got on the nerves of the Toronto 'World,' which is in consequence suffering from nightmare and telling its 'horrid dreams' in the daytime to unsympathizing scoffers: In double-leaded type across a double column, under a black letter heading, it shrieks out that 'Canada is on the brink.' Not only is the United States threatening our integrity and independence, but Great Britain or a great party in it is ready to sacrifice Canada!

The 'World' has no hesitation in warning Canadians of the dangers of the present situation. Never before in our estimation were the times so critical in so far as the future of this country is concerned, and in so far as the maintenance of Canada as a free, independent and integral portion of North America is concerned. Unless Canadians are fully alive to the situation and speak out in no uncertain way, they will suddenly find themselves between a grasping annexation movement in the United States, having for its end the domination of the whole Continent, and a great party in England prepared to make almost any sacrifice to the United States in consideration of some kind of support of England in her race with Russia, France and other European powers.

The American ambassador at London seems to be nearest to the Chief Secretary for Foreign Affairs. The fatted calf is being killed for the prodigal returned, and Canada is being asked to supply the veal!

Englishmen do all the running, Canada does all the giving. Uncle Sam does all the taking. What spirit of friendliness does the United States show? None that we can see—only this, that President McKinley listened to the aggressive and anti-Canadian speech that we quote below, a speech that openly advocated the incorporation of Canada into the United States, and never entered a word of protest.

The President took no notice of the speech for the very good reason that he had already spoken, and probably did not think it important enough to be worth protesting against. The 'World' calls for action on the part of the Dominion Government to save Canada from the hostile United States and the traitorous Mother Country, England. The 'World' concludes:

We must rely upon ourselves more than any one else, and the sooner the Government at Ottawa recognizes the situation and withdraws from all entangling alliances and negotiations with the Washington Government the better will it be for them and this country.

The 'World' does not want reciprocity and has been working hard to discredit the policy of bettering our relations with the United States, and accordingly it has in the utterances now some months old of an absurd jester found an occasion for demanding the withdrawal of Canada from the Washington Conference.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN BOWIE.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—Captain Alex. Bowie, of the Ottawa River Navigation Company, died to-day, the result of pneumonia.

REV. H. F. BLAND DEAD.

WAS A FORMER PASTOR OF DOMINION-SQUARE METHODIST CHURCH.

Word reached the city on Thursday that the Rev. H. F. Bland, who a few days ago suffered a stroke of paralysis, had died in Smith's Falls that morning in his eighty-first year.

The late Rev. Henry Flesher Bland, who was well known in Montreal, came



THE LATE REV. H. F. BLAND.

to Canada from England in 1858, and was appointed to St. Andrews. In 1860 he was given charge of the church at Hemmingford, where he remained three years. His next circuits were: Montreal East, 1863-65; Dundas, 1866-68; Kingston, 1869-70; Belleville, 1871-73; Montreal (Dominion Square), Cornwall and Smith's Falls. He was chairman of the Montreal Conference from 1874 to 1876, and again in 1889, when he presided at the meeting of conference in

Napanee. His strong point as a ministerial laborer was his faithful pastoral work. He was exceedingly methodical and painstaking, and very much liked as a preacher as well as a pastor. His sermons, which were thoroughly scriptural, showed careful preparation; his language was chaste and eloquent, and his illustrations apt. He leaves five sons: George, who is in business in Montreal; William and James, Pembroke; Salem Goldworth, Smith's Falls, and Charles Edward, Waterloo.

Following is an extract from a letter written only on Dec. 16 by the late Rev. H. F. Bland to a dear and venerable friend in this city:—

'Very much pleased to see the St. James reports. The good Lord does hear prayer! I hope and pray that a satisfactory freedom will be soon gained.

'Now and then I am with you in thought. It is over forty years since I first knew you. In 1858 Mr. Harper sent me to Lachute as assistant to the Rev. Robert Brown; a very providential appointment. I very much enjoyed the work of those two years, and so did my dear wife. Mr. Meikle, who was then in partnership with his father and brother, now resides with his wife and children in Smith's Falls. For the sake of Lachute and old times, I call upon him as frequently as if he were a Methodist. North Gore, Back Chatham, and East Settlement live in my recollections. Then followed three years with Col. Scriver at Hemmingford, and then three in Lagauchetiere street. During the last appointment I was still more intimately brought into connection with you, thank God!

'My general health is good. I take the Sabbath morning service—Salem, the evening. I have two young persons' classes, one on Saturday afternoon, the other on Sunday morning after service. A short time since I began an enquiry meeting on Monday evening.

'My profound impression is that in Canada we need a class meeting revival. Next Sunday morning I mean to give a summary of the life of James Turner, a Scotch Methodist leader and local preacher.

'It is two years this month since my dear wife left me. I feel her absence,

FOR UNIVERSAL PEACE.

TWO MONSTER PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Washington, D.C., Dec. 29.—A delegation presented to the President, to-day, two petitions, one from the great majority of the organized Christian churches of the world; and the other from the Pan-Presbyterian Alliance. Both petitions had been placed in charge of the Rev. Dr. William Henry Roberts, the American secretary of the Pan-Presbyterian Alliance, and with him the Rev. Wallace Radcliffe, and the Rev. A. W. Pitzer, of Washington, D.C.; the Rev. W. W. Barr, of Philadelphia, and the Rev. J. J. Drury, of New Brunswick, N.J.

The first petition was signed by the representatives of 145 national and denominational churches, existing on all the six continents. It asks for the reduction of the heavy armaments maintained by Christian nations, 'Ready upon provocation to go to war, and settle their disputes by bloodshed,' also requests the influence of the Government of the United States in favor of international arbitration as a substitute for war.

The second petition is from the Pan-Presbyterian Alliance, which also united in the first petition, which includes eighty national and denominational churches throughout the world. This second petition asks for 'A permanent and peaceful method for the settlement of all controversies arising between the people of the British Empire and the Republic of the United States of America.'

The President was congratulated on the result of the rightful war recently waged by the American people in the cause of justice and humanity, and the divine blessing was invoked upon him, as the man ordained of God in a great crisis in human history, to be the leader of the people, and also to be instrumental through both war and peace for the bringing of Christ's universal kingdom. The signers of these petitions represent more than eighty millions of Christians in all parts of the world, twenty-five millions of whom are Presbyterians.

The President responded cordially to the delegation, saying that he favored arbitration as between Great Britain and America. He also said that he had responded promptly to the Czar's proposal for disarmament, but that under present circumstances the armaments of the United States could not be now lessened, but would in any event be less than would satisfy European nations.

IRISH HOME RULE

AND HOW IT IS TO BE OBTAINED.

Dublin, Dec. 29.—Irish political plans are the subject of much discussion at the present time, and there is speculation as to the course of the factions in the United Irish League.

Mr. Timothy Healy, the anti-Parnellite leader, says, in an interview, that while the old land question in Ireland was prominent, there would be no land war. He thought a greater toleration among the party factions would adjust this question and would make way for a union of Irishmen. When this union was assured, Mr. Healy said, home rule was assured.

Mr. John Redmond, the Parnellite leader, says he rejoiced that the Liberal party in England was in a disorganized condition. It was alliance with the Liberals, he said, which had prevented the growth of Irish nationalism which alone will bring home rule to Ireland. As regards land agitation, Mr. Redmond said the only question raised in that regard now would be an effort to divide up the grazing lands.

OTTAWA VALLEY NEWS.

SOME NARROW ESCAPES FROM DEATH—A CLERGYMAN'S GENEROSITY.

The Annprior, Ont., correspondent of the 'Witness' writes, under date of Dec. 28:—

Dr. D. J. Wilson, of Metcalfe, county Carleton, was married on Monday to Miss Ruth Switzer, in the Presbyterian Church. The Rev. T. A. Saddler, M.A., of Russell, performed the ceremony.

Mr. Wm. Gratton, of Sault Ste. Marie, and Miss Georgina Dougherty, of Carleton Place, were married on Monday by the Rev. James Elliott, M.A. A reception was held after the ceremony.

It is stated in political circles that Mr. Robert Campbell, M.P.P. for South Renfrew, has received the appointment of registrar for the county of Renfrew, vacant by the death of Mr. Andrew Irving.

A man named Richard Lizotte, of Ottawa, was caught in a cog wheel in Booth's mill on Saturday morning last, and had his clothes nearly all torn from him. He received some ugly and painful bruises and cuts, and had a very narrow escape from death.

Mr. Benjamin Lavoie, of the township of Bagot, county Renfrew, has issued a writ against the Ottawa, Annprior & Parry Sound Railway Company, claiming \$3,000 for the death of his son, Peter Lavoie, who was killed in a sand pit, while in the employ of the defendant company.

An outbreak of diphtheria has been reported at Perth. It originated in the public school. Twenty-two cases have already been reported.

A company will ask power from the Ottawa Government to construct a railway between Pembroke and Bancroft, thus giving the former town direct connection with Toronto. The proposed new road will connect with the Ironstone, Bancroft and Ottawa Railway, which now has its terminus at Bancroft.

The Rev. R. A. Lewis, B.A., B.D., of Maitland, recently sold his farm. Out of the proceeds he has given \$500 to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund of the Ottawa and Ontario Dioceses.

The anniversary services in connection with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, at Carleton Place, will be held on Sunday, Jan. 8. The Rev. Professor Ross, of Montreal, is to preach.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held in Mattawa last Tuesday in the interests of the Georgian Bay and Ottawa canal. Mr. W. J. Poupore, M.P. for Pontiac, announced himself a supporter of any government that would help to build the canal.

After a few months' illness, Mrs. W. G. O'Hara, of North Elmsley, county Lanark, passed away on Friday last. She was born in Beckwith, in 1827, and continuously resided in the above township for over fifty years. One of her daughters is Dr. Margaret O'Hara, missionary to India.

A very sad accident took place at Smith's Falls on Monday morning last, whereby the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Coghlan, of that town, was drowned. He, with several other companions, got down on the ice, near Beckett's factory. The deceased ventured out a little further than the others, and without any warning dropped through. The alarm was quickly given and in less than half an hour the body was recovered.

George and William Dickson, of Bathurst, county Lanark, while crossing Bennett's Lake last Friday, broke through an air-hole in the ice. They escaped themselves, but lost their horses, which they shot to put an end to their agony in the freezing water.

GRANDSON OF A PRINCE.

THE CANADIAN FORTUNES OF A FRENCH DUCAL FAMILY.

Toronto, Dec. 29.—A claim, which upon investigation, appears to be authentic, is being made through the British Embassy at Paris, on behalf of André Messena, of Toronto, eldest grandson of Napoleon Bonaparte's famous field-marshal, the Prince of Essling, and Duke of Rivoli. The present bearer of the name was born at Goderich, Ontario, when his father, Baron de Camin, was making a lecture tour on this continent. His father died at Salt Lake City, in 1880, leaving his wife and two sons, André and Claude, in straitened circumstances. He was a friend of Victor Hugo, and was banished from France and his estates confiscated when Louis Philippe seized the French throne. He was a refugee in London, where he married. While in London he was tried at the Guildhall, and acquitted, on a charge of conspiring to assassinate Napoleon III. He was a friend of Lord Palmerston. Garibaldi lodged with him in London, and Baron de Camin actively assisted the Italian Liberator in his efforts to free Italy. He arrived in Salt Lake City, where he died of dropsy, having returned from a transcontinental trip to the Pacific coast, in pursuance of a purpose to which he had devoted many years of his life, viz., the 'History and Origin of Freemasonry,' and his extensive researches in Egypt, Palestine, Persia, and Japan enabled him to enrich the literature of the subject to an extent which rendered his lectures, delivered before the lodges of that order, worthy of the highest meeds of praise from the leading functionaries of the fraternity. The early history of the Baron de Camin is well known to the world of letters. He was a priest in the Roman Catholic Church during a period of twelve years, and performed the duties of abbot in a French monastery. He was regarded by all who made his acquaintance as a gentleman of rare attainments, possessing a knowledge of several languages, and well versed in every department of human knowledge.

A letter received from Claude Messena, who is now in Paris, speaks confidently of the claim being recognized by the French Government on account of the services rendered to the Republic cause by their father.

JOINT HIGH COMMISSION.

SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT BELIEVED TO BE IN SIGHT.

Washington, Dec. 30.—It is said in official circles that indications point to the conclusion of an agreement between the joint high Canadian commissioners, that, while satisfactory to both the United States and Canada, will not include all that either side hoped to obtain at the beginning. The arrangement is expected to be ratified within a week after the reassembling of the joint commission, which will be on Jan. 5.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—The government has been favored in its consideration of matters of policy arising out of the Washington negotiations by the presence in Ottawa this week of Lord Herschell. His Lordship, as is perfectly well known, has taken a deep interest in the business of the commission, believing that its success will tend toward the promotion of Anglo-American good feeling. At yesterday afternoon's council Lord Herschell was present and shared in the general interchange of views. The cabinet has devoted itself assiduously to the consideration of the case as it existed when the conference adjourned last week. While in a general way it seems certain that the negotiations will not tend toward the allowance of every point for which Canada has been contending, it may be said that the Canadian commissioners will return to the United States capital next week fully prepared to accept the best obtainable consistent with Canada's dignity.

As Lord Herschell cannot remain much longer in America every effort will be exerted to bring the various issues to an adjustment and the commission to a close within a week or fortnight after the reassembling.

BERNHARDT ON VESUVIUS.

THE FAMOUS ACTRESS'S EXPERIENCES.

The Rome correspondent of the 'Pall Mall Gazette,' of London, England, has sent an interview with Sarah Bernhardt in which the latter describes her recent night ascent of Mount Vesuvius. She was accompanied by two attendants and a guide and the ascent was made on foot. Mme. Bernhardt says: 'It is dangerous enough in the day time, but at night it is well nigh impossible for a lady. It is, however, well worth the trouble. We left after the theatre closed and took the shortest route. My emotions increased as we ascended. I have climbed many mountains of snow, but never one of fire before. As we proceeded the ground beneath our feet seemed to become gradually warmer. Then there were frequent clouds of vapor and showers of ashes. The way became very difficult and our feet left prints in the scarcely cold lava, while the giant sighed occasionally, sending out a hot breath of flame and the air became heavier and heavier until breathing was difficult. I went on without a word to my companions, feeling in my innermost being the grandeur of the earth and the littleness of man when face to face with the forces of nature. At last the guide said that we must go no further as the lava was liquid at the mouth of the crater. I begged to go a few more paces and the man gave way to my importunities. We went on for forty or fifty steps, when the others came to a standstill. I proceeded until I was stopped by a cry from the guide. I seemed to be in the midst of flame and was hardly able to breathe. I lost one of my curls and my eyebrows were scorched. I felt as though the day of judgment was at hand.'

POLITICAL MATTERS

ELECTIONS AND CONTESTATIONS IN COURT.

There is again another vacancy in the House of Commons, owing to the resignation of Mr. J. F. Guité, M.P. for Bonaventure. It is alleged that Mr. Guité was somewhat forced into politics, for which he had no special liking, and that, moreover, he was not satisfied with the share of patronage granted him.

It transpired afterwards that the resignation of Mr. Guité, M.P. for Bonaventure, which was forwarded to Speaker Edgar, was not couched in legal form, lacking the necessary witnesses. The further significant announcement is made that probably Mr. Guité may be led to reconsider his step.

Madoc, Ont., Dec. 28.—The election in North Hastings yesterday appears to have resulted in the return of Mr. Allen, the Conservative candidate for the legislature by a majority of nearly six hundred.

North Bay, Ont., Dec. 28.—Loughrin (Liberal) elected by 665, with a few places to hear from.

THE STUARTBURN MURDER.

CZUBY SPRINGS A SENSATION IN COURT.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 30.—Simeon Czuby, the man charged with committing the quintuple murder at Stuartburn, sprang a sensation on everybody at the Police Court yesterday. He stated that Gusozak, who was the chief witness against him, not only suggested the murder, but actually killed the four children. Gusozak's evidence has been far from satisfactory all through and in his eagerness to clear himself from all suspicion with regard to a transaction he lately had with Czuby about a revolver, he frequently hinted that the latter did not usually tell the truth. This seemed to anger the old man, who while willing to take the blame of the murder strongly objected to be considered a rask liar. Gusozak was arrested, and his case will be fully investigated.

LYNCH-LAW GENEROSITY.

Chadron, Neb., Dec. 30.—As a sequel to the court scene at Hot Springs, S.D., last week, in which thirty-two cattlemen were acquitted of the charge of killing John Ekeman, a sheep herder last August, a cavalcade composed of the exonerated cattlemen rode up to the little cabin occupied by the destitute family of the dead man, told the widow they were sorry that they had been compelled to kill her husband and presented \$1,000 in gold to her.

ONTARIO.

FEELING AGAINST A TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES.

(Special Correspondence of the 'Witness'.)

Toronto, Dec. 31.—The feeling against a treaty with the United States is decidedly on the increase here. So far as I am able to ascertain there is not a single person in favor of a treaty of any sort. A while ago it was 'a good treaty or none,' now it is 'no treaty at all.' The reasons for this change are not hard to discover. The chief one is the general conviction that no treaty favorable to Canada is now possible, and that any treaty must be of the nature of a sacrifice of Canadian interests to something else. Hardly less intense is the antipathy of the people to make any such sacrifice in the interest of British Imperialism, and it is felt that this is the explanation of the desire to secure some kind of a treaty. People who favor Imperialism prefer to express their love for the Empire in some other way than sacrifice of Canadian territorial sovereignty. There might be no great objection to a subsidy to pay a fair share of the expenses of the navy, but there is a great and persistent objection to selling out for money such a territorial right as that to pelagic sealing in the Pacific. Not one believes that there is any desire on the part of the Canadian Government to renew futile negotiations, and it is generally felt that they are to be continued at the instance of the Imperial Government speaking through Lord Herschell. If such a treaty as is expected is the outcome it will be a death-blow to the Imperial movement here, and strenuous and general efforts will be made to secure its defeat in parliament. This seems to be the feeling outside as well as inside of Toronto, and, if one may judge from the daily expressions of opinion among prominent Liberals, the situation is full of danger to the Laurier administration, no matter what concessions may be secured from the United States. The most notable feature of the local situation just now is

THE RETURN OF PROSPERITY.

This city has never been so hopeful or buoyant for fifteen years past, if ever. There is a marked increase in building operations, and yet rents show an upward tendency. New industries are coming to Toronto, and old ones are full of life. Population, which had become almost stationary, is rapidly increasing. The taxation, though heavy, is not more so than it is in municipalities generally, while Toronto is fortunate in having a large amount of real property to offset its city debt. The latter is heavier than it ought to be, and it will have to be increased in order to provide some other means of disposing of sewage than pouring it into the bay to impede navigation and endanger the public health. Application is to be made to the Dominion Government for some further improvement of the harbor, in order to make it accessible to vessels drawing the maximum depth of the canals, and to continue shallowing the bay with sewage, would be the surest way to defeat such a proposal. The new City Council will have some important matters to decide, and this is perhaps the most important and also the most urgent of them. The return of better times, together with other features of the present situation, has aroused in the minds of the people of Toronto a great interest in

THE RAILWAY PROBLEM.

The direct connection of the North-West with Montreal by the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has placed Toronto at some disadvantage, and there will be a persistent effort to overcome this by securing the construction of a railway by way of Parry Sound to Sudbury. This would help to overcome the difficulty caused by the want of proper connection between the Grand Trunk and the Ottawa and Parry Sound Railway, at Scotia Junction. The building of a railway from Pembroke south-westerly to Golden Lake, on the latter line, has suggested the construction of a road from this side to meet it, and it seems not unlikely that the new road from Kinmount to Bancroft will be available for that purpose. This would bring Pembroke as near to Toronto by rail as it now is to Montreal, and so of all places up the Canadian Pacific to a point where it would be more convenient to come and go by way of North Bay. The greatest start Toronto ever made in the way of expansion was caused largely by the aid she gave in the construction of the Ontario and Nipissing, and the Grey and Bruce lines, more than a quarter of a century ago. This was followed up by the development of the Credit Valley system, to which also she was a liberal contributor. Two of these lines are now incorporated with the Canadian Pacific, and the third with the Grand Trunk, but it is safe to say that they would not have been built for years, if ever, but for the bonuses granted by this city at the instance of the late George Laidlaw, who projected all three lines.

MONTREAL NEWS.

Perils of the St. Lawrence in December were exemplified on Friday afternoon, when an ice shove took place. Six men and four horses were cutting and harvesting ice opposite Longueuil. The horses were drowned and the ice-cutting plant destroyed. The men were saved with much difficulty.

In the parish of St. Gabriel, Melvina Goulet, twenty years old, of 41 J'Argen-

son street, went out on the afternoon after Christmas to see the parish church decorations. While looking at them, engrossed with the pleasure of the scene, the young woman suddenly turned faint and died almost instantly afterwards.

On Tuesday afternoon an unknown man was cut to pieces by a Grand Trunk train near Vaudreuil. In the pockets of the unfortunate man's coat were a few silver pieces and copies of the 'Star,' 'Presse,' and 'Witness' newspapers of Nov. 5, addressed to the Roy & Boire Drug Company, Pearl street, Manchester, N.H.

At three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon it was 36 above zero, and at 11 a.m., on Wednesday it was six below—a sufficiently sudden change to the appearance of everything. The wind blew thirty miles an hour at 11 o'clock a.m. It was about this hour that a boy got into the water near Bonsecours market. He was rescued and sent to the hospital.

A rumor that Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal was ill and had in consequence cancelled his passage on the steamer from New York on Saturday, was denied. His Lordship, whose labors since his arrival, recently, from London have been heavy and onerous for even a young man, has been obliged to defer his departure because of unfinished business, not because of illness.

Special Constables Laroque and Byrne, of the Dominion Guarantee Company, had to face a revolver in the hands of one of three men, early on Saturday morning at the corner of Craig and Bluary streets. There was a scuffle after a shot had been fired, and one of the three, who gave his name as James Murray, was arrested. One of those who escaped is described as a noted burglar, 'Buck' Taylor by name.

Hector Royal, foreman of section No. 1 on the Soulanges Canal, was swept into the water at Coteau du Lac on Wednesday and drowned. The rope used for raising the boiler was at fault and the foreman, it is stated, had heard the remonstrance of a workman on the subject without heeding it. The body was not long in the water; but was not recovered in time to save life. A widow and a family of small children are left without a bread-winner.

Considerable interest is taken in the application for a license to sell intoxicating liquor in the new Guy street theatre. Mr. Frank Murphy has applied for the same, with a large list of names, many of which were those of good citizens, who were induced to sign the application on the belief that they were doing so for a club or semi-private license for sale of liquor within the theatre and only during the hours of the performance. A strong opposition is being made to the application.

Mr. F. X. Choquet, Q.C., a lawyer of the firm of Beausoleil, Choquet & Girard, a graduate of McGill University, of which he is B.C.L., has been appointed in the place of Police Magistrate Dugas, who has gone to the Klondike. Mr. Dugas will be remembered by readers of the 'Witness' as he who had the interview with the late Donald Morrison, who was known as the Rob Roy of Megantic. Mr. Choquet was partner with the Hon. Lieutenant-Governor Jetté prior to the elevation of the latter, when he was a member of the firm of Jetté & Beique.

The Montreal Reform Club on Wednesday night elected their officers for 1899 as follows:—Hon. President, the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier; hon. vice-presidents, the Hon. F. G. Marchand, the Hon. Sydney A. Fisher; president, the Hon. Senator Dandurand; vice-presidents, Messrs. E. Goff Penny, M.P.; the Hon. J. J. Guerin, M.P.P.; treasurer, E. G. O'Connor; joint secretaries, Fred. H. Markey, Godfrey Lamlois; council, Robert Mackay, J. A. Drouin, James McShane, J. P. B. Casgrain, J. S. Brierley, Victor Geoffroy, F. W. Hibbard, L. A. Lapointe, Samuel Coulson, Joseph Lamarche, James Cochrane, Honore Gervais.

Mr. John James Day, Q.C., 93 years of age, the oldest lawyer in Montreal, died on Thursday morning at three o'clock. He was born in London, England, on Sept. 11, 1805, was called to the bar in 1834, and was a captain in the volunteers during the rebellion of 1837-38. He took a leading part in public life, and in the troubles of 1849 went alone to Lord Elgin, at Monklands, to assert his authority as the Queen's representative. He aided in securing Viger square to the city, assisted in the establishment of the Montreal High School and Mount Royal Academy. The deceased gentleman leaves two sons and two daughters. The youngest of the latter is the wife of His Lordship Bishop Baldwin, of Huron.

A murderous encounter was had between detectives and burglars on Tuesday morning last in the store of T. S. Lamer, 219 Rachel street. Detectives Guerin and Riopel learned from the movements of two suspected men that they would rob it, and surely enough at 2 o'clock they heard the two men at work. The malefactors did not calculate on finding the detectives in the store, and when the man who had entered was surprised by Detective Riopel, he slashed him with a butcher knife on the face and head until Detective Guerin's baton felled him. He was then secured and gave the name of Felix Dumont, of 1713 Demontigny street. His confederate did not make appearance in the store, and escaped capture.

MRS. MAYBRICK.

A Washington despatch says: Friends of Mrs. Maybrick, imprisoned in England for murdering her husband, are making renewed efforts to secure her release.

SUMMARY.

It is reported that the plague has appeared in the Delagoa Bay district.

An Alpine avalanche destroyed part of the village of Airolo, near the south end of the St. Gothard Railway tunnel, Switzerland, last week. Fortunately, but three persons were injured.

It is stated that the arbitration between the Grand Trunk Railway Company and the telegraphers in the company's employ, suggested by the general manager, Mr. Hays, will open in Toronto, on Jan. 6.

It was stated in the Toronto 'Evening Telegram's' London despatches, last week, that a commission will be appointed in February to arrange the details for carrying out the project of a Pacific cable, as recently outlined by Sir Sandford Fleming.

Cairo despatches last week showed that some anxiety existed at the presence of the Emperor Menelik with his army at Galabat. It was feared his army might come into collision with the British-Egyptian forces in that part of the Sudan.

The 'Matin,' published in Paris, says that France would probably be inclined to renounce all rights along the Newfoundland shore; but the compensation for the renunciation, must be large, since renunciation would entail the loss of French sovereignty in the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon.

A Washington despatch of Wednesday says that the Spaniards surrendered the city of Iloilo to the insurgents on December 23. The insurgents had been besieging the city for some months, and had their flag flying when the United States forces reached the scene.

A despatch from Salt Lake City says that Congressman-elect Robert, the Mormon, against whose seat in Congress opposition has been threatened, has declared that he will go to Washington and be in his place to defend himself personally, and the Mormon theory and practice of religion also.

The statement was made in Rome on Wednesday that a group of English capitalists had just concluded an arrangement for lease of the entire Italian colony on the Red Sea and African coast known as Erythrae. The term is twenty years, and the Italian Government is to get an annuity of one million dollars and a royalty on net profits.

Despatches to London, from Johannesburg, last week, indicated much unrest on the part of Uitlanders. An Englishman named Edgar was shot by a Boer policeman, and a public meeting was held denouncing the act and the manner in which the Boer Government had acted toward the policeman. A petition to the Queen of Great Britain, largely signed, was publicly given to the British consul.

The expedition sent out by the Swedish Government in search of Andrée, the Arctic explorer, who left Tromsø Island, Norway, in July, on a balloon search for the North Pole, has now returned, having spent months of search in north Siberia. Shortly after Andrée's disappearance a ship captain reported having seen, floating in the White Sea, what seemed to be a collapsed balloon; but this was not deemed conclusive proof that it was a balloon.

PASPEBIAC HARBOR.

WHAT WORK IS BEING DONE THERE.

In an interview with a local journalist yesterday, Mr. J. M. Shanley, C.E., who has charge of the construction of the Atlantic and Lake Superior Railway along the Baie des Chaleurs route, is reported as giving some interesting details regarding the work now being done at the harbor of Paspebiac. The large wharf which is being built at this point by Messrs. Heney and Smith, of Ottawa, will be, when completed, 1,800 feet in length and eighty feet in width, and will accommodate two steamships of the largest tonnage, besides smaller craft further landward. A large elevator, to have a capacity of 1,000,000 bushels, will be situated near the end of the wharf; this has already been contracted for. The steamers will be protected from all winds while lying in the harbor, where, according to Mr. Shanley, the anchorage is of the best possible kind.

Mr. Shanley also stated that what was known to the Barchois Lagoons would be reclaimed, a work which could be done with but little trouble or expense, and the land in question used as a slushing ground.

Six hundred men are at work blasting the cliff, which lies between New Carlisle and Paspebiac, and half of this work has already been accomplished. The railway, Mr. Shanley said, was in good condition and the stone work for the new bridge over the Big Bonaventure river was completed and awaiting the superstructure.

CAPTAIN COOKE'S DEATH.

KILLED BY A DEMENTED BROTHER OFFICER.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 30.—The details are to hand of the death, in South Africa, of the late Capt. W. E. Cooke, late of A Battery, this city, and a graduate of the Royal Military College. Capt. Cooke was not shot by a native, as at first reported, but by a brother officer, who was suffering from temporary insanity at the time. The terrible tragedy occurred at the end of September, in the Uganda protectorate. It appears that Capt. Dugmore, late of the Royal Navy, and an official of the protectorate, owing to the excitement and hardships which he had undergone during the recent Uganda campaign, lost control of his mental faculties, and in a moment of aberration shot Capt. Cooke. The latter officer died shortly after, and as the result Captain Dugmore was arrested. At the time he committed the act, Capt. Dugmore was at Machakos. He, in fact, was being conveyed there by his friends to be placed under medical treatment. After his arrest he was brought to Mombasa to await his trial. While at that port, however, his illness became more serious, and it was found impossible for him to plead. On Thursday, Nov. 10, he died, and was buried the same day. The cause of death was, in addition to brain disorder, hemiplegia and general exhaustion.

Capt. Dugmore had been in Uganda for a very long time, and was better acquainted with the country than any other European. Mr. H. Farnell, of the British Foreign Office, London, writing to Mrs. Cooke, mother of the deceased, at Moncton, N.B., says Capt. Dugmore had at first apparently recovered from his mental aberration, but while sitting with some comrades, Capt. Cooke among the number, the officer suddenly sprang to his feet, seized a rifle and fired before a hand could be raised to prevent him. The shot took effect on Captain Cooke, who was killed instantly.

THE LATE CHIEF VINCENT.

Quebec, Dec. 30.—As already wired, Philippe Vincent, grand chief of the Huron Indians of Lorette, near this city, who had been seriously ill for some time past, died on Wednesday night at Lorette at the age of fifty-nine years and three months. He was the eldest son of the late Philippe Vincent, who was grand chief of the tribe down to about twenty or twenty-five years ago, but inherited few of the qualities which rendered his father so remarkable as the head of the remnant of a dying race, and so popular among the officers of Her Majesty's troops when in garrison here, and among American and other tourists visit-



THE LATE CHIEF OF THE HURONS.

ing Quebec. The dignity of grand chief of the tribe not being hereditary, but elective, 'Jeengaiasta,' as he was called in Huron, the grand chief just deceased, did not succeed his father or attain it until within the last two or three years, when he was elected to the office on the death of the last incumbent, Grand Chief Bastien. Deceased, however, looked more like the typical Indian than most of the other of the Hurons of Lorette at the present day and, when decked out in full war costume, in which he frequently appeared in national and other processions in this city, invariably attracted much attention. He was fairly well educated and well to do, carrying on a small but lucrative business in Indian wares and curiosities. He was married to a French-Canadian woman, a Miss Falardeau, of Lorette, who survives him. A younger brother, the Rev. Mr. Vincent, is said to have been the first Indian elevated to the Roman Catholic priesthood. His funeral and interment are to take

place according to the Roman Catholic rite at Lorette to-morrow morning.

His death leaves only one Indian in Lorette with any pretensions to pure aboriginal blood, Madame Gros Louis.

A FATAL EMBRACE.

New York, Dec. 29.—Mrs. Charles Dewey is dying from injuries sustained as a result of being hugged by Miss Clara Neifegold, a sixteen year old girl, says a Pottsville, Pa., despatch, to an afternoon paper. She is seventy years old. A few minutes after the young girl's enthusiastic greeting the old lady fell to the floor unconscious. It was found that several bones had been broken and that the cartilage had been torn from the breast bone.

BENEFITS OF BICYCLES.

PROMINENT LONDON PHYSICIAN FAVORS OUTDOOR SPORTS FOR WOMEN.

Dr. William Ewart, a very prominent London, England, physician, has revived the question of the effect of bicycling, especially on women. He scouts the idea of some learned physicians that the exercise dulls the brain.

'The bicycle,' he says, 'is doing more than any other of the physical pursuits to build up splendid women. It is completely revolutionizing the tenor of the female existence. Though bicycling among young women only dates back a few years, already they are attaining greater stature and weight. Young girls are showing brighter eyes, better complexions and stronger nerves, and much of this is due to bicycling.'

The growing popularity of golf among women he also has no doubt had something to do with this improvement, and it is the doctors' duty, says Dr. Ewart, to do all they can to encourage athletics by the young. It is the only way to build up the race, which is beginning to deteriorate in this age of unrest and nervous strain.

WAR ON MORMONISM.

QUESTION OF ALLOWING THE POLYGAMOUS MEMBER FROM UTAH TO SIT IN CONGRESS.

New York, Dec. 30.—A meeting under the direction of the Presbyterian Women's Board of Home Missions was held in the assembly rooms at 156 Fifth avenue a few days since, to protest against the seating of Brigham H. Roberts, an avowed polygamist, as representative from Utah to the fifty-sixth Congress. Mrs. Darwin R. James, who presided, introduced the Rev. William R. Campbell. Mr. Campbell spent ten years in Utah, and he congratulated the board on the object of the meeting, 'upon the eve of the fiercest battle that has ever been waged by Mormonism against our Christian civilization.'

He in turn introduced Eugene Young, a grandson of Brigham Young. Mr. Young said in part:— 'There seems to be an inclination to view the election to Congress of Brigham H. Roberts, three or four polygamist, as an unavoidable outcome of old conditions in Utah, and a mere question of personal morality. "He is no worse than a dozen other men in Congress," they say. Some day they will see, as those who know Mormon ambitions see now, that he is a mere instrument, the representative of mighty forces. Through his election a people 300,000 strong have turned from American liberty and morality, and have taken the initial step toward a hierarchy foreign to our institutions and social laws. He is nothing outside of Mormonism, and has proved that the word of the Mormon elders is his law, that he is willing to sacrifice his American liberty to carry out their demands. If he were merely a law-breaker, frowned on by his people, it would be a waste of time to make an effort against him, but in dragging polygamy into the House of Representatives he is representing the defiant sentiment of the whole Mormon people, then we must not rest until Congress has cast him out.

The Rev. D. Stuart Dodge, president of the Board of Home Missions, spoke on the necessity for active work against the seating of Mr. Roberts, and Mrs. F. S. Bennett spoke on the part the women should take in the work.

PLUCKED LIVE CHICKENS.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—Rabbi Doglia Ararovsky and his assistant were sent to jail yesterday in default of a fine imposed by Magistrate Harrison, before whom they were arraigned on the charge of plucking live chickens. Rabbi Ararovsky and his assistant had been arrested at the instance of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The agent of the society testified that he had seen the accused pluck a live chicken in the market place. The Rabbi said the chickens had been killed according to the Jewish religion. The defendants were fined \$10 each, and, upon refusal to pay it, were sent to jail.

GALE ON THE BRITISH COAST.

London, Dec. 27.—A fierce gale is sweeping over the British coasts to-day. The cross-channel services have been interrupted and several wrecks have been reported. Trees have been blown down in London and there have been several fatalities.

BISHOP SULLIVAN ILL.

Toronto, Dec. 28.—The Right Rev. Bishop Sullivan is at present very ill and is confined to his bed. Dr. Cameron is in attendance.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

A Tremendously Costly Undertaking.

WILL THE UNITED STATES CARRY IT THROUGH?

Great Britain and Canada should not for a moment stand in the way of the United States undertaking the construction of the Nicaragua canal if the government and Congress decide upon doing so. The Clayton-Bulwer treaty, by which the United States and Great Britain agreed that neither of them should undertake as a government work the construction of the Nicaraguan canal or acquire or occupy any land or erect any fortifications on the isthmus, nor seek to control the canal, but both should encourage and support any company, has proved an obstacle to the construction of the canal, and, in view of all the circumstances, should be modified with the friendly assent of both nations should the United States desire it, with, of course, compensation in the shape of guarantees of the use of the canal by British vessels on the same terms as American vessels. The obstacles in the way of construction, the instability of the Central American republics, their numerous rebellions and wars, which discourage the investment of capital, the great natural engineering difficulties to be overcome, besides the tremendous cost of the project, have so far utterly baffled the most determined and enterprising Amer-

ican capitalists who have attempted to carry it through. Another obstacle to the investment of private capital in the Nicaragua canal is the existence of the Panama canal project, which is yet being carried on with some hopes of ultimate success. Over \$300,000,000 have been expended upon the Panama canal, and it is calculated that it can be finished on the lock system for about \$100,000,000 additional within the six years over which the Panama Company's concessions run. If this canal is completed, and the inducement to the French to carry it through in view of the prospects of the Nicaragua scheme will be great, its completion will render the Nicaraguan canal anything but a profitable project.

The Nicaraguan canal begins at Greytown, on the eastern side—the Atlantic coast—and follows the course of the San Juan river above Ochoa, through Lake Nicaragua, a distance of 129 miles, and thence to the harbor of Brito, on the western side—the Pacific coast. The surface of the lake, 110 feet above the sea, is the summit level. At the eastern end of the lake the San Juan river will be backed up and kept at the lake level by a dam for a distance of 64 miles, then forming an expansion of the lake, which will have a width of 1,000 feet and a depth of from 28 to 130 feet. There are 90 miles of lake navigation, very wide and deep. From the point where the canal leaves Lake Nicaragua on the west to Brito, a distance of 17 miles, three locks are proposed. The canal itself is 80 feet wide at the bottom and 120 feet wide on the enlarged sections. Artificial harbors have to be created at both Greytown and Brito, and great jetties constructed to overcome the difficulties arising from the great deposits of sand which accumulate there owing to the action of the tides and the river currents.

The cost of constructing the canal was in 1887 estimated by Menocal, the civil engineer of the promoters, at \$64,000,000. It was calculated that by 1892 5,000,000 tons of shipping would be ready to seek transit through the canal. With a toll of \$2.50 a ton, this would yield a gross income of \$12,500,000, \$500,000 of which would cover ordinary operating expenses, leaving net receipts of \$12,000,000, or six percent on \$200,000,000.

On the strength of these very favorable reports United States capitalists formed the Nicaragua Canal Company, which was incorporated by Congress in 1889, and secured concessions from the Nicaraguan Government, for which it paid \$100,000 in gold. Two million dollars was to be spent the first year in actual construction, and the government was to receive six percent of all the shares, bonds or certificates the company might issue. After the first ten years the company was not to distribute among its share-

holders an annual dividend of more than fifteen percent. The concessions were for 99 years. A period of three and a half years for surveys, and a further period of ten years for construction, was allowed by the Nicaraguan Government under the contract. In the first year 19 miles of the route were cleared, 60 miles of telegraph erected, and steam dredges were set to work at the Greytown end.

In 1891, the company having spent \$4,000,000, issued certificates of stock for \$20,000,000, and bonds for \$5,933,000, and asked the United States to guarantee \$100,000,000 of bonds. This was rejected. In 1892 a bill passed Congress limiting the capital stock to \$100,000,000, cancelling all stock and bonds except those held by Costa Rica and Nicaragua, reimbursing the Maritime Company for its legitimate expenditures, and providing for the construction of the canal by the United States. This bill was vetoed by the President. In April, 1895, President Cleveland appointed a board of experts to investigate and report upon the feasibility, permanence and cost of a Nicaraguan canal, and as to the advisability of it as a government enterprise. After an investigation on the spot the commission reported that it would be necessary for the government to spend \$350,000 upon a survey which would take eighteen months, before the feasibility of it and the cost could be finally judged. The commission's estimate of the cost was \$133,472,893—more than double that of former estimates.

In April, 1897, on information given by the president of the Maritime Canal Company, that the Nicaraguan Government contemplated the revocation of the concessions, the State Department at Washington made diplomatic representations to Nicaragua which were effective for the moment, and on the authority of Congress a second commission was appointed to make a new survey of the route, and report to the United States Government. This commission has just reported, confirming the estimates of the former commission, that a canal 30 feet deep, 100 feet wide at the bottom and 169 miles from ocean to ocean, would cost about \$130,000,000.

Sagacious authorities are of the opinion that the work will cost probably \$160,000,000 or \$170,000,000 if it is carried out. The Panama Canal Company, through its president, offered its concessions and works to President McKinley, as representing the American Government, for \$300,000,000, an offer which was summarily rejected. The Panama canal president declared that the canal would be completed within the period fixed by the concessions—six years—and that it would be prepared to offer the keenest competition to a rival canal if one were constructed. The American Government has a treaty with the Columbian Government securing it the most favored nation treatment for its vessels in any canal constructed within the territories of that republic.

Washington, D.C., Dec. 30.—Copies of the preliminary report of the Nicaragua Canal Commission, of which Admiral Walker is chairman, have been furnished to Senator Morgan and others interested in the bill now pending in Congress on that subject.

The commission has not fully worked out all the details of construction of the proposed canal, but the report simply presents briefly the views of the commissioners as to the feasibility of the work and the maximum cost at which it is believed the waterway can be constructed.

London, Dec. 29.—The Paris correspondent of the 'Times' says:—'At the annual meeting of the new Panama Company yesterday a long report was read. In addition to showing that no definite plan has yet been adopted for the completion of the canal, the report refers to the American interest in the Nicaragua route since the Hispano-American war and indicates the means taken to acquaint the United States Government and the American people with the position and prospects of the Panama Canal. On this point it says:—'We have offered to place at the disposal of the United States every facility for examining our works and plans, which will easily convince them of the superiority, from all points of view, of the Panama route. They will find in the treaties existing between them and Colombia and in the facilities allowed by our statutes all the guarantees and advantages which their national interests can reasonably require. The Panama route is indisputably the maritime highway which can be opened

to navigation in the shortest time and at the least expense.'

New York, Dec. 30.—A Paris despatch says:—'The Herald's' European edition prints the following:—Russia is evidently beginning a campaign against the Nicaragua canal. The 'Novoe Vremya' publishes an article not only warmly advocating the Panama scheme, but filled with bitter dislike of the United States. The writer says the predominance of the United States would have been desirable for Russia a few years ago, but all this has changed since the last war.

ADAMS POISONING CASE.

AUTHORITIES IN A QUANDRY, AND UNABLE TO OBTAIN A CLUE.

Mrs. Kate J. Adams, a well-to-do woman, was fatally poisoned in New York, on Wednesday, in her handsomely furnished apartments on 86th street. Her death is connected with a curious and suspicious chain of events.

Mrs. Adams was a widow, 50 years old. She lived with her son-in-law, Edward Rogers, general agent, in this city, of the Hartford (Conn.) Insurance Company. Harry Cornish, a well-known athlete and physical director of the Knickerbocker Athletic Club, boards with the Rogeres.

Mrs. Adams awoke this morning with a bad headache. Her daughter, Mrs. Rogers, advised her to take some bromo-seltzer. Mrs. Rogers remembered that there was some bromo-seltzer in Mr. Cornish's room. This she got and gave to her mother, who took a fair-sized dose. In a few seconds Mrs. Adams was in

great pain, and evidently suffering from the effects of a strong poison. Dr. Hitchcock was called in by Mr. Cornish. He tried to counteract the effects of the poison, after tasting the alleged bromo-seltzer and declaring it to be cyanide of potassium. Mr. Cornish also tasted the poisonous stuff. In a few minutes Mr. Cornish and Dr. Hitchcock were prostrated by the effects of the slight quantity of poison they had taken. Dr. Parker was called in. He revived the two men, but Mrs. Adams died.

Mr. Cornish states that on Christmas day he received a neat package addressed to himself containing a sterling silver medicine bottle holder in a Tiffany box, and in the holder was a bottle marked bromo-seltzer. The package was anonymously sent, but Mr. Cornish says he thought nothing of this, as he frequently gets presents in this way. It was this bottle that Mrs. Rogers got for her mother. Mr. Cornish says he cannot think who could have had any designs on his life.

New York, Dec. 29.—The Adams-Cornish poisoning case remains as great a mystery as ever. When the detective bureau, the district attorney's office, the coroner's office and others seeking to find a solution of the strange case ended their labors for the day all said nothing had been learned that might assist in bringing the guilty persons to justice.

A MOSQUITO INQUIRY

ONE OF CHAMBERLAIN'S RECENT ORDERS PRODUCING MERRIMENT.

A good deal of quiet fun is being made in official circles in London England, at the expense of Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, who, having become convinced through the reports of scientists that the malarial fevers which render so many of the British tropical colonies injurious to the white races are due in a great measure to mosquitoes, has issued an official circular calling upon the governor of every colony to furnish the Colonial Department here with all the information that he can obtain concerning the different species of mosquitoes in his dependency. Accompanying the Colonial Secretary's circular letter are printed directions prepared by the officers of the Natural History Museum at South Kensington, directing the governor's how to collect mosquitoes, and to prepare them for conveyance to London.

KILLED SIX PEOPLE.

CALIFORNIA MURDERER BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN CAPTURED IN COLUMBUS.

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 30.—There is under arrest in this city a man whom the police have strong reason to believe is James C. Dunham, for whom there is a reward of eleven thousand dollars offered, dead or alive, at San Jose, Cal. He was picked up here by Detective Louis Wolf, of the local force, as a suspicious character, he having offered a lot of goods for sale at about twenty percent of the actual value. He gave the name of Harry Wilson, when arrested, but when in court he said his right name was Harry Church, and that he was born in Sacramento, Cal., from which point he started out two years ago. At different places here before his arrest he gave the names of H. V. Morris, F. H. Ross, Harry Lewis, Harry Howard. He has been in this city for about a month, all the time under surveillance. Mrs. Church is here in the city, but she says she knows very little about her husband, having met him but two years ago, and does not even know his business. They were married in Illinois.

The crime for which Dunham, whom Church is suspected of being, is wanted, is a most atrocious one. At a lonely farm house between San Jose and Los Gatos, Santa Clara County, Cal., on the night of Tuesday, May 26, 1896, James C. Dunham slew all the occupants of the residence save one, his baby boy. His wife, her mother, her stepfather, her brother, and man and maid servant were sacrificed. They were all members of the family of R. P. McGlinchy. The deed was carefully planned. Dunham came to his wife in the night and gave her a chance to write a message to those whom she believed would be spared. Then his fingers fastened around her throat and the woman was strangled. Next minute, Chessler, a servant, was slain, her skull being cleft with an axe. Mrs. McGlinchy shared the same fate. The three murdered men were at Campbell when the three women were killed. Col. McGlinchy came first. As he opened the door he was met by a bullet. He turned to seek safety in flight, and James K. Wells, his step-son, rushed to his assistance. Wells was shot through the heart and instantly killed. Jumping over his body, Dunham pursued the older man. He caught him at a nearby cabin, and ended his misery. Robert A. Brisco, who sheltered McGlinchy, was also shot to death. Dunham escaped despite strenuous efforts to capture him.

VITALITY OF ABSTAINERS.

TALK OF DISCRIMINATION BY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN THEIR FAVOR.

New York, Dec. 30.—The vitality of abstainers and non-abstainers seems to be interesting acturaries in all parts of the world just now. The disclosures from investigations undertaken by Mr. Emory McClintock in this country and Mr. James Meikle, secretary of the Faculty of Actuaries (Scotland), have strengthened the opinion of many that abstainers form without doubt the best class of risks, the mortality in their favor (as compared with other groups of men of the same age and similarly constituted) being sufficient to justify discrimination by the companies. Others believe that while the showings have been suggestive, indicating perhaps the direction of important reforms, the data thus far collected are scarcely sufficient or of such accuracy as to warrant interference at this time. Temperance enthusiasts have also taken up the discussion, claiming a death loss among non-drinking classes far below that reported among ordinary risks. The chief question now is, what does the real difference amount to? Statistics offered by some suggest that the vitality of abstainers is from 25 to 50 percent greater than that of other people. This is, no doubt, excessive, but with the collection of additional data the problem will no doubt be solved before very long.

GERMANY PREFERS THE FRIENDSHIP OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The Berlin 'Vossische Zeitung' makes short work of the question of a rapprochement between France and Germany mooted by the French papers. It writes as follows:—

'In Germany no one treats the matter as serious. For Germans there is no Alsace-Lorraine question. No person on this side of the Vosges ever discusses the relinquishment or the neutrality of Alsace-Lorraine even in return for all the French colonies.'

The 'National Zeitung' discusses the common interests of Great Britain and Germany, which, it says, are principally of a commercial and political nature, and lie in China and that portion of America not belonging to the United States.

Speaking of China, the article continues:—'We must, therefore, take care that China does not come under the sway of another power, which might establish its tax collectors there. English commerce has the same interests. The English policy of the "open door," giving equal rights to all nations, is, therefore, the policy required in the interests of our export trade.'

COLD AT WEST SUPERIOR.

West Superior, Wis., Dec. 31.—The thermometer shows 31 degrees below zero. The mercury was 24 below during the night.

THE TRANSVAAL.

THE SITUATION BECOMING WORSE.

London, Dec. 30.—The Johannesburg correspondent of the 'Daily Mail,' who utters a warning against the optimistic reports cabled to London in the Kruger interest, says:—'I have interviewed the British consul, who says that the Saturday demonstration impressed him as based upon deep public feeling, while the deputation which presented the petition was, to his personal knowledge, composed of men of high character and standing.'

'Signs are multiplying that the Witwatersrand sentiment has been roused to the point of asserting claims for justice. The ex-reform leaders are debarred, under pain of banishment, from interfering in politics, but they declare that despite Pretoria terrorism they will not keep silence much longer. The present temper of the community is such that opposing demonstrations will almost inevitably be followed by serious riots.'

'I learn, on high authority, that during the negotiations at Pretoria regarding Saturday's demonstration, the British agent carefully avoided any admission that the British Government assented to the public meetings act. He even suggested that Great Britain might test the legality of that measure under the London Convention.'

'The present position has aroused the deepest public excitement known since the Jameson raid, and it is plain that something must be done quickly to terminate a humiliating and intolerable situation.'

London, Dec. 30.—The Capetown correspondent of the 'Daily Mail' says:—'President Kruger, in the course of an interview, has asserted that he deprecates the warlike article published on Wednesday by the Boer organ, the 'Rand Post,' and declares that he will prohibit the proposed anti-Jameson demonstration.'

UGANDA'S RAILWAY

MAN-EATING LIONS THINNING THE STAFF.

The railway from Mombasa (the seat of administration in British East Africa) to Uganda, is creeping up steadily.

Mr. Frederick Jackson, who was twice Acting-Commissioner for Uganda, has informed a representative of Reuter's Agency that when he left the country the rail head was at Mikindee river, some 215 miles from the coast and about a third of the way to the proposed terminus on the Victoria Lake.

It is expected that the railway will be completed in about three years. There is now a through train every day with first, second, and third-class carriages, all excellent of their kind, the first-class being fitted with corridor-cars.

Occasionally the train is brought to a standstill while the driver takes a shot at a guinea-fowl or an ostrich. Lions are very numerous along the route, and the houses of the Indian laborers are surrounded by lion-proof stockades fifty feet high and six feet to eight feet thick. One of these man-eaters who had disposed at different times of seventeen coolies, one day unsuccessfully attacked a luggage van.

The stations of the Uganda Railway (which is a single line) are well-built structures not unlike the smaller country stations in England, and the line is substantially constructed.

Mr. Jackson was of opinion that serious danger in the future from the Sudan mutineers and the ex-King Mwanga was unlikely.

FIGHTING IN EAST AFRICA.

BRITISH EXPEDITION ATTACKED BY REBELS—SERIOUS LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES.

Advices at Calcutta last week from British East Africa say that on Oct. 10 a force of rebels attacked a detachment of thirty men belonging to the 27th Baluchis, commanded by Lieut. Hannynon, which was marching to Masindi. A native officer and twelve men were killed and nine men were wounded, including Lieut. Hannynon, who was shot through the right arm and had his left hand shattered by a bullet. The rebels repulsed the enemy and the wounded were conveyed fourteen miles to Kisalizi, on the western shore of Lake Kioga, which place was held by a company of Baluchis. The rebels lost a hundred men. Later, rebels attacked Kisalizi and lost twenty-five men. The casualties on the British side were two men wounded. Troops,

the advices added, were dispatched to pursue the rebels.

The Baluchis engaged originally belonged to Colonel Martyr's expedition, which left Uganda in October, going in the direction of the Nile, with the object of joining General Kitchener's forces. The Baluchis were left behind in Unyore in order to dispose of the remnant of the Soudanese force which rebelled under Macdonald and took refuge at Unyore.

GRENFELL LEAVES CAIRO.

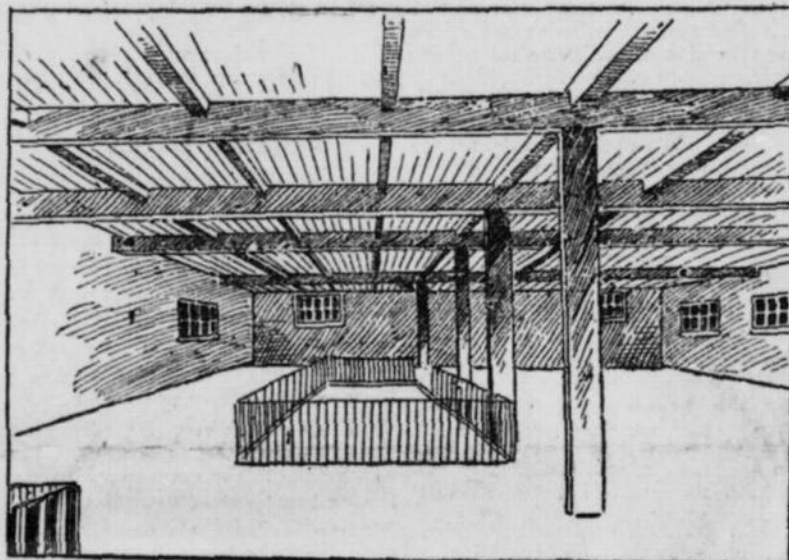
Cairo, Dec. 26.—A farewell banquet was tendered last evening to Lieut. Governor Sir Francis Grenfell, the recently appointed Governor of Malta, who now retires from the supreme command of the Anglo-Egyptian army. The presence of Mr. Thomas S. Harrison, United States agent and consul-general, and Mr. Ethelbert Watts, United States vice-consul-general, led to an Anglo-American demonstration. General Grenfell, Mr. James Rennell-O. Redd, secretary of legation at the British agency, spoke warmly of Anglo-Saxon friendship. Mr. Harrison, who was received with immense enthusiasm, made a stirring speech, in the course of which he reciprocated their friendly expressions.

WHERE HEROES DANCED.

THE BALL GIVEN BY THE DUCHESS OF RICHMOND WAS HELD IN A COACH HOUSE.

(London 'Daily Mail'.)

It has at last been settled after a great many years of controversy, where the ball given by the Duchess of Richmond was held on the night before the battle of Waterloo. This was probably the most famous ball in history. Thackeray has described how British officers danced there all night, and rode straight



THE WATERLOO BALL-ROOM FINALLY IDENTIFIED.

from the ball-room to the battle-field. The Duke of Wellington is believed to have been there himself early in the evening. For many years it was supposed that this great ball was held in the house of the Duchess of Richmond, at Brussels. But it has now been settled that the ball was a matter of fact took place in a coach-house in the immediate neighborhood. The visitor to Brussels who inquires about the scene of the ball invariably receives the reply, 'Cela n'existe plus.' But it does exist.

True, the house of the Duke of Richmond was long since demolished; but, as already explained, the dance took place in what is now a coach-builder's



THE ENTRANCE FROM THE RUE DE LA BLANCHISSERIE.

depot, the house adjoining, which fronts the Rue de la Blanchisserie, and is numbered 40 and 42.

We are enabled to publish a sketch of the scene of that notable dance, which was attended by England's greatest general, and by men who were destined in a few hours to give up their lives in the world's most famous battle.

The Duchess of Richmond's guests entered by the large doors indicated in the sketch, and found themselves in the dancing room, which is 120 feet long, 54 feet wide, and 13 feet high. The room is capable of holding about four hundred persons.

Byron's reference to 'that high hall' is nothing more nor less than poetical license. Britishers will be pleased to learn that this notable building still exists, despite the assurance to the contrary of the guides of Brussels.

MURDEROUS WORK IN VIENNA.

Vienna, Dec. 31.—The body of Franziska Koefer, an unfortunate woman, has been found in her apartments here skillfully decapitated by an unknown 'Jack the Ripper.' It is only recently that similar work on women in Amsterdam and Brussels occurred, and the police entertain the theory that a mania among the 'Rippers' has occurred.

ITALY AND THE POPE

HIS HOLINESS AND THE CIVIL LIST ACCUMULATIONS—HE LOSES SEVERAL MILLIONS.

Rome, Dec. 30.—In order to understand the extraordinary bitterness of the speech of the Pope in reply to the Christmas congratulations offered by the members of the sacred college and of the papal household, it must be explained that the Vatican has been despoiled of fifteen million dollars by the Italian Government, which is all the more disagreeable owing to the fact that the Papacy is debarred by its own policy from making any public protest.

When the Italian Government took possession of Rome in 1870 it undertook to pay each year into the papal treasury a sum of between \$600,000 and \$700,000 to serve as a civil list for the holy father, and as a compensation. Neither the present pontiff nor his predecessor has ever drawn any of this money, taking the ground that to do so would imply an acceptance of the present condition of affairs and a recognition of the abolition of the temporal power of the papacy. Moreover, the two pontiffs rightly took the ground that it would be politic to avoid as long as possible availing themselves of the civil list assured to them by the treaty known as the law of guarantees, that its acceptance would imply a loss of independence, and it is this argument that has always been used in order to increase the offerings of the faithful, the understanding being that unless these were generous the papacy would be compelled to accept the money assigned as civil list by the Italian Government and thus forfeit its independence by placing the Pope in the pay of the Italian Government, precisely in the same way as every other Italian bishop and parish priest. The Vatican has, however, al-

FRENCH NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 31.—The naval authorities here have been officially notified of the intention of France to replace her obsolete war vessels engaged in the fishery protective service on the Newfoundland coast with modern cruisers, one of which is as large as H.M.S. 'Renown.' Owing to this important move on the part of the French authorities Great Britain will put out of commission the obsolete gunboats 'Pelican,' 'Buzzard,' and 'Cordelia,' and substitute for these vessels of sufficient power to cope with the Frenchmen.

FRENCH UMPH IN CHINA.

Extension of Exclusive Settlement at Shanghai Conceded.

London, Dec. 31.—The Shanghai correspondent of the 'Times' says: 'It is officially asserted here that, in spite of the protests of Sir Claude Macdonald (the British minister at Peking) China acceded to the demands for an extension of the exclusive French settlement in Shanghai. This result is due to pressure exercised at Peking and is likely to hamper the negotiations for the extension of the Cosmopolitan settlement, in regard to which the Viceroy of Nankin is disposed to meet the views of the British, American and German consuls.'

'The Viceroy is greatly chagrined at the failure of Great Britain to support his determined policy in the valley of the Yang-tse-Kiang at an important crisis. Satisfactory conclusions are not likely to result from British negotiations anywhere in China so long as the personnel of the Taung-Li-Yamen remains, as now, actively hostile to British interests.'

London, Dec. 31.—The Shanghai correspondent of the 'Daily Mail' says: 'The terms of the final contract respecting the concession to the Anglo-American syndicate of mining and railway privileges in the Province of Sze-Chuen have been agreed upon, and are now being signed. Sze-Chuen is undoubtedly the richest as well as the largest province in China. Great Britain and the United States get the greatest portions, the Chinese and other nationalities getting the balance.'

CUBA AND CUBANS.

VINDICTIVE CONDUCT TOWARDS SPANIARDS WILL BE RE-PRESSED.

Havana, Dec. 29.—No processions or open air assemblages of bands of Cuban soldiers will be allowed in Havana during the first week of January. The plans of the patriotic committees for a dinner to the soldiers in the Prado, and five days of public demonstration will not be permitted. No Cuban soldiers, except as individuals, can enter Havana. Should General Gomez and an armed following, large or small, attempt to reach this city, they will be turned back.

General John R. Brooke, the Governor-General of Cuba, is determined that no outrages upon the retiring or remaining Spaniards will be allowed to occur, and no Spanish stores will be sacked if the Americans can prevent it.

Madrid, Dec. 29.—The newspapers here express the opinion that the decision attributed in this city to President McKinley, to have the treaty of peace ratified in January alters the aspect of political affairs in Spain. Ministerial circles think it better to postpone the settlement of the crisis until the treaty is ratified. There are mysterious rumors of a recent meeting of a dozen generals, the object of which has not been divulged. But it is said that the meeting may importantly affect the situation. The government is believed to be aware that the meeting has taken place and is understood to be taking the steps necessary to prevent undesired developments.

Madrid, Dec. 29.—The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Duke Almedovar Del Rio, and the Minister of the Interior, Senor Capdepon, have thought it advisable to deny as absolutely unfounded the stories of the Republican and Carlist press, affirming that a foreign power is preparing to intervene in the event of the internal and financial affairs of Spain taking a bad turn, and that Great Britain has designs on the Balearic Islands and the Straits of Gibraltar.

Havana, Dec. 29.—Forty convicts who were paying a street near the Prada attempted to escape yesterday to the American lines. They were pursued by the Spanish soldiers and chased back by the Americans. Some were captured but seventeen escaped through houses and over roofs. There is an unusual number of criminals at large.

Senor Luis Rodriguez, the owner of a provision warehouse on the Calzada Calino, was stabbed in the face and back yesterday because he refused to shout 'Vive Cuba Libre.' He is now in the hospital and it is feared that he will die.

THE OPEN DOOR.

London, Dec. 30.—The Dundee 'Advertiser' publishes a despatch from its London correspondent saying that Lord Salisbury will be asked to protest against the establishment of differential duties in the case of either the Philippines or Cuba. The Associated Chambers of Commerce have taken the matter up, and the correspondent is informed that the subject is engaging the attention of the Chambers of Commerce of the manufacturing towns in the North.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

Are spent daily, by the masses, for useless so-called remedies for Colds, and no relief is given. You can cure your Cold by using a twenty-five cent bottle of

GRAY'S SYRUP OF RED SPRUCE GUM

It has no Equal. Sold Everywhere.

Kerry, Watson & Co., PROPRIETORS.

Advertisement for 'Whitlight Wick Co.' featuring a pocket watch and the text 'GIVEN AWAY! We ask not a cent of your money.' The ad lists various watch parts and services available.

HISPANO-AMERICAN WAR.

LONDON PAPERS ON ITS EFFECT ON ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEOPLES.

London, Dec. 31.—By common consent all the annual reviews in the morning papers regard the year 1898 as memorable for the Hispano-American war and the 'manifest destiny' consciousness of the English-speaking peoples. The 'Daily News' referring to President McKinley's speech at Atlanta, says: 'We may approve or disapprove the President's sentiments, but, in any case they are one of the new and most memorable facts of 1898. It is devoutly to be hoped that the United States, as a world power, will be found working in harmony with Great Britain.'

The 'Standard' refers in similar terms to the advent of a new world power and to the 'mighty change which the war has effected in the aims, policy and public sentiment of the United States.'

The 'Times' devotes considerable space to the Hispano-American war, which it regards as of even greater importance than the Nile campaign, 'because it resulted apparently in the definitive adoption of a new imperial and military policy by the United States.' The article applauds the Washington Government for declining to surrender the lives and property of Spaniards in Cuba to the tender mercies of the Cubans, but regrets that no compensation is paid with respect to Cuba, 'although undoubtedly a large part of the Cuban debt was expended on public works in the island.'

The 'Times' pays a high tribute to the 'tranquil and dignified manner in which Spain has accepted her reverses.'

FRENCH ANGLOPHOBISM.

Paris, Dec. 30.—The mediaeval university at Azay le Rideau, in the province of Touraine, which was designed to bring French and English youths together for mutual improvement and a better understanding of each other's ways, has been closed owing to the criticisms of

the jingo local press and the fact that the priests raised trouble about the 'contaminating influence of English thought and manners.'

A BRAVE BOY.

Joseph Brady, of New York, aged 16, was in Flower Hospital in a critical condition after having saved six lives from death by fire last Tuesday. His father, Louis Brady, was at work early in the morning, when fire broke out in his apartments overhead. A clothes-horse by the stove started it, and the flames ran rapidly through the rooms. Joseph's mother and five children became paralyzed with fright, and, unable to move, clung, screaming, together in a back room. Young Joseph dragged his mother, half choked by the blinding smoke, to a rear window and hoisted her out. He carried the children, one by one, and dropped them one through the window, which was but one story high. Then he went through the smoke and flames once more, perhaps not sure that all were out. When he turned to retreat he found the way barred by flames. Rushing through to the front of the house, he reached the plate glass door that opened upon the stairs which led to the street. The door was locked, so he smashed it with his fist. The jagged glass tore his wrist, and the blood spurted out from the severed artery. When he reached the street he was almost helpless from his exertions and loss of blood. The police had arrived by this time, and Joseph was hurried to the hospital.

MENELEK IN THE SOUDAN.

HAS HOISTED HIS FLAG TWO HUNDRED MILES FROM KHARTOUM.

Cairo, Dec. 30.—The Abyssinian flag is reported to have been hoisted at Galabat, in the Soudan, about two hundred miles from Khartoum.

This is the latest from Menelek, the Abyssinian King, who has for over a month been appearing at various places with a large force suggestive of designs on Soudanese territory. A collision with the British or Egyptian forces may follow his aggressiveness.

THE PENNY POST.

New Year's Gift to the Dominion.

TWO-CENT RATE OF POSTAGE IN CANADA AND TO THE UNITED STATES.

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—The Christmas box of the inter-Imperial penny postage has been followed by a New Year's gift of a two cent letter rate throughout all Canada, beginning on Jan. 1. Last season the government anticipating the adoption of inter-Imperial penny postage, secured the passage of a permissive act authorizing them, when they deemed it advisable, to reduce the Canadian letter rate to two cents, and upon the London conference last fall, naming Christmas Day as the day upon which Imperial penny postage should take effect, the Canadian Government decided to avail themselves of the powers conferred upon them and reduce the Canadian domestic letter rate from three to two cents at the earliest possible moment. The volume of correspondence of any portion of the empire with the remainder of the empire being comparatively small, the London postal conference concluded that the reduction to the penny rate involving no serious financial consequences, should go into effect on the most appropriate day, and therefore selected Christmas, the day of the reunion of families and the revival of correspondence between friends throughout the whole of the British Empire. But the reduction of the domestic letter rate, involving as it does very much larger considerations in fixing a day for its inauguration, it was well to have regard for the Canadian system of keeping the public accounts according to which the fiscal year begins on Jan. 1. In that view it was deemed advisable to bring the change into operation on the first day of the second half of the fiscal year, hence the selection of Jan. 1. The proclamation of the Governor-General inaugurating the reduced domestic rate appeared in Saturday's 'Official Gazette.'

By the terms of the postal arrangement with the United States the reduction will apply to letters from Canada to that country. This further reform will no doubt be appreciated by all classes of Canadians because it is bound to confer a boon upon every one who uses the mail, particularly upon the business community.

A GRATEFUL PUBLIC.
Toronto, Dec. 30.—The 'Globe's' London correspondent cables: 'Among the first batch of letters posted under the new Imperial schedule at Christmas, were eight for Canada, one of which was marked "Thank Henniker Heaton for this." English newspapers generally, however, while giving much credit to Mr. Henniker Heaton for his efforts in connection with Imperial penny postage, say that the early realization of the scheme is due to Canada, and to Mr. Mulock. Since the new rate came into operation 5,000 out of 41,500 letters to the various countries have been overpaid, but nineteen-twentieths of the letters for Canada were properly stamped.'

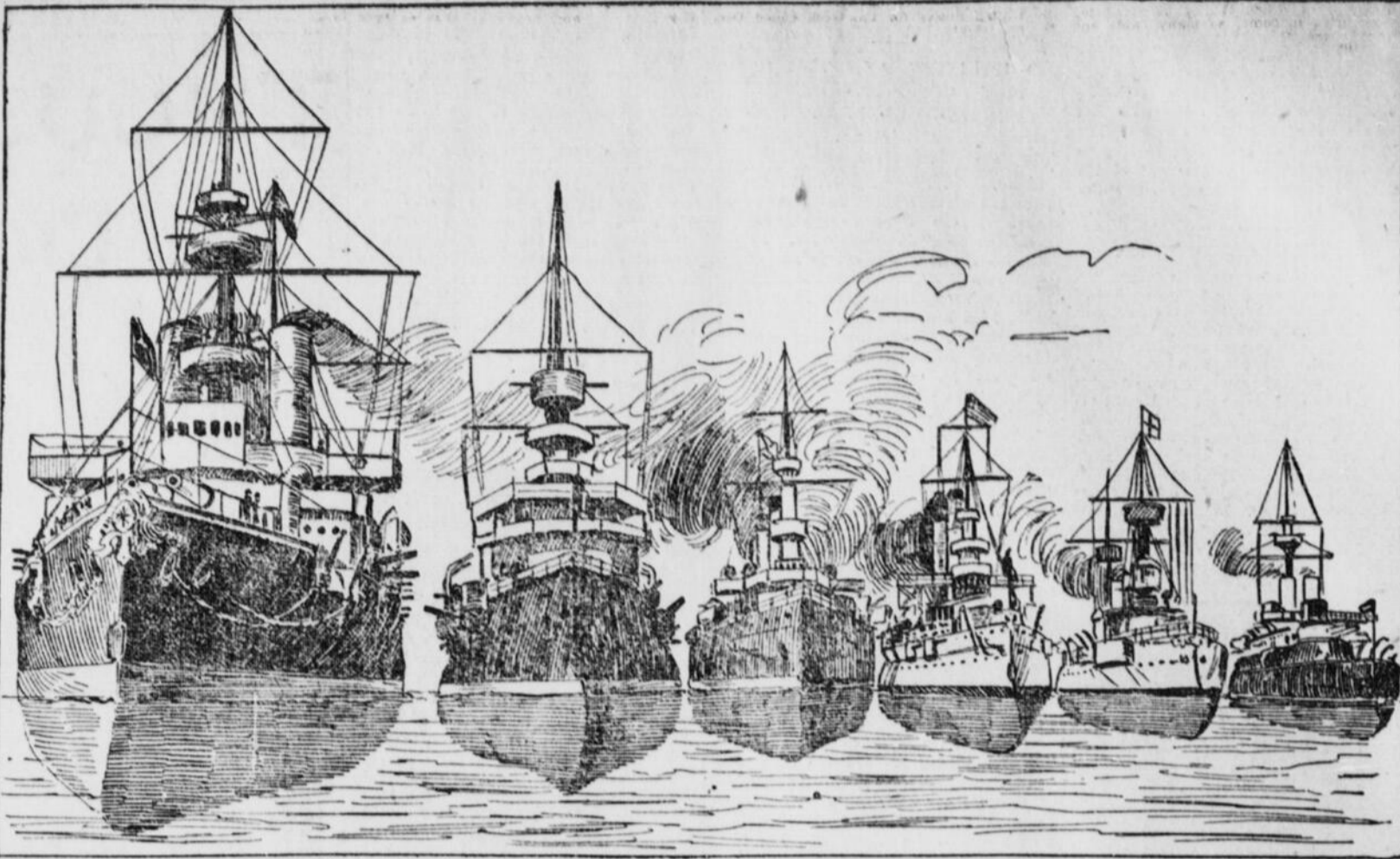
Ottawa, Dec. 31.—Yesterday's 'Canada Gazette' contains the proclamation, based upon the order-in-council of yesterday. To the list of countries to which the postage on letters has been reduced to two cents per half-ounce, the following are now added: Hong Kong, Straits Settlements, Ceylon, Seychelles, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast Colony, Lagos, Gibraltar, St. Helena, Fiji, Falkland Islands, Turk's Island, Trinidad, Tobago, Windward Islands, Leeward Islands, Cyprus.

Winnipeg, Dec. 31.—In commenting on the welcome announcement that penny postage will become general in Canada on Jan. 1, the 'Free Press' says: 'No better use could be made of a buoyant revenue than to remit taxes payable by the people generally, and in this case if the loss of revenue to the Post-Office Department is severe for the first year or two the Finance Minister has a substantial surplus, however, out of which to make it up.'

The 'Tribune' says by its action in reducing the letter postage rate throughout Canada from three to two cents the government has made one of the most popular moves that could be suggested and one that will be appreciated by the people of Canada.

Toronto, Dec. 31.—The announcement of a two-cent letter rate to points in Canada and the United States came as a welcome surprise to Toronto tradesmen, to many of whom it means a direct saving of a dollar a day and over. To members of the Board of Trade it is particularly gratifying, and the consummation of an agitation which has been more or less vigorous for some years. Conversations were had with many of Toronto's representative business men, and they with one accord welcomed the intimation.

Washington, D.C., Dec. 31.—The Canadian Government, in a telegram from Postmaster-General Mulock to Postmaster-General Smith, announces that it has reduced the domestic letter rate from three to two cents per ounce, commencing Jan. 1. Under the convention between the United States and Canada letters are sent from this country to Canada for two cents, the domestic rate of each country applying to each letter sent. The reduction now made is reciprocal, and for the first time permits letters to be sent from the other side at two instead of three cents. Postmaster-General Smith, at the request of the Canadian



BOW VIEWS OF TYPICAL BATTLE SHIPS, REPRESENTING RELATIVE SIZE OF LEADING NAVIES.
—'Scientific American.'

GREAT BRITAIN.
1,357,522 tons.

FRANCE.
731,629 tons.

RUSSIA.
435,999 tons.

UNITED STATES.
303,670 tons.

GERMANY.
279,637 tons.

ITALY.
236,175 tons.

Government, calls the attention of all postmasters in the country, through the Associated Press, to the reduction and to its taking effect on New Year's day, with a view to preventing matter so sent being charged up as 'short paid.'

PENNY POSTAGE STAMP.

MOTTO OFFENSIVE TO MR. HORSEY.

(Toronto 'Evening Telegram'.)

London, Dec. 27.—Notwithstanding repeated assurances that the penny rate is available via United States points there is still considerable uncertainty as to whether letters so sent can take advantage of the newly instituted rate.

Mr. Duff Miller, in a letter to the 'Times,' says the motto of the penny postage stamp simply states the grand fact in a few words. The stamp itself, continues the writer, is the best advertisement Canada could have.

Mr. Algernon Horsey, in the 'Daily Graphic,' again questions the wisdom of the taste exhibited in the motto of the penny postage stamp, which, he declares, is an affront to the United States.

The 'Sun' asserts that Imperial penny postage is above all a practical scheme.

FRANCE AND DREYFUS

PROGRESS OF THE COURT OF CASSATION—THE SECRET DOSSIER.

It is learned by a despatch from Paris that the Premier, M. Dupuy, the Minister of War, M. de Freycinet, and the President of the Court of Cassation, M. Loeb, have finally agreed upon the conditions under which the secret documents in the Dreyfus case are to be submitted to the Court of Cassation. They are to be taken there by Captain Cuignet every morning the Court applies for them, and they are to be returned the same night.

A London despatch says, and the story was contradicted, that the duel fought was contradicted, that Dreyfus will leave Cayenne, capital of French Guiana, South America, for France on Jan. 3 next.

The duel fought last week with swords caused by a quarrel concerning the Dreyfus affair, between Max Regis, the anti-Semite ex-Mayor of Algiers, and M. Lepic, one of the editors of 'Le Droits de l'Homme,' which was stopped on Monday after numerous vigorous encounters, owing to the swords of the combatants being bent, was resumed on Tuesday. After three hot encounters M. Lepic was rather severely wounded in the abdomen. Several other duels growing out of the Dreyfus controversy are threatened.

Paris, Dec. 30.—M. Musson, the well-known journalist, fought a duel with swords yesterday with M. Dupont, an energetic supporter of Dreyfus's revision. M. Dupont was severely wounded, his adversary's weapon piercing his lung.

ESTERHAZY'S FLIGHT TO ENGLAND.

London, Dec. 30.—A correspondent of the 'St. James's Gazette' describes the flight of ex-Major Esterhazy from France as follows: Upon the advice of a journalist, Esterhazy went to Chantilly, eluding the detectives who were watching his movements. At Chantilly he had his moustache shaved off, making him completely unrecognizable even to his friends. From Chantilly he went to Maubeuge, from which place he walked to the Belgian frontier and proceeded to

Brussels. He had no luggage with him. He remained in Brussels until his identity was discovered, when he crossed over to England.

Paris, Dec. 30.—The subscription that was recently started to enable Mme. Henry to prosecute Mr. Reinach for slandering her husband has been closed. The sum of 127,000 francs was realized.

Paris, Dec. 30.—The Minister of the Colonies denies the story that Dreyfus has embarked on his return to France, adding that the Court of Cassation alone can decide the question of the return of the prisoner.

HOT SAND-STORMS.

NEW SOUTH WALES SUFFERING FROM A HOT WAVE.

Sydney, N.S.W., Dec. 31.—New South Wales is perspiring, groaning and gritting its teeth under a succession of violent hot sand-storms. Reports from 48 places show temperatures ranging from 105 to 123 degrees in the shade. This heat is withering the grass and killing sheep by hundreds of thousands. At Sydney, with the thermometer registering 109, a dust-storm swept through the city, the wind blowing forty miles an hour. The entire population was compelled to remain indoors, and breathe through wet sponges. In many parts of the country rivers have dried up, and in their beds are the bodies of animals that went there to drink and finding no water laid themselves in the mud and died. Bush fires have been started in many directions, and many ranches have been destroyed. From all over the colony reports are arriving of disastrous fires directly traceable to the terrible heat.

At Wagga Wagga, a hurricane blew down part of the town. The ruins caught fire, and great damage was done. Between Deniliquin, and Broken-Hill the entire country was illuminated by electricity along the steel line of the telegraph wires. Balls of fire three times more brilliant than an arc light danced on the wires for twenty-nine minutes. According to latest reports the weather was growing steadily hotter, and it was feared the bush fires of last year would be repeated.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

FRENCH SHORE DIFFICULTY AS FAR AS EVER FROM SETTLEMENT.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 30.—Sir Herbert Murray, the Governor of Newfoundland, despatched by the British cruiser 'Pelican' which sailed yesterday for England, complete charts and data respecting the proposed fortifications here and the establishment of a naval reserve among the fishermen.

The French Government, following Great Britain's example, will strengthen its squadron in Newfoundland waters next season, appointing to the command Commodore Henrique, a bureau chief at the French Naval Hydrographic office.

London, Dec. 31.—The Paris correspondent of the 'Daily Mail' asserts that there is no reason to believe the French Government contemplates making any proposition regarding French shore rights in Newfoundland. The article in this morning's 'Matin' suggesting that France would probably be inclined to renounce all rights along the Newfoundland

French shore provided the compensation was large enough, is regarded as a 'blow d'essai,' and does not please the government.

The 'Liberte' suggests that Great Britain should give the whole right bank of the Niger and certain territory toward Lake Tchad as compensation. Meanwhile the St. Malo fishermen are preparing for their annual season in Newfoundland waters.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FUNDS.

Toronto, Dec. 29.—At a meeting of the Presbyterian Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund Committee here to-day the treasurer, Dr. Warden, said that in order to meet the annuities of ministers seventeen thousand dollars is this year asked from the congregations of the Church for the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. To this date only two thousand dollars has been received. In this amount is included seven hundred and fifty dollars from the hymnal committee. Already upwards of eight months of the church year have elapsed. The year began with a debt of \$3,233.69. The annuities are paid to ministers half yearly, on Oct. 1 and April 1. Dr. Warden said that it looks just now as if there would be very little on hand on April 1 next with which to pay the half-yearly annuities then due. The committee will make special appeals for the fifteen thousand dollar shortage.

PRESBYTERIAN AFFAIRS.

QUESTION OF REDUCED REPRESENTATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Toronto, Dec. 30.—It was announced to-day at the Presbyterian Church offices that a number of replies have been received to the remit ordered by the Presbyterian General Assembly at Montreal, to be sent to presbyteries with respect to the proposed reduction of the basis of representation at the General Assembly. Most of the presbyteries favor restriction to the basis of one in six or one in eight, instead of one in four of the present membership. The full attendance numbers six hundred. A reduction to the basis of one in eight would mean a membership of about three hundred.

REAR ADMIRALTY FOR THE DUKE OF YORK.

London, Dec. 29.—The Press Association to-day announces that the Duke of York will probably be made a Rear-Admiral before the squadron of American warships, which is expected to visit Europe, reaches Spithead, in whose reception, it is added, the Duke will take a prominent part.

THE POLICEMAN'S MURDERER.

Toronto, Dec. 29.—No demand by the Washington authorities for the surrender of peg-legged Brown has yet been received by the Ontario Government. Brown's trial for the murder of Policeman Twohey comes off at London on Jan. 9, when it is stated three witnesses will positively identify the prisoner as the man wanted for murder.

REFUSED TO INTERFERE.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES AND THE REID RAILWAY CONTRACT.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 30.—The Governor, Sir Herbert Murray, has made public the text of the message received by him from Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in which the secretary finally and definitely refused to disallow the Reid Railway contract, or to interfere in colonial affairs, the purport of which previously was made known. The message is regarded as a rebuke to the governor and is considered an important pronouncement on the constitutional and legislative control which the Imperial authorities may safely exercise over colonial questions. The message of the Colonial Secretary for the main part, was as follows:—

To His Excellency, Governor Sir Herbert Murray:—
Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 25, of Oct. 6, forwarding copies of the resolutions passed at the public meeting of the inhabitants of St. John's, on Oct. 4, urging that Her Majesty should be advised either to disallow the act passed in the recent session of the Legislature of Newfoundland, to give effect to the contract with Mr. Reid, or that in any case, I should defer tendering advice to Her Majesty in regard to the act, until the people of the colony have had opportunity of expressing their views on the question at a general election.

The step which I am urged to take is one for which there is no precedent in the history of colonial administration. The measure, the disallowance of which is sought, is not only of purely local concern, but one the provisions of which are almost exclusively of a financial and administrative character.

The right to complete and unfettered control over financial policy and arrangements is essential to self-government and has been invariably acknowledged and respected by Her Majesty's Government and jealously guarded by the colonies. The colonial government and legislature are purely responsible for the management of its finances to the people of the colony, and unless Imperial interests of great importance are imperilled, the intervention of Her Majesty's Government in such matters would be an unwarrantable intrusion and a breach of the charter of the colony.

It is nowhere alleged that the interests of any other part of the Empire are involved, or that the act is in any way repugnant to Imperial legislation. It is asserted, indeed, that the contract disposes of assets of the colony over which its creditors in this country have an equitable if not a legal claim, but apart from the fact that the assets in question are mainly potential and that the security of the colonial debt is its general revenue, not any particular property or assets, I cannot admit that the creditors of the colony have any right to claim the interference of Her Majesty's Government in the matter. It is on the faith of the colonial government and legislature that they have advanced their money and it is to them that they must appeal if they consider themselves injured.

No doubt, if it was seriously alleged that the act involved a breach of faith or a confiscation of the rights of absent persons, Her Majesty's Government would have to examine it carefully and consider whether the discredit which

such action on the part of a colony would entail on the rest of the empire, rendered it necessary for them to intervene. But no such charge is made and if Her Majesty's Government were to intervene whenever the legislature of a colony was alleged to affect the rights of non-residents, the right of self-government would be restricted to very narrow limits, and complications and confusion from the division of authority must arise.

It is not the duty of Her Majesty's Government to attempt the task of deciding whether the act of the legislature has been in accord with the opinion of the electorate. Even a governor who was to some extent in touch with local opinion, would be taking a serious step if in response to petitions such as have been addressed to me and against the advice of his ministers, he refused to assent to a measure of local concern, which has been duly passed by the legislature, and if he failed to find other ministers prepared to assume responsibility for his action, and able to secure the support of the legislature, his position would become untenable. Any such step on the part of a government would have to be taken entirely on his own motion. It is essential that for every act of the governor in local matters full responsibility should attach to a ministry amenable to colonial legislation.

Considerations which preclude me from advising Her Majesty to disallow the act, apply equally to the alternative request, that I should defer tendering advice to Her Majesty in regard to it, until the people of the colony have had an opportunity of expressing their views on the matter. The act is already in force and the contract to which it gives effect has been in part already performed, and the continuing obligation of the contractor would not be suspended until Her Majesty's pleasure was finally declared. It remains in full force until the act is disallowed or appealed. It would be unjust, therefore, to the contractor, and would only add to the already heavy liabilities of the colony, to accede to the prayers of the petitions.

My action has throughout been governed solely by constitutional principles on which I am bound to act, and I think it desirable that it should be made quite clear that, in accepting the full responsibilities inseparable from that privilege, and if the machinery it has provided for the work of legislation and administration has proved defective, or the persons to whom it has entrusted its destinies have failed to discharge their trust, they cannot look to Her Majesty's Government to supplement or remedy these defects or to judge between them and their duly chosen representatives.

I have, etc.,
(Signed), CHAMBERLAIN.

A MISER'S MISERABLE DEATH.

Grand Valley, Ont., Dec. 30.—John Williams, of the seventh concession of Amaranth, by the exercise of excessive economy, managed to hoard up about forty thousand dollars and at the same time keep body and soul together. He was found dead a short distance from the house on his farm, on Wednesday, frozen stiff and stark. The discovery was made by two neighbors who called to see how the old man was getting along. Williams was about seventy-five years of age and unmarried. An inquest was held and a verdict returned of death from exposure and want of food.

NEW INVENTIONS.

Below will be found a list of new patents granted by the Canadian Government, the patents being secured through Messrs. Marion & Marion, solicitors of patents, New York Life Building, Montreal, and reported by them for the 'Witness.'

No. 51967, C. B. Juras, La Bale du Fevre, Que., fertilizer distributor; 51953, Calix Vinet, Montreal, Que., shoe; 51965, Norman McLeod, Merrickville, Ont., adjustable shoe pattern; 52057, Louis Gervais, Farnetville, Que., carriage propelling mechanisms; 52085, Solomon M. Cutler, Montreal, Que., cash register and advertising system; 52097, Joseph Grace, Montreal, Que., step ladder; 52115, Alex. Lefebvre and T. H. Boyle, Montreal, Que., medical compound; 51444, J. W. Brethour and G. Watt, Sidney, B.C., door fastener.

WITNESS SEWING MACHINE.

Messrs. John Dougall & Son:
Dear Sirs,—We received the sewing machine all right, and are well pleased with it. It is all you represented it to be, and the neighbors say it is the best in Trenton. We wish you the compliments of the season.
GEORGE R. MACKAY.
Trenton, Pictou Co., N.S., Dec. 19.

Messrs. John Dougall & Son:
Gentlemen,—The sewing machine arrived in good time and order. We are very much pleased with it. . . . It does excellent work, runs easy and works with far less noise than another machine in the same house, which cost much more money. The cabinet work is much stronger and better finished than I expected. With every good wish for the New Year, I am,
Yours sincerely,
CHAS. S. WALSH.
Grenville, Dec. 23, 1898.

THE CATTLE BOOK.

John Dougall & Son, Montreal:
Dear Sirs,—I saw an offer in your paper some time since, but I have not seen it lately, about the 'People's Horse and Cattle Book.' Please let me know if the same offer is open yet, and oblige.
Yours truly,
A SUBSCRIBER.
Brodie, Dec. 21, 1898.

The 'People's Horse, Cattle, Sheep and Swine Doctor' is given as a premium for one new subscriber to the 'Weekly Witness.' Its price, otherwise, to subscribers of the 'Witness,' is 75 cents.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

BULBS 50 for 25c

FREE Providing this coupon is cut out and sent to us with an order for 50 Bulbs for 25c we will include 3 Bulbs "Beautiful AXIAS" free of charge to WITNESS subscribers.

Notices of births, marriages and deaths must invariably be enclosed with the name and address of the sender, or otherwise no notice can be taken of them.

ANDERSON-On December 22nd, at 447 Elm avenue, Westmount, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Archie D. Anderson.

MARRIED.

ANDREWS-BENSON-At the residence of the bride's parents, 209 Florence street, on Dec. 21, 1898, by the Rev. J. Scamion, Mr. William G. Andrews to Miss Mary Edith Benson, both of Ottawa.

COLE-Accidentally killed, at Boston, on Dec. 23, 1898, Richard James Cole, aged 32 years, younger son of the late John Cole, and brother of W. G. Cole, conductor of the Canada Atlantic Railway.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

HENRY MORGAN & CO., Colonial House, Montreal.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE Ever-increasing Business of the Colonial House has made MORE ROOM absolutely necessary.

UNPARALLELED DISCOUNTS..

will be given, and every inducement offered to make this Great Sale an unprecedented success. Discounts will range from 10 TO 50 percent off the regular price of the goods.

FREE! For a Few Hours' Work. We have these beautiful Premiums for sale...

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For the benefit of the subscribers of the year, something to sell or exchange, or some want to be filled, we have decided to take advertisements of this class to go on this page, and under this heading, at the extremely low rate of one cent a word each insertion.

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