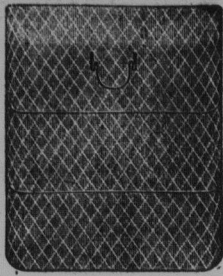


## Spark Catchers.



Made of Brass or Coppered Steel Wire. Sizes 24 x 30, 30 x 30, 36 x 30. Prices \$1.20 to \$4.25.  
Great comfort to those who use snappy wood.

**W. H. THORNE & CO., Ltd.**  
MARKET SQUARE, ST. JOHN.

If you read this advertisement, others will read yours in the St. John STAR. Ask for the advertising man.

## VENEZUELA.

### France Will Join in Blockade of the Coast.

### Castro Losing Ground and the Revolutionists Steadily Gaining—Starvation Threatened.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—France probably will join the European powers in the blockade of the Venezuelan coast, says the World's Port of Spain correspondent, for the reason that Venezuela has failed to make the first payment of \$200,000 due on the French claim, Dec. 31.

Venezuela owes the French cable company \$200,000 and the company refuses to extend credit to the government. President Castro is deeply incensed. His attempts to borrow money from the bank of Venezuela have failed. The government already owes that institution \$2,000,000.

President Castro's next step will be to force a loan from the merchants, a better element in Venezuela is urging him to give up his office. His resignation has been publicly demanded in a speech delivered in the Plaza. It is impossible for him to hold power beyond February. Troops are sleeping in the plazas of the capital in expectation of attack. The foreign bankers are waiting for a sign of the government before negotiating any loan.

General Matao, the leader of the revolution in a public letter guaranteed a satisfactory settlement with the allies within 21 days after he is inaugurated president of Venezuela. He asserts that Castro delays settlement in the hope of uniting the people. There is hunger now and there will be starvation later. Seven hundred men at La Guayra have gone to join the revolutionists. There is a rumor that on Friday the allies will cut the cable and then land and seize the custom houses.

## BLEEDING THE PEOPLE.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—Domestic sizes of anthracite coal were quoted at \$10 a ton at tidewater yesterday by the independent operators. By the coal carrying roads the same grades of coal were quoted at \$5. Representatives of the big companies said there was no decrease in the amount of their coal coming to this city and that none of it was being sold as independent output.

## BEIT IS DYING.

CAPETOWN, Jan. 9.—Alfred Beit, the well known South African financier, has had an apopleptic stroke at Johannesburg and is reported to be dying. Dr. Jameson passed through Johannesburg this morning on a special train bound for Johannesburg.

## BEANS FOR FUEL.

SOUTH BEND, Wis., Jan. 9.—In South Bend anthracite and bituminous coal cannot be had at any price. People are burning beans at \$1.50 a bushel, and are satisfied that they are getting the worth of their money, as the beans make a hot fire.

## BRIEFS BY WIRE.

The pope has conferred with Father Henry Robinson, vicar general of Colorado, the title of Monsignor. This is the first time this honor has been conferred upon a priest of the Rocky Mountain region.

Fred, a colored, a bell boy at the Lexington Hotel, Chicago, was shot and killed last night by Walter Edwards, another colored employee, with whom he had quarreled.

## NOVA SCOTIA INDUSTRIES.

The Union Furniture and Merchandise Co., of Bass River, N. S., are planning to double their output of chairs, which decision was reached at a meeting of the directors on the 6th inst. A large quantity of common chairs are still brought from the west. The Bass River company will at once enlarge their mill with a view of supplying these. Orders will be placed for the required machinery right away.

The American Furniture Company of Oxford are making a new departure. They have decided to devote their whole attention to furniture, dropping house material.

## MABEL OIKLE FOUND.

Mabel Oikle, the fourteen-year-old girl spirited away from Annapolis, was found Wednesday night by Detective Power. The girl is an important witness in a criminal case pending at Annapolis, and which has been continued, pending her return. The police department here learned that the girl, accompanied by a man, arrived at Rockingham a day or two before Christmas and drove into Halifax, the girl putting up at the North End house and the man going away again immediately. The girl stayed only one night in the city and the next day went off in the Western Shore coach. The detective started on Tuesday on a drive along the Western Shore, and he traced her to Hubbard's Cove and Chester. He found the girl at New Ross and she will be sent to Annapolis immediately.

## A WORKING GIRLS' HOME.

Recently there was opened in Boston by a corporation of benevolent persons a home for working girls. The only dividend the home is expected to pay to the stockholders is the comfortable feeling of a good work well accomplished. Whatever surplus the small rates charged may cause to accumulate will be used in adding to the comforts of the home. Already for the payment of \$3.50 a week a girl may get room, board, washing, light, heat, use of the gymnasium, of the library, and of the dance hall, in addition to the services of a physician and free admission to a course of entertainments given by the institution.

## NARROW ESCAPE OF PATIENT.

Six-year-old May Donnelly was Dr. Lorenz's patient at Kings County Hospital one day while he was in New York. After administering ether Dr. Lorenz, had in three minutes twisted a dislocated hip into place and began to prepare the little one for a plaster cast, when a bottle of ether was accidentally upset and broken. The child soon began to revive. She screamed in fearful pain. Dr. Dolg returned with the ether, and in his haste to render aid administered a powerful dose. The other doctors started to encase the leg in a plaster case. Dr. Lorenz, reading from manuscript began an explanation of the operation. Suddenly he turned and noted the condition of the child. He seized the hands of the child, which were bound by strong bandages, and strained to break the bands. "Forceps, forceps—bring oxygen!" Dr. Lorenz shouted. Lorenz pumped the child's arms up and down while Dr. Mueller clasped the child's tongue with the forceps. The child breathed, and when Dr. Lorenz saw her life was saved he went on as if nothing had happened.

## FOREIGN NOTES OF INTEREST.

French journals speak of a substance which, when placed upon the roads, does away with mud and dust. The composition consists of a mixture of scorria from a blast furnace and tar. The preparation, carefully pressed, renders the surface of the road impervious to water.

The labor movement in Canada has taken phenomenal strides during the past three or four years. Previous to 1900 there were few unions in the dominion, and it is doubtful if the total membership would foot up 15,000 at that time. Today (Canadian) boast 1,100 unions, and the membership will aggregate 100,000.

At the Paris pawn house about 250,000 watches and 60,000 wedding rings are deposited every year. The oldest object there in 1900 was a suit of clothes which 5 francs had been advanced in 1889. It belonged to a soldier who fell in the war in 1870, and whose widow paid her annual due on it for over sixty years in the hope of being able some day to redeem it.

In China the down of the thistle is gathered and mixed with raw silk so ingeniously that even experts are deceived when the fabric is woven. It is also used to stuff cushions as a substitute for eiderdown, and a very good substitute it makes.

## ALL PLEDGES FULFILLED.

(New York Times.)  
Police Captain Titus tells a story about Clarence O'Brien, alias "Paddy the Pig" who was recently locked up for being found in a gambling house when it was raided. In front of Paddy's place, which is at Sixth and Thirty-sixth street, he hung out a sign of Thanksgiving day, reading: "All the beer you can drink for 5 cents."

A thirsty hobnob scraped up five pennies and went in to take advantage of so multitudinous an opportunity to secure a cheap lunch.

"Nay, nay," said Paddy, when the hobnob passed his glass for a second helping. "Where's your nickel?"

"Don't you advertise all the beer I can drink here for 5 cents?" demanded the tramp.

"Yes," said Paddy, "and you've had all the beer you can drink here for 5 cents, and don't you forget it aither."

## MISSION TO LUMBERMEN.

The ladies of the Newcastle W. C. T. U., assisted by the ladies of the union in this city have procured the services of Rev. Daniel Fiske, a former student of the university here, and well known in this city, to labor among the lumbermen on the Miramichi during the coming winter.

Rev. Mr. Fiske has been laboring of late in Pennsylvania, has had considerable experience in the work and always found the lumber camps a very desirable locality for good Christian work and no doubt his valued services this winter will be productive of much good. Mr. Fiske has already started in his work and will go about the different camps preaching and supplying good literature to the men.—Fredericton Gleaner.

## PHILOSOPHIC PILLS.

"Self reliance is a flower of life that isn't reared in a hothouse. They say genius is akin to madness—that is, if you have genius, it's only a stepfather to madness. The young swain calling on his girl is like the last edition of a clock—just going to press. It doesn't take much of a man to see perfection in a woman's eyes and roses in her smile. Half the people in the world are laboring under the insane idea that all the other half are insane. There are men in the world who wear out more clothes sitting down than they will ever pay for by working.—Baltimore News.

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Two Presbyterian pioneers, Rev. Matthew Dripps, Shelburne, and Rev. John Waddell, second minister of First Presbyterian church, Truro, were on one occasion travelling together in a carriage. The roads were heavy and a slight rain falling. Mr. Waddell facetiously remarked, "It is dripping." "Yes," said Mr. Dripps, "but we will waddell through it."

A SERIOUS PROSPECT.  
(Canadian Law Review.)  
"Gentlemen," said a judge, addressing the jury in a recent case, "you have heard the evidence. The indictment says the prisoner was arrested for stealing a pig. The offence seems to be becoming a common one. The time has come when it must be put a stop to, otherwise, gentlemen, none of you will be safe."

"Let me alone," he grumbled. "What on earth did you wake me out of a sound sleep for?" "Because," replied his wife, "it was such a distressing sound."—Philadelphia Press.

## CROOKS AT WORK.

### An Experienced Gang Visit Town of Westville N. S.

### Office of the Bank of Nova Scotia and two Stores Entered.

NEW GLASGOW, Jan. 8.—A most daring and particularly successful burglary was perpetrated last night at Westville. Some time during the night the office of the Bank of Nova Scotia, which is in the Y. M. C. A. building, on the east side of Main street, was broken into. Entrance was effected by forcing the front door. The burglar then attacked the safe. As far as can be discovered they first knocked off the knob on the outside door and put a charge of dynamite into the door.

The explosion wrecked the door, blew in the whole inner part, but left the outer plate still on its hinges. They then appear to have decided the job was too big and did nothing more there. They left on the bank floor a small quantity of dynamite, an iron crow and a pick. These latter they had taken from a storehouse of the Acadian Coal Company nearby, which they had broken into for the purpose.

A small quantity of dynamite was also found on the floor and proves the kind of explosive used.

The explosion shook down a quantity of plaster and the burglars tramped it all over the floor. There are several distinctly different foot marks on the floor. A man named McPherson, who lives near, heard the explosion, he thinks about 4 o'clock, but it was not very loud. He thought nothing of it.

The bank breakers, thwarted in their first attempt, then proceeded north about 80 yards on Main street and entered the jewelry store of R. H. MacKay, also by the front door. They opened the safe and took therefrom over two dozen gold watches and other jewelry; they also took a quantity of finger rings from the show cases. In all about a thousand dollars' worth of gold was taken. This safe was opened, not blown open.

Adjoining Mr. MacKay's store to the north and to the same building is the drug store of Rod. Fraser. There is communication between the stores by a door in the rear.

This door was forced and the drug store entered. Mr. Fraser's safe was closed but not locked. A small amount of money was taken therefrom, but nothing else of value as far as can be discovered.

Mr. Fraser's papers were all scattered over the shop floor, showing that the burglars had made a careful search for anything of value to them.

Over these stores the Misses Wilson have a photograph gallery and reside in their rooms.

About 5 o'clock in the morning they were awakened by hearing voices in the store below them, but concluded it was some parties who were having a prescription filled at the drug store. They were under the impression that they heard at least four different voices outside and inside the building. Over the floors of those shops there were distinct footmarks with lime adorning thereto, showing conclusively that the bank had been entered first and the plaster carried on the boots of the burglars. So far there is no trace of the criminals. It was snowing last night and is still snowing, so that their tracks are covered. The supposition is that the burglary of the stores was an afterthought and that if the bank breaking had been successful they would not have touched smaller fry. There seems little doubt that the work is that of a considerable gang of experienced crooks.

## W. A. SINCLAIR

THE SHOE DEALER,  
Wishes all his friends and patrons

**J. & A. ANDERSON.**  
19 Charlotte Street.

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## FURS



BLACK MARTEN TIES, \$3 to \$17.

BLACK MARTEN MUFFS, \$6 to \$12.

Now is a good time to have fur work done. Quicker and cheaper than at other times.

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**COST HIM \$1490.**  
John Leavy of Pittsfield Has But \$10 Left Out of a Roll of \$1,500.  
John Leavy, a carpenter and contractor of 18 Pleasure avenue, Pittsfield, Mass., thinks he burned up \$1490 on Thursday of last week.  
He had received a check of \$1,500 from one Lyman, for whom he had been doing building, and the check was cashed at a local bank. The money was in one \$500 bill and the rest was in 50s and 20s, and made a nice little roll which Leavy placed in his vest pocket. Over this he wore a sweater.  
Feeling pretty good with \$1,500 in his inside pocket Leavy went home and went down stairs and shook the furnace. Having a job of shingling Mr. Leavy went out and worked the remainder of the day on the house.  
Returning home he took off his sweater and felt in his pocket for the cash. A \$10 note which he had taken from the roll was all he found. With a lantern he returned to the house where he had worked and made a search. Nothing in the shape of money was revealed.  
Mr. Leavy then searched his cellar, where he had shoveled in the coal, but his money was not found. Mr. Leavy thinks that the money was worked out of his pocket by the sweater, and that he shoveled it into the furnace.

**DEAD SEA EVAPORATION.**  
Scientific observation justifies the estimate that a daily average of 6,500,000 tons of water is received into the Dead Sea from the Jordan and other sources during the year. During the rainy season, says the Chicago Record-Herald the amount is very much greater; during the dry season it is, of course, very much less, but this average will be maintained year after year. There is no outlet, and the level is kept down by evaporation only, which is very rapid because of the intense heat, the dry atmosphere, and the dry winds which are constantly blowing down the gorges between the mountains. This evaporation causes a haze or mist to hang over the lake at all times, and when it is more rapid than usual, heavy clouds form and thunderstorms sometimes rage with great violence in the pocket between the cliffs, even in the dry season. A flood of rain often falls upon the surface of the sea when the sun is shining, and the atmosphere is as dry as a bone half a mile from the shore. The mountains around the Dead Sea are rarely seen with distinctness because of this haze.

**St. John, N. B., January 9, 1903.**  
**COMPARE SALE PRICES.**

We would like to have you compare the Overcoats we are selling at \$5.00, \$7.50 and \$10.00 with those offered by other stores from \$3 to \$3 higher in price, the verdict will be in our favor. WHY HAS THIS BUSINESS GROWN TO SUCH PROPORTIONS IN LESS THAN TWO YEARS? Simply because of the values given. Our trade has all come from those who have been trying for years at the other stores, WHY DID THEY COME HERE? Because we had something better to offer, with lower expenses and a cash business, we required a less margin of profit, and give our customers better values.

**\$15.00 OVERCOATS, small and large sizes only, now \$7.50.**  
**\$12.00 OVERCOATS, now \$10.00**  
**\$10.00 OVERCOATS, now 8.00**  
**\$5.00 OVERCOATS, now \$6.00**  
**\$3.50 OVERCOATS, now \$4.00**

**J. N. HARVEY, Men's and Boys' Clothier,**  
199 Union Street, Opera House Block

**MONTECAL, Jan. 8.**—Robert J. Campbell of New York is here, accompanied by Myron E. Evans, engineer of the same city. Mr. Campbell says his mission is to enquire into the prospects of the Quebec and Lake Huron railway, which it is proposed to build from the mouth of the French River, on Georgia Bay, to Quebec, a distance of 400 miles, and which it is claimed will form the shortest possible rail route between the great lakes and the sea. Upon the report of the engineers Mr. Campbell states that the project is to definitely decide whether New York is to definitely decide whether to build and his associates will finance the line.