

The Planet.

DAILY AND WEEKLY
Chatham, Ont.

ELECTRICAL RAILWAYS FOR THE COUNTY.

Our correspondent in Raleigh, who urges the county council to devote its energies towards a system of electrical railways along the main highways, strikes the right key. Most municipal bodies have the remarkable idea that their chief aim ought to be to save money instead of to spend it. Where people live in communities they should always endeavor to possess all the advantages and conveniences within reach that money can procure. If that were not so there would be no need of municipal government. It is very tiresome, especially in cities where the very compactness of the population permits the obtaining of modern conveniences at minimum cost to find people willing to put up with all kinds of travelling discomforts for fear their taxes will be increased a dollar or so. If such people were consistent they would continue their system of economy by doing away with all personal luxuries, all unnecessary clothing and everything else that could possibly be done without. The theory of this journal—it may be wrong—is, that a man should seek and be willing to pay for the best that is going in the way of travelling conveniences and comforts, the same as he would in food, in recreation or in house accommodation. He probably will not enjoy a decent pavement, a clean sidewalk, a good road, or a comfortable car the less because others have the same privilege of using them.

Money is put in circulation to spend. If the old man is willing to put up with all sorts of inconveniences to save it he may help to check the progress of his own district, he may keep his community a pace behind the rest of the world, but he cannot permanently block the forward movement of civilization. When he is gathered to his fathers the money will go to the boys and they will spend it, never fear. They will fall in with the spirit of the age and join in securing the best that is going.

Looking at this matter as we do, we cannot for the world see why Kent should not go in for a county electrical system. Its debt is ridiculously small, some \$36,000. It could add half a million to that without very materially increasing its taxes. The county council has leisure now to devote to some comprehensive scheme. The government is willing to assist in the construction of good roads. We do not believe for a moment, and here we disagree with the Raleigh correspondent, that it would be either difficult or expensive to build good roads in Kent. It seems to us it is all a matter of competent engineering. But at the same time the electrical railway system would be better and it is what all other counties will soon come to whether they have good roads or not. To improve the roads first, and then, perhaps, in a few years tear them up again to lay electrical railways would only be making two bites of the proverb that might as well be taken in one. But all this is a matter for debate at the sessions of the county council. Something must certainly be done to improve the county roads, and the railway suggestion is the best one we have seen yet.

IN HIS STEPS.

The Rev. J. A. Macdonald, the able editor of the Westminster, has given his opinion of the efforts of the Rev. Charles M. Sheldon to produce such a daily newspaper as Jesus would if here upon earth again. The Westminster concludes its article by saying:

"Mr. Sheldon is said to be mainly, modest, conscientious, an earnest minister and a good preacher. We believe him to be all that, but judging from his week's work on the Capital he is not a journalist. Like many another preacher whose gifts have attracted attention, he made the mistake of thinking he could edit and manage a newspaper without the newspaper instinct or newspaper training. A week's experience has probably disillusioned him, and in days to come he will go home softly and speak with the sympathy born of experience. From every point of view, except that of vulgar sporting news, corrupt stories and unclean advertisements, his experiment was unfortunate. The Sheldon paper lacked good literary style, general interest, newspaper perspective and mechanical art. With its financial resources almost unlimited, and with months to prepare for one week's work, he might have displayed some originality which was not merely eccentricity. He did not know that journalism is one of the most difficult and exacting of the professions, and one that in its success demands talent amounting almost to genius. The newspapers of Toronto and other Canadian cities reveal to those with eyes to see, ability and devotion beyond that found in almost any other department. If the present attention given to the idea of newspaper betterment should help on the ideal, the Sheldon experiment will not have been in vain. Betterment is possible."

"A Cheerful Look Makes a Dish a Feast."

"Cheerful looks" depend just as much upon physical well-being as upon natural disposition and temperament. If the blood is disordered, the brain is starved, and no "dish is a feast," for the reason that the vitalizing elements do not reach the proper spot.

A step in the right direction is to purify the body by the use of a natural remedy. Hood's Sarsaparilla is Nature's remedy. It acts upon the blood, and whether the seat of the disorder is brain, stomach, liver or kidneys, the purifying process of this medicine is equally sure and successful. It never disappoints.

Back Ache.—My mother had severe pains in her side and back. She was obliged to give up work. A friend persuaded her to take Hood's Sarsaparilla and soon she was able to do her work free from pain and had a good appetite. MAGGIE MORRIS, Nasonworth, N.B.

Nerve Food.—My wife was stricken with nervous prostration. She suffered from headaches. She became weak, low-spirited and her appetite was poor. I am glad to state that Hood's Sarsaparilla has completely cured her of all her ailments. G. HOLLYMAN, 321 Hannah St., Hamilton, Ont.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints

Hood's Sarsaparilla cures liver, blood, and skin ailments. It is a natural remedy and is equally effective in all cases.

SUNDAY AT PARIS.

Replying to a question whether the British exhibits would be opened to the public on Sunday, Lord Salisbury said that it was a matter in the hands of the commissioners and would be dealt with by them. It is known the French government has decided to keep the exhibition open on Sundays. This it did on the former occasion, but the British, the Canadian, the Australian and American exhibits were closed to the public, that is, the covers, which were placed over the exhibits at night, remained undisturbed from Saturday evening till Monday morning. Certain minerals and other heavy exhibits were, however, not thus protected, and therefore were open to inspection by visitors. This policy, according to Mr. Thomas C. Keefer, who is chairman of the Canadian commission, was decided upon by the respective commissioners. It will, doubtless, be decided upon again this year. Indeed, the American authorities have already announced their decision to this effect, and it is most improbable that the British and colonial commissioners will pursue a contrary course. We do not anticipate that Mr. Tarte, who is the chief Canadian commissioner, will adopt a policy on this question that would offend the religious prejudices, if not convictions, of the Canadian people.

The Toronto retail grocers and provision merchants have decided to support a bill now before the Dominion parliament providing that eggs shall be sold by weight in future.

It is eminently proper that a progressive and wealthy city like Chatham should possess a league baseball team. Baseball is a bracing and healthful sport to participate in, as well as an entertaining and amusing game to watch. There is less gambling, betting and other questionable practices in connection with it than in any other line of professional sport.

At the Ontario Beekeepers' Association for 1899 a question which created a good deal of interest was the effect of the spraying of fruit trees during the blossoming season upon bees. A great many having been poisoned by this unnecessary and illegal practice. It was pointed out that spraying trees in bloom was forbidden by law, though many fruit growers are apparently ignorant of the fact, and stress was laid upon the importance of circulating information to this effect and, if necessary, taking proceedings against offenders.

THE FAT IN

the food supplies warmth and strength; without it the digestion, the muscles, the nerves and the brain are weak, and general debility follows. But fat is hard to digest and is disliked by many.

Scott's Emulsion supplies the fat in a form pleasant to take and easy to digest. It strengthens the nerves and muscles, invigorates mind and body, and builds up the entire system.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, Toronto.

Keep Minsard's Liniment in the House.

Queen Victoria fell desperately in love with the King of Siam, and because he broke his promise to marry her, she led a vengeful army of invaders. Her force were destroyed in battle, but the King took pity on her and made her his wife. That is the plot of a Siamese drama lately produced at Bankok.

The Legislature is patching up the act under which municipalities can vote bonuses to industries, so as to excuse the disregard both sides of the house have shown to public feeling in this matter. Premier Ross and Mr. Whitney have, no doubt, discovered that they are out of joint with the times in the matter, but no amount of tinkering will satisfy the people that it is right under any circumstances to permit municipalities to use public funds for the purpose of stealing industries from each other.

The deputy commissioner of fisheries for Ontario says the increasing demand in the American market for frogs has been engaging the attention of a considerable number of people in the province in places where the frogs abound with a view to establishing froggeries for the cultivation of frogs for market. Applications for leases have been received and the department has been considering the necessary steps to encourage an industry which will make considerable profit for those in it and furnish an additional source of provincial revenue.

Essex Centre, about the only town in Canada where the local option law is in force, will vote April 30 on the question of continuing the measure. Essex has had a peculiar experience with local option. It was first adopted in 1890; but the liquor people carried the matter to the courts and had the law declared ultra vires. This was by our Ontario judges. The temperance people went then one better, and appealed the case to the English Privy Council, which reversed the decision of the lower courts, and declared the measure constitutional. It was 1893 before the Privy Council's decision was received. Licenses that had been issued in the town in the meantime were at once chopped off, and in March, 1897, the law was again indorsed by popular vote. Now the wets are making another attempt to take Essex off the list as a dry town.

JUST THEIR WAY.

Two Tragedies Averted at a Critical Moment When Had Men Met.

This is the way the affair began: A small beetle browed man was coming down the street with two guns buckled around him and a necklace made of the teeth of grizzly bears around his neck. A rather overgrown man with guns and a bowie knife in his boot leg, was going up the street. They met in front of the War Whop saloon. "Humph!" growled the big man after looking the little man as he spat over his shoulder. "Don't rub agin me!" "And don't touch me!" "I know a fighter when I see one!" "And you see one right yer!" "Shoo! Go in out to shoot rabbits!" "No. This ar' my day fur shootin' three men! Little one, don't you start no avalanche!" "And mebbe you don't want to start no cyclone!" "Humph!" "Humph yourself!" "All wind!" "All blow!" "Want ar' ye warin' them rabbits teeth fur?" "What ar' ye doin' with that bread knife in yer butt-leg?" "Don't ye git me mad or I'll bury ye!" "And look out fur me about a minit before!" "Shoo!" "What's the riot yer!" demanded the City Marshal as he came out of saloon wiping his mouth on the back of his hand. "I'm goin' to chaw him up!" shouted the big man. "He can't even chaw my ear!" howled the little man. "Say, you!" continued the marshal, as he pointed one hand up the street and the other down, "be a-gittin' to sit!" And they "humphed" at each other and got.

They bumped into each other as they turned the corner in the dusk of the evening, and number one jumped back and hoarsely exclaimed: "Hu! Dat's you, am it! I've bin wantin' to see you fur a good while. What 'bout dat fo' dollars you owes me?" "Fo' dollars?" asked the other. "Yes, sah, fo' dollars. Am you gwine to pay or git licked?" "Hu! If I owes you fo' dollars I kin pay it."

"Right off now, sah. Just git out de change fur a fifty-dollar bill. Can't no man say I owe him fo' dollars longer dan I kin git into my pocket. Out wid dat change, sah!" "Has you really got a fifty-dollar bill?"

"Out wid dat change, I say." "Show me dat bill." "Show me dat change." "Hu! Coon, don't you fool wid cogs wheels."

"Hu! Nigger, don't you trifle wid buzz saws!" "Hu!"

And then they breathed hard and glared at each other and began backing off and sixty seconds later the darkness hid them and the angel of peace smiled as before.

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Do not fail to give us a call this spring for your Suit and Overcoat. We are in a position to deal better with you than the ordinary merchant. As Manufacturers of Tweeds ourselves, we would not sell you anything that would not give you thorough satisfaction. Without a doubt we carry the largest stock in imported goods in Scotch, English and Irish Tweeds, also Worsted goods in all colorings of any merchant in the city. In the above imported goods, as Manufacturers ourselves, we are able to choose you the best wearing quality as well as style. Those who are not already our Customers in Clothing, give us a trial and you will be convinced with the many thousand present customers we have, that you have at last found the place where to get your clothes at the right price. Remember we guarantee a perfect fit or your money gladly refunded. Our motto for clothing is "Cash."

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"GOOD-BY—GOD BLESS YOU!"

By Eugene Field.
I like the Anglo-Saxon speech
With its direct revealing;
It takes a hold, and seems to reach
Way down into your feelings.
That some folks deem it rude, I know,
And therefore they abuse it;
But I have never found it so,
I don't object that men should air
The Gallic they have paid for.
With "Au revoir," "Adieu, ma chere,"
For that's what French was made for.
But when a crony takes your hand,
At parting to address you,
He drops all foreign lingo and
He says, "Good-by—God bless you!"
This seems to me a sacred phrase,
With reverence impassioned,
A thing come down from righteous
days.
Quietly, but nobly fashioned;
It well becomes an honest face,
A voice that's round and cheerful;
It stays the sturdy in his place,
And soothes the weak and fearful;
It steals with subtle unction,
And to your heart of hearts appears
To work its gracious function;
And all day long with pleasing song
It lingers to console you.
"That's the human heart goes wrong"
That's told, "Good-by—God bless you!"

A GREAT OPERA SINGER.

No grand opera singer of so great a reputation in this city, therefore, the operatic performance to be given on Thursday night at the Grand, will be a notable event in the musical annals of the city. That the event will be a success both artistically and financially, there can be no doubt; our citizens are always ready to support good attractions. This will be Scalchi's only appearance in this city. At the close of the tour she goes to join the Royal Opera Company of St. Petersburg and will not return again to America. It is doubtful if she will ever again take place in our city, as the supporting company, as a whole, are equal to Mme. Scalchi in merit.

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For the removal of a frame school house from con. 8, lot 13, to corner of con. 10, lot 12, in the township of Dover, a distance of about one and a half miles. Tenders will be received up to Tuesday, 1st May, that should be addressed to

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Big Point.

2w

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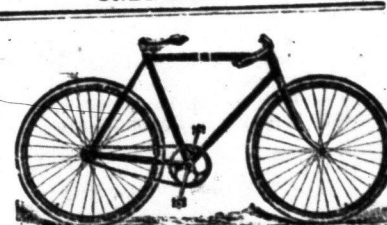
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