

Woodstock, Oct. 22, '98.

My Dear Jack,—

I wish you would drop into E. N. HUNT'S, 190 Dundas Street, and ask him to mail me samples of his Wall Paper. I understand he is offering great reductions in that line just now.

Sincerely,

MINNIE.

THE QUEEN OF THE SEASON

"I can go no further, mademoiselle," her companion whispered. "The cabaret where I hope to purchase some wine and bread for my husband will be closed if I do not hurry thither. The house you seek is at the end of this passage. Knock gently three times, and then ask boldly for Monsieur Aymer. At first they may deny that he is still residing there, but do not believe them. I am assured that he has not departed. This is all I can do for you, and so adieu."

Involuntarily Vivien clutched her sleeve to detain her, but reminding herself that Aymer was within call, and that whatever might be his motives for hiding thus, he would take care of her, she released the impatient woman, who, muttering a hope that the saints would have her in their keeping, flitted away directly. It was horrible to be alone and in such a place; but refusing to let herself dwell upon the difficult question what she should do if Aymer were not here after all, or how she should regain the bridge without her guide, she breathlessly sped down the narrow court, and gave three sharp taps at the portal before which she found herself.

Twice the summons was repeated before it elicited any reply; but at last a bolt was withdrawn, and the door cautiously opened by a repulsive-looking, elderly man, over whose shoulder there peeped a female, older, uglier, and even more repellent in appearance than he was.

As by the aid of their lamp, this unpleasant-looking couple surveyed Vivien, she took courage, and, saying, imperiously, "I am the sister of Monsieur Aymer, who lodges with you; show me the way to his apartment," boldly stepped into the entry.

She was permitted to do this, and it was not till the female had carefully secured the door through which she had passed, that she was assured the person whom she sought had left Paris. "Show me his apartment, and let me convince myself of this," said Vivien, remembering how the woman had warned her that she might be put off with some such tale.

"A bold request, truly," exclaimed the man. "What will you give me for my trouble?"

"Monsieur Aymer will repay you for it," answered Vivien, restraining the impulse to produce her purse. "Lead on, for I am pressed for time."

"Who told you that the English madam is still here?" asked the woman, surveying her from head to foot.

"Does it signify how I learned it?" was the impatient retort. "Which is the way to his rooms? Have I not told you that I am in haste?"

But, disregarding her remonstrances, the man and his wife conferred together in whispers, and Vivien, sickening at the delay, which to her impetuous spirit was intolerable, was again about to produce her purse, when, with a significant nod at her spouse, the woman turned to her.

"Monsieur Aymer owes me money for his rent and for sundry dinners with which we have provided him. Is the little lady who calls herself his sister prepared to pay this sum? We are poor and cannot afford to lose it."

"Monsieur himself shall settle your account, as soon as I have seen him," said Vivien. "Will this promise satisfy you?"

"Apparently, then, you bring him money?"

To this question she returned no answer, but advanced towards the man, asking on which story her brother's apartments were situated.

"One moment," said the man, placing himself directly in her way. "I am tired of promises. I must see the color of English gold before I stir from here. Comprenez vous?"

"Will this content you?" asked Vivien, scornfully, as she dropped a sovereign into his dirty palm, repelling it directly with her covetous eyes peering into the elegant little porte-monnaie from which she had extracted the coin.

"As a token that mademoiselle acknowledges the debt," Ah! yes, yes," cried the woman, volubly. "But mademoiselle must pledge herself to repay all the enormous expenses to which we have been subjected by monsieur's illness. Ha! for Vivien uttered an exclamation of distress when she heard this, 'did she not know that for these three weeks past he has been extremely ill, often delirious, and costing us no end of anxiety and trouble? It is fever,' she added, lowering her voice.

"There is no doubt of it, though we

conceal the fact from our neighbors, lest they avoid us!"

Aymer seriously, if not dangerously, ill, and in such a place as this! Vivien wrung her hands in dismay. "My poor brother! Ah! why did I not know of this sooner? Take me to him at once!"

"But the expenses? Does mademoiselle agree to take them upon herself?" the woman persisted. "So many francs for oil for the lamp at night; so many for my good friend Nanette for sitting up with the sufferer, for wood for the stove, and for fruit and lemonade to cool his parched mouth, and—"

"Oh! spare me these items, and tell me the sum total!" exclaimed the anxious girl; "only be quick about it."

"Oh! experienced though she was, the sum named was so large that Vivien's suspicions were aroused, and she hesitated."

"Here is an English note for five pounds," she said. "I will give you that, but no more, till I have assured myself that Monsieur Aymer has been properly nursed. And now insist that you take me to him without any further delay."

"Apparently mademoiselle has no fear of infection?" queried the man, as, after another whisper from his wife, he began to ascend the staircase, closely followed by his visitor.

"I have no fears. Pray don't stop me to ask these questions!"

"And mademoiselle understands that we shall expect to be paid out of her demands before she leaves us? But perhaps it is not in her power to do this?"

"I have the money in my possession. I will pay whatever my brother considers right before I go," she replied, and then, as before, repented the incautious admission; for a look passed swiftly across her guide's repulsive features that startled her. What if Aymer were not in this house after all, and she were being entrapped through her own folly?

The thought was so alarming that she paused, in doubt whether to proceed or retreat. But the woman was close behind her, watching every movement, and the man was unlocking a door at the head of the tall flight of stairs up which he had led her.

He looked in, cautiously shading the light he carried; then held up his finger with a warning gesture.

"Monsieur sleeps. All the long day he has raved wildly. He has insisted on rising and dressing, that he might return to his own country, and no less violence has exhausted him. Will you await below with ma bonne femme until he awakens, or—"

"Chut! Andre, of what are you thinking? She will go to him now, and she will find him, impelling her visitor forward. 'We have wasted time enough—is it not so? Enter, little lady. You will remember that our demands must be complied with before you quit this chamber again!'

The tone as well as the look that accompanied these words were so threatening, that Vivien haughtily shook off the coarse hand laid on her shoulder. But ere she could resent it, she had been thrust across the threshold, and the key turned in the lock of the door, that was instantly closed behind her.

It was an act that might well startle her. She was actually the prisoner of the ill-looking couple who had brought her hither, and, in an agony of wrath and dread, she sprang towards the bed, but paused half way, for the face of the sleeper was turned towards her, and she saw that it was the face of a stranger!

CHAPTER IV.

For several minutes Vivien St. Orme leaned against the door of her prison, stunned by the terrible nature of her position. She found herself in a tiny chamber, which, from the sloping roof, she judged to be on the top story of the house she had unwarily entered. It contained nothing but two or three common rush chairs and a rickety table, on which stood a small lamp, a pitcher of water and a broken cup, but of medicine or fruit for the invalid there was none.

As she noted these things she glanced timidly towards the head of the bed, where fresh terror creeping through her veins as she recalled the assurance she had received that the inmate of the chamber was delirious. To be shut up with a madman was a fate which she had never dreamed of, and she found herself watching him with breathless dread of his stirring and discovering her presence.

[To be Continued.]

A Card

We, the undersigned, do hereby agree to refund the money on a twenty-five cent bottle of Dr. Williams' English Pills, if, after using three-fourths of contents of bottle, they do not relieve Constipation and Headache. We also warrant that four bottles will permanently cure the most obstinate case of Constipation. Satisfaction or no pay when Williams' English Pills are used.

Calvercross & Lawrence, Pharmacists, 216 Dundas street, London, Ont.

J. Callard, Chemist, 330 Richmond street, London, Ont.

B. A. Mitchell, Chemist, Gothic Hall, London, Ont.

W. T. Strong & Co., Chemists, 184 Dundas street, London, Ont.

E. W. Boyle, Druggist, 652 Dundas street, London, Ont.

J. G. Shuff, Chemist, 640 Dundas street, London, Ont.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

Washington, Oct. 23.—President McKinley has issued a proclamation setting apart Tuesday, Nov. 24, as Thanksgiving Day.

DESPERATE PRISONERS ESCAPE.

Kingston, N. Y., Oct. 23.—Four desperate prisoners escaped from the Ulster county jail at 2 o'clock this morning. They are: Joseph Savage, charged with burglary, who has served three terms at Dannemora; Frank Stafford, charged with highway robbery; John Davitt, charged with criminal assault; and Thomas Munro, charged with burglary. The escape was made by the men climbing a water-pipe and making a hole through the ceiling into the women's department, and then lowering themselves to the ground from a window by means of sheets tied together. There are four other prisoners in the jail who are indicted for murder. They claim that they were asked to join the escaping prisoners, but declined to do so.

A Substantial Gain.

"I was very weak and hardly able to walk. My blood was thin and I was pale as death. Being told about Hood's Sarsaparilla I began taking it and in a few months I had gained 20 pounds in weight. I kept on with it until I was as well as ever." Arthur Mills, Dresden, Ont.

HOOD'S PILLS cure nausea, headache,

THE BUSINESS

SITUATION

As Reported by Bradstreet's and Dun & Co.

Weather Conditions Unfavorable, but Canada Makes a Good Showing.

New York, Oct. 26.—Bradstreet's review says:

Weather conditions have not favored distribution in Canada this week, and fall and winter goods have been moved less freely than expected. Toronto reports farmers' deliveries of wheat small, notwithstanding advanced prices, and reports from the Northwest are less encouraging. From Winnipeg latest advices are that the yield of wheat will be 10,000,000 bushels in excess of last year, and that delayed deliveries are beginning to arrive now that better weather is being experienced. Collections, it is expected, will be one month later as a result of untoward weather conditions. At Victoria and Vancouver business shows a good increase over last year, and collections are also good. From the Maritime Provinces advices are that trade is up to the average. The outlook in Prince Edward Island is not encouraging, owing to the failures of cereal crops. Newfoundland fisheries have turned out better than expected. Business for the Dominion in domestic week numbered 23, as against 24 last week, and 29 in this week a year ago.

Dun & Co. say: Canadian reports this week are but moderately encouraging. The weather and other conditions have retarded business in many lines, although there is better business in clothes, hardware and provisions, but not so good in shoes at St. John. Orders for spring are fairly encouraging. In the west, at Halifax, and other volume of business has increased with a better demand for groceries. Crops in Prince Edward Island have been satisfactory, with better prices for wheat in Newfoundland. Excepting in shoes, trade at Quebec is generally good and collections good. Montreal reports weather not helping, but very fair trade in dry goods, groceries and shoes, with collections generally good. Retail trade at Toronto is good, with a fair showing for the week ending Dec. 31, 1896.

Business for the week ending Dec. 31, 1896, reports a better feeling since close investigation has cleared away fear of damage to grain, though the markets are slow. At Victoria wholesale business is good, and the winter trade is more helpful, while at Vancouver business is steady, and collections are good, with a gradual increase in bank clearings.

IN THE UNITED STATES.

Bradstreet's report says irregularity in prices and trade movements has been rather more marked this week than for some time past, but measured by all the usual standards of business development the situation is one of exceptional activity and even strength. The active foreign demand, and their products appeared to have culminated early in the week in a virtual "war scare" market, in which the highest prices reached since early in August were recorded. The reaction shown, however, has been a small one, testifying to nervousness, both at home and abroad, growing out of the exceptionally small gains in world's supplies, reports to damage of wheat in the fields in the Northwest and in Manitoba, active milling demand for wheat at home, Minneapolis breaking all records of flour production for the week ending Dec. 31, 1896, and the talk of rather less than anticipated out-turns of crops abroad noted for some time past. Evidence of reaction in prices is not confined to wheat, but extends to large quantities of distributive trade reports of bad weather interfering with the regular demand and collections, but of stimulating retail trade in heavy winter goods, come from the west and north, and the coming advance of bad roads, crippling farmers' ability to deliver wheat to market. Against this, however, might be cited the fact that primary receipts of wheat are in excess of one year ago, and for the season are fully equal to those of last year. All advices as to railroad traffic point to western and southern railroads being taxed to their utmost to handle the business, with gross earnings showing gains over last year's exceptionally good results. From the Pacific coast the advices are not of active business, heavy grain receipts being absorbed by the working export order, and with new trade with our new dependency. Here at the east the tone of business remains rather quiet. Business failures for the week numbered 219, as compared with 218 last week, and 218 in this week a year ago.

Dun & Co.'s review says: Business has been more affected by foreign affairs than many realize. London's apprehension of war first caused a monetary pressure here, and for the season are fully equal to those of last year. All advices as to railroad traffic point to western and southern railroads being taxed to their utmost to handle the business, with gross earnings showing gains over last year's exceptionally good results. From the Pacific coast the advices are not of active business, heavy grain receipts being absorbed by the working export order, and with new trade with our new dependency. Here at the east the tone of business remains rather quiet. Business failures for the week numbered 219, as compared with 218 last week, and 218 in this week a year ago.

Without Money and Without Price DR. CHASE OFFERS FREE TREATMENT TO ANYONE WHO CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY FOR MEDICINE.

During his half-century of practice in medicine, Dr. Chase never charged for his services where the patient could not afford to pay. He was known as "the poor man's friend," and besides offering his services free, contributed very liberally to charitable institutions.

The manufacturers of Dr. Chase's family remedies, following the example of the Grand Old Doctor, offer free treatment to any who are unable to pay for same. The only condition is that a certificate be presented from some minister showing the patient to be worthy this benevolence.

The record of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, Ointment, Catarrh Cure, and Syrup of Marshmallows and Turpentine has been unparalleled in the history of medicine. The cures performed are frequently more like miracles. That these celebrated remedies are offered to the needy without money and without price is due to the noble example set by the celebrated old doctor, who has won the praises and gratitude of this great American continent. For free treatment apply to Edmondson, Bates & Co., 4 Lombard street, Toronto.

Dr. Chase's New Receipt Book, cloth bound, 500 pages, regular price \$1.00. Send for it free. Write to Edmondson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

prices by bidding against each other. Failures for the week have been 226 in the United States, against 213 last year, and 24 in Canada, against 26 last year.

WENT DOWN

WITH ALL HANDS

Eighteen Men Lost in the Wreck of the L. R. Doty on Lake Michigan.

Chicago, Oct. 26.—The loss of the steamer L. R. Doty, with her entire crew of eighteen, during the gale of Tuesday is now confirmed. Wreckage brought to the Independent Tug Line was fully identified by Capt. Ellison, of the steamer George Williams, which belongs to the same line, as having come from the Doty.

The Olive Jeanette, which the Doty had in tow, was towed into the harbor early yesterday morning. Her crew confirmed the loss of the steamer.

THE LOST.

Following is a list of the members of the steamer's crew:

Capt. Christopher Smith, Port Huron; Chief Engineer, Thomas Abernethie, Port Huron; First Mate Harry Sharpe, Detroit; Steward Doss, West Bay City; W. J. Hossie, second mate; C. W. Odette, second engineer; George Wadkin, oiler; W. J. Scott, cook; Chas. Borne, watchman; Peter G. Peterson, wheelman; Albert Nelson, assistant wheelman; Joseph Fitzsimmons, J. Howe, fireman; P. Parmuth, C. Curtis, Wm. Ebert, Pat Ryan, Frank Burke, deckhands.

The above was the list of men on the boat on Oct. 8, when they were last paid off. It is possible that one or two changes have been made since that time.

The Doty was a wooden steamer, and was built at West Bay City, Mich., in 1893. Her capacity was 1,700 net tons. She was 291 feet long and 41 feet beam. Her insurance valuation was \$150,000.

The consort Jeanette had a thrilling time, having drifted 100 miles in the terrific gale. The vessel was swept its entire length by solid water.

CANADIAN EGGS

In the British Market—Suggestions for Shippers.

The following table shows the imports of eggs into Great Britain in the year ending Dec. 31, 1896:

	Dozens.	Value.
Canada	5,093,170	\$ 870,793
Other British possessions	269,310	40,987
Russia	24,061,650	6,066,253
United States	477,020	78,339
Sweden	194,450	25,225
Denmark	15,698,230	2,545,194
Germany	29,304,860	3,806,322
Holland	321,230	49,678
Belgium	22,439,090	3,373,033
France	62,757,750	6,595,240
Portugal	538,060	91,542
Spain	753,620	117,982
Morocco	627,800	78,195
Other foreign countries	135,820	20,534
Total	132,450,110	\$20,365,326

I found in Manchester, Liverpool, and also in London, that Canadian eggs were gaining a better reputation in the trade. Those that arrived in cold storage chambers were said to be pleasing very well. The only complaint I heard was that when the cases were opened the eggs became very moist, and were said to be "sweating," or to be covered with drops like dew.

As a matter of fact the cause of that was the opening of the cases containing the eggs immediately after they were taken from the cold storage room. That exposed the cold surface of the eggs to the warm moist atmosphere, and the moisture was condensed on their surface just in the same way that it would be on a pitcher or glass containing ice water. Those importers who left the cases closed for two days in a chamber at the ordinary temperature of the air, and then opened them, found the eggs had been warmed up gradually and had a fine appearance.

In the matter of improving that trade, I think two points need particular notice. One is, that there will be dissatisfaction and loss in carrying on the business:

(1) Every handler of eggs, from the one who gathers them from the nests to the one who exports them in cases, should leave out all those of doubtful quality and all the small ones; and

(2) There should be more frequent and regular collection of eggs from the farmers, the eggs being brought together and kept in a cold place where there will be no chance of spoiling.—Prof. J. W. Robertson.

BOSTON CONVERSATION.

At a fashionable gathering a gentleman made several attempts to start the conversation, but having failed, owing to the stupidity of those present, he finally remarked: "Now let us be silent on some other subject."

A CARELESS QUESTION.

Mr. Newlywed (reading)—Nobody ever saw a dead mule.

Mrs. Newlywed (who is thinking of something else and not listening). Don't you think your life insurance premiums are a waste of money, John?

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Walter Baker & Co., Limited.

Dorchester, Mass., U. S. A.

The Oldest and Largest Manufacturers of

PURE, HIGH GRADE

Cocoas and Chocolates

on this Continent. No Chemicals are used in their manufacture. Their Breakfast Cocoa is absolutely pure, delicious, nutritious, and costs less than one cent a cup. Their Premium No. 1 Chocolate is the best plain chocolate in the market for family use. Their German Sweet Chocolate is good to eat and good to drink. It is palatable, nutritious and healthful; a great favorite with children. Consumers should ask for and be sure that they get the genuine Walter Baker & Co.'s goods, made at Dorchester, Mass., U. S. A.

CANADIAN HOUSE, 6 Hospital St., Montreal.



Can cure your Dyspepsia—restore your stomach to a normal state, so that it will do its work, digesting food, without you knowing it.

Then the ills associated with Dyspepsia—Constipation, Biliousness, Sick Headache, Coated Tongue, Bad Breath—Laxa-Liver Pills relieve and cures them all.

Just take a Laxa-Liver Pill before retiring, 'twill work while you sleep, without a gripe or pain, and make you feel better in the morning.

Price 25c. a bottle, or 5 for \$1.00, all druggists.

Williams' Music House

171 Dundas Street, London, Ont.

Important Announcement

—DURING OCTOBER—

\$10 down and easy monthly payments will buy a magnificent Upright Piano—full scale and all modern improvements.

\$5 down and small monthly payments will buy a beautiful practice Piano—good as new.

Slightly used Organs from \$10 up. Small monthly payments. Biggest bargain ever offered to London public in order to clear out stock.

All who are in any way interested in the purchase of a Piano or Organ are respectfully and cordially invited to call at our Warerooms and inspect our stock, which is the largest and best in the city. Mr. B. Williams will be pleased to meet intending purchasers in the ware-rooms and give them every information and a big bargain.

Compare our Pianos with other makes and you will be sure to buy Williams.

Williams' Music House.

Good nature is the beauty of the mind, and, like personal beauty, wins almost without anything else—some- times. Indeed, in spite of positive deficiencies.

We have no hesitation in saying that Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Dysentery Cordial is without doubt the best medicine ever introduced for dysentery, diarrhea, cholera and all summer complaints, seasickness, etc. It promptly gives relief, and never fails to effect a positive cure. Mothers should never be without a bottle when their children are teething.

To be a gentleman is to be honest, to be gentle, to be generous, to be brave, to be wise, and, possessing all these qualities, to exercise them in the most graceful and manly manner.

It removed ten cents from one pair of feet without any pain. What it has done once it will do again.

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Fine Groceries

PROMPT DELIVERY

—TO ALL PARTS

—OF THE CITY.