

THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., MONDAY, MAY 18 1908

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ST. JOHN STAR.
ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 18, 1908.

PARLIAMENTARY METHODS.
Senator McMillen sized up Conservative opposition very well when in the Senate a few days ago he stated that the opposition had become so unreasonable and had blocked the transaction of public business to such an extent that the time appears to have come for the adoption of some such system of closure as Mr. Gladstone introduced in 1882 in consequence of Irish party tactics. He argued that members have of late years got into the habit of talking to their constituents rather than to the question, and that this custom is gaining in popularity. During the last ten years that the Liberals were in opposition they filled only 49,423 columns of Hansard, at a cost of \$357,901, while in the past ten years of Conservative opposition the members of the latter body have filled 54,440 columns at a cost of \$454,492 or nearly twice as much, and this in spite of the fact that the Conservative opposition is weaker in numbers than was the Liberal opposition. He points out that the policy of the present government is to get through as much business as possible in the shortest time while that of the opposition is to hamper the government in every way. There is no doubt that the length of the parliamentary session is much greater than is necessary considering the amount of business brought before Commons, and more effective administration would be given the country if the opposition settled down to business and permitted greater freedom to those executive officers who in the ordinary course of their departmental duties are called upon to study and consider the larger problems coming before the country.

MET WITH THE BIBLE.
Every immigrant landing in Canada from across the sea is greeted with the Bible, and the hand of friendship. No better welcome could be extended. In the last issue of the Maritime Baptist an interesting report is given of what has been done by the Canadian Bible Society in the first year's work at Sand Point. Upon application from the society the department of the interior gave cordial permission for the establishment of a Bible room in the main immigration hall. The office was built and stocked, and during the season just closed practically all the adults among the new arrivals received copies of the Scriptures, no less than 16,321 Bibles being distributed, while in the previous season under less favorable arrangements, 10,422 copies were given away. Thus in little more than a year the society has impressed upon 26,743 families the fact that Canada is a Christian country, and that its institutions are founded on the teachings of the Scriptures. It has been the aim of the society to give these home-seeking travellers books printed in their own tongue, and a striking fact in connection with the work of the book-room is that there have been requests for the Bible printed in no less than thirty-six languages. More than twenty-two thousand persons landed in St. John during the season just ended, and the Bible Society, in addition to furnishing them with the Scriptures, conducted a writing room, supplied free paper and other materials, and attended to the mailing of messages to friends left behind. To give some idea of the magnitude of the work it is set forth that the passengers from one steamer alone mailed six hundred and seven letters, and three hundred and ten letters home. The Bible room has been in charge of Dr. Heine and Miss Wesley. Surely this is a noble work.

WESTERN CROPS.
Some three or four weeks ago seeding in the Northwest Provinces was commenced. For the past two weeks crop reports have been coming in. The yield is known to a bushel. It will continue to be known just as accurately two or three times a week for the next four months, although the reports will vary. This crop report from the Western Provinces is one of Canada's institutions, another one is the annual predicted destruction of the peach crop in Ontario by frost. Down in New Brunswick we have a slightly different theme. It is the early holdup of the logs on account of scarcity of water. The reports are just as interesting today as they were a month ago before the wheat was planted, or as they will be at any time until the harvest is gathered.

The stage has for generations been looked down upon by the church. Evelyn Thaw has during the past few weeks been refused engagements in a number of theatres in New York State, where she had applied, under the delusion that her presence among the performers would draw business. Theatrical managers have evidently some sense of decency. On the other hand in two or three New York churches last Sunday prayers were offered that Harry Thaw might be successful in his efforts to secure release from the asylum in which he has of late been confined and that he may be given his liberty.

A despatch from Paris states that Accoragella has been cured by an operation performed by a surgeon from Vienna. Glorious news, we have been interested in Accor's condition for a long time, and wondered how he was getting along.

SAM FOLSON'S FOUR HORSE TRUCK.
Says Uncle Ike at Joe Binn's store, "What was s'orty loppin'." An' Deacon Pennington had jest "Come in, his face a-moppin'." "You know," says Ike, "that four horse truck Sam Folson's be'n a-buyn'." Weighs plump two ton of 'e weighs an ounce. An' without half a tryin'." "Jest what it was a-luggin'." "Kin carry three ton, good, o' stuff, With all four horses tuggin'." "Th' ain't a crack'n' double pair Owned nowhar, I'm a-thinkin'." But when the wagon in the mud Clean to its hobs went sinkin' Stock still it stopp'd 'em in the road. As if a wall was in it. An' they had gone a-bargin' up With both their heads ag'in it.

"You've see that spindlin' city chap Ez store with Wilfred Russell? Don't look ez if he had a speck O' grit or mite o' muscle. Tilt he comes along an' says to Sam 'Th' ain't but one thing to it—Them horses they jest can't draw that truck. But jest you watch me do it!'" "E'gosh, he done it! Easy, too! An' quicker! I—The Deacon Cut in, all fery at this p'int Of Uncle Isay's speakin'." An' shouts, "The Stratton, he a care! Like sin, you sartin try us! Thuz danger 'neath a roof with you! Remember Ananias!"

"The city striplin' drawed that truck While me an' Sam was gazin', An' took the horses with it too!" Says Ike, "It was amazin'!" "Twas drawed ez nattered ez life! The price he waded, name it. But Sam took it home with him I guess he's goin' to frame it."

Does your husband ever scold when you want a new hat?" No. He never knows anything about it until after I get it."

AUTOMOBILES COLLIDE WITH FATAL RESULTS
One Man Killed, and Two Injured—Both Machines Wrecked.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 17.—Three young men were injured, one of them fatally, early today by the collision of the automobile in which they were riding with another machine, containing three men on the East Greenwich road near Hills Grove Farm. Stephen Dodge, 22 years old, of Providence, suffered a fracture of the skull and never regained consciousness after the accident, dying at the Rhode Island hospital a few hours later.

Edward Conway, 22 years old, of Pawtucket Heights, sustained a slight fracture of the skull and was also taken to the hospital, but his injuries are not believed to be serious, while George Whittaker, 18 years old, of Roxbury, Mass., was slightly bruised and was sent to his home.

None of the occupants of the other car, Clarence E. Austin, of Cranston, and two other young men belonging in Providence, who declined to give their names, was injured. Both machines were wrecked.

BOMB CAUSES TERROR.
NEW YORK, May 17.—The explosion of a large bomb, which tore out part of the side wall of a First Avenue tenement tonight and sent sixteen families and the attendants upon two religious meetings in the building terror-stricken into the streets. The bomb, the police believe, was intended for A. Solomon, an undertaker, who has been appointed receiver of two failed Italian banks. Solomon has been receiving letters threatening death, unless he paid off depositors and re-opened the defunct institutions.

LITERARY NOTES.
Rupert Sargent Holland's new novel, "The Pirate of Alaska," which is published complete in the May Lippincott's, reminds one of a song that was popular several years ago—"There is always something doing in the lives of famous men." Certainly there is always "something doing" in Mr. Holland's narrative. It fairly bristles with action, and the reader is hurried from incident to incident with well nigh breathless haste. The hero, Felix Selden, is a well-to-do young writer who has fallen in love with and taken himself the owner of a picturesque bit of land in a remote section of the Maine coast. On the rocks close by is the bulk of an old ship, wrecked and abandoned there long years before. In this peaceful spot where the owner has come for the quiet surroundings conducive to literary pursuits, he suddenly finds himself involved in a tangle of events in which swords and pistols and buried treasure all play a part, and which seems more fitted to the eighteenth century than to the twentieth. Yet while the plot is a fantastic one, there is nothing at all impossible about it, and the tale itself is so irresistible that few readers will stop to question the probability. "The Pirate of Alaska" is a distinct advance over Mr. Holland's first book, "The Count at Harvard," which made something of a hit a year or two ago.

TO GET EVEN.
Andrew Carnegie has taken to writing poetry. It only remains for Henry Van Dyke to start an iron foundry.

CENSORSHIP OF FICTION THREATENED.

The dark shadow of a new censorship appears to hang over the horizon of English fiction. The Bishop of Norwich is said to have uttered a protest in one of his sermons against the growth of eroticism in the modern novel.

Many thousands of persons, asserts Mr. Basil Tozer in The National Review (London), realize that something ought to be done to prevent the little clique of writers and their unintelligent imitators, from further prostituting English literature.

PESSIMISTIC VIEW.
"Let a few score more of the fleshly narratives be launched upon the book market, and sold in their tens of thousands," the writer continues pessimistically, "and without excitement, or any sort of preliminary demerit, we shall find ourselves saddled with a censor of fiction who, rest assured, will quickly shut down not merely the fiction, that is admittedly filthy, but in addition a vast amount of excellent work that most certainly ought to be published."

The writer pictures some such possible condition as the following:—"The question we have now to face is, 'What the future in store for English novelists, and for the scores of men and women who earn a livelihood by producing fiction of a lower grade than novels, if presently they find themselves securely muzzled by a censor chosen and appointed as our existing censor of plays is chosen?' It is easy to smile incredulously at the suggestion and say that a censor of fiction never will be appointed."

OFFICIAL CENSOR.
"Men and women laughed outright when it was first suggested that the office of censor of plays might one day be created. How inimical to the interests of the reading public, not to mention the rank and file of novelists, the appointment of a censor of fiction would be, is almost too obvious to call for comment. Judging, indeed, by the example set by our censor of plays, the probability is that many a play, the works of fiction would be condemned unjustly, owing solely to the censor's bias in one direction or several directions, or abnormally strait-laced. The able written moral story with a sexual problem wrapped up in its pages might be banned simply to satisfy some favorite whim."

EFFECT ON READER.
"The moral story of illicit love probably would be suppressed on the ground of its being too plain-spoken with its parts of dialogue, or in some of its descriptive passages. Novelists with a true knowledge of human nature, with facility to express themselves and with the gift of paint in words living and vivid pictures for the gratification of the intellect and culture the world over, would be compelled to abandon their avocation—would be to all intents and purposes silenced."

The effect upon the reader would inevitably be to supply him with stories that could be described only as "invertebrate, cold and faded."

The calamity is viewed in this concrete manner—"The late Sir Walter Besant told me once that he had just received a letter from a correspondent who expressed extreme indignation at his, Sir Walter's, having had a male lover in one of his stories kiss a woman to whom he was in no way related, and to whom he was never married or affianced. 'Until now,' the letter ran, 'I have thought your books quite safe to give to my daughter to read, but in future I shall not be able to put a book of yours into her hands until I have read it myself.'"

"Probably there are thousands of men and women who think as that man thought. What would the condition of English literature be with such a man as censor? Only recently some of Sir Walter Scott's classics were banned on the ground of the 'impropriety' by a committee of local provincial magnates appointed to select volumes for a certain public library. With that precedent before us nothing in the way of prudery seems impossible."

"Certainly a heroine moulded on the lines of Mr. Thomas Hardy's beautiful Tess would be blue-penciled, as they say on the turf, 'from start to finish.' Mr. Eden Phillpotts would never be allowed to give us another 'Secret Woman,' for that memorial scene in the broken wood had made the censor blush. In future the monks of the Order of Robert Hichens would be compelled by the censor to refrain from

prostituting with pretty girls on the parched plains of Egypt or in any other of Allah's gardens. Even Mrs. Maley would be forced to strangle here and there, and to come up, or rather sink down, into a line upon the level of the common-place."

WHAT WOMEN ARE DOING.
Washington's State bacteriologist is a woman, Dr. Rose Robb, a graduate of the University of Minnesota. It will surprise many persons to know that the first assistant to Dr. Wm. Mayo, America's greatest surgeon, is a woman. She is not a doctor either, but the sister in charge of Mercy Hospital at Rochester, Minn., where the Mayos' world-famous clinics are conducted.

A recent visitor to the Philippines says that the only strong-minded women in Manila are the upper class Filipino women, that they have clubs much like our own women's clubs and are strong advocates of woman suffrage.

Iowa Women Score.
Miss Grace Ballantyne, the young attorney who appeared for "Mary J. Coggeshall and others," in their suit against the City of Des Moines, is receiving congratulations from many quarters because of the favorable decision of the Supreme Court. The women questioned the validity of a special election on a bond issue for a City Hall because the votes of tax-paying women were refused and the Supreme Court has issued a restraining order stopping all work on the new city building pending the final decision in the women's case.

Rev. Anna H. Shaw, President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, says: "This fight of the Iowa women has put more heart into me than anything which has come my way for a long time. I hope they will succeed."

Prominent Louisiana Woman Gone.
The death of Mrs. Caroline E. Merrick, of New Orleans, Louisiana, one of her foremost citizens, and a cause of woman suffrage throughout the country loses one of its ablest advocates and most consistent supporters. Mrs. Merrick was a close friend of Susan B. Anthony in the days when the woman suffrage question counted comparatively few adherents in the south. At the National Convention of suffragists held in New Orleans in 1903, Mrs. Merrick shared with Miss Anthony all the honors.

Mrs. Merrick was a figure of interest at the National Woman Suffrage Convention in Baltimore in 1906, which was the last of her public life. It was during this meeting that Miss Anthony was stricken with the illness which ended in her death a month later.

A woman who was sent to prison in New York for begging proved to be Mrs. Abraham Greenbaum, the wife of a restaurant owner. She stated that as her husband's income of \$83 a week was not sufficient to allow her to dress as she wished, she adopted this method of obtaining the price of fashionable gowns in which she visited their friends.

More steel is used in the manufacture of guns than in all the sword and gun factories in the world.

Old Coughs
For Coughs that "hang on" there is no better remedy than E. C. Brown's Bronchial Balm. No matter what "Cough Cure" you may have tried or are trying you have left a stone unturned. If you have not tried Brown's, you are close to relief and cure when you start to take

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CHILDREN'S EYESIGHT!
It is not the child's "nose" that fails to grasp, but the eyes that fail to see. Look after your children's eyesight. Consult D. BOTANER, Optician, 38 Dock St.
Monday, May 18, 1908.

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LEATHS.
TRECARTIN—At St. John West, on Sunday, May 17th, Charles Palmer Treccartin, infant child of Charles M. and Bessie E. Treccartin, aged fourteen months.
Funeral Tuesday at 3 p.
MacDONALD—In this city on May 16th, Jean Edna, eldest daughter of Robert and Margaret MacDonald, in the 22nd year of her age.
Funeral Tuesday at 2:30 o'clock from her father's residence, Millidge Road.
RYAN—At the Hawthorne House, on the 17th inst., Thomas H. Ryan, in the 71st year of his age, leaving two daughters and one son to mourn.
Funeral on Wednesday at 11 o'clock, from his late residence. Burial at Ryan Settlement.

EMERGENCY FOODS.
According to Dr. Robert Hutchinson of London, if at any time meat is not available, bread, sugar and eggs will make a very respectable support for the body. Sugar is an exceedingly valuable article of food as a source of energy, the unfortunate thing about it being that it contains no nitrogenous matter. Bread, however, does contain some; hence it balances up well when combined with sugar. In times of scarcity food bread and molasses is not a half bad diet—at least it can be relied on to keep the body up to a fair state of efficiency.

MEN'S SHOES
Need a Pair?
We should think you would. We don't see how any man can get through the Summer without a pair of
OXFORDS
Your feet deserve to be made comfortable and you neglect the first principle of Summer comfort, if you fail to wear Low Shoes.
Guess we make more profit on high shoes than on low, but in Summer with low shoes we make more friends.
Men's best Low Shoes made on the most popular and modern lasts, Patent Leather, Patent Kid, Russia leathers, Vici Kid, etc., \$2.00, \$2.50 and \$3.00. If you never have worn a pair of Low Shoes, you'll wear a pair this season, if you take a look at our display.

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Lace Curtains, 36c., 50c., 55c., 60c., and \$1.48 pair.
Table Oilcloth, very wide, 8 Patterns, 25c. yard.
Sheaf Oilcloth, all shades, 7c. yard.
Floor Oilcloth, 2 yards wide, 48c. yard.
Carpet Seats, 3c.; Carpet Tacks, 3c. p. doz.
Sheaf Paper, 10 yards for 5c.; Curtain Muslin, 9, 10 to 12c.
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PITTSBURG'S CIVIC FUNDS
TIED UP IN CLOSED BANK
City Has \$1,500,000 on Deposit in Allegheny Bank Which Has Suspended Payment.

TWO GIRLS HURLED FROM TROLLEY CAR
Two Sisters Thrown From Swiftly Moving Car and Fatally Injured.
BENNINGTON, Vt., May 17.—Anna Callender, aged 18 years, and her sister Helen, aged 20 years, are in a critical condition, after being hurled from a rapidly moving trolley car in North Bennington, while returning from the theatre last night. The young women were riding in the vestibule, chatting with the motorman when the car at the time had a clear track and was moving at a high rate of speed. Both the young ladies were picked up unconscious. Anna sustained a fractured skull and a broken arm, and a dislocated shoulder, but physicians say her chances of recovery are slight.

NEW OPERATIC STAR.
LONDON, May 18.—A new operatic star has appeared in London's musical firmament in the person of Miss Edith Walters, the American singer. The London morning papers express the highest praise of her assumption of the role of Isolda at Covent Garden on Saturday, declaring it to be a "revoltion" both historically and vocally.
A FAIRLY BIG FISH.
Paddy had been telling the story of a big pile he caught on his way into the boat, so that he had to be towed behind (with the gaff in it, it must be understood). That followed this dialogue: "What weight, Paddy?" "Divil a know I know but he was an obous baste." "Was that the biggest you ever saw, Paddy?" Then Paddy gave a description of the blarney he ever saw. "What weight, Paddy?" "Sorra a bit I know. He was a terror." "How big, Paddy?" "Sure, I can't tell to a foot or two, but a man could walk down his throat." On this new-wildly, but Paddy "clinked" the matter and allowed no controversy, by adding, "Vid his hat on"—Angler's. Evenings.

Does not Color the Hair
AYER'S HAIR VIGOR