

Hon. Mr. Bowell declared that, in pursuance of the economy move, hereafter nothing beyond the time-honored "tips" would be allowed landing waiters and scarchers in the Customs Department. "We shall save many salaries in this way and still leave the officers plenty to live on," was his argument.

The Minister of Public Works blandly informed me that the party newspapers would, from this out, be allowed only two prices, instead of four, for Government work. "This may seem a trifle rough on the *Ham. Spec.*, London *Free Press*, and one or two other able and enterprising journals. But the Dominion must be saved from insolvency at all hazards."

The Minister of Militia had just issued the following orders when I arrived:—

1. "Every volunteer to supply his own pipe clay."
2. Rations to be given out only every alternate day during camp.
3. All drill sheds to be leased for skating rinks in winter and to be open for hire at any other time, when not in use by the militia, to circus managers, agricultural societies, theatrical companies or cattle feeders.

Perceiving that this Minister really meant strict economy I did not interview him.

It was now four p.m., and as I had an appointment with my milliner I put away my note-book, feeling that you would think I had done a good day's work in enquiring into the new policy which our gifted Administration have conceived to save drafts on the Treasury and keep public expenditure within proper bounds.

Yours ever devotedly,

ANNA NYAS.

P. S.—You ought to see the lovey-dovey of a bonnet I have bought. It is just too sweet and becoming for anything.

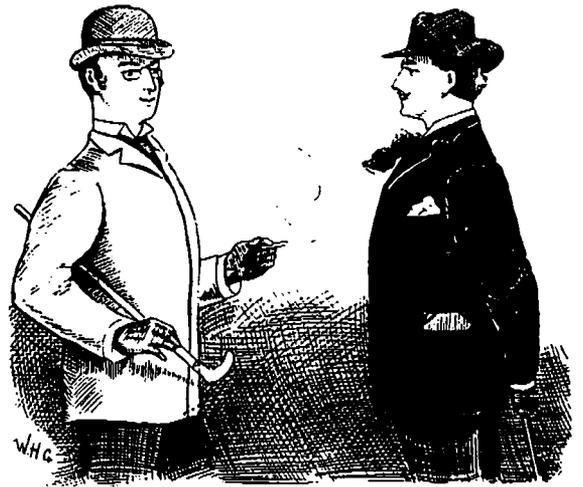
GRAIN sown at Manitoba Experimental Farm on March 2nd, is 2½ inches high, and grain sown on March 25th is the same. If they had waited till the 1st of April it would have been much higher.



THE FIRST OF THE SEASON.

FRUIT DEALER—"Dear? Oh, no. You must remember that these are the first strawberries I have had in."

CUSTOMER—"Well; the berries may be fairly cheap, but the bottoms of the boxes come high, you know."



FINANCIAL.

NED—"Well, Jack, I suppose you're living extremely high now, since you've become an artist. Making lots of money, eh?"

JACK JONES (son of "old" Jones, the banker)—"Not exactly. I could live on what money I make by my Art—but, thank Providence, I don't have to."

#### JENKINS IS OUT OF IT NOW.

MISS SMITH (to Jenkins)—"Oh, what a horrid bustle that woman has on across the road. I am sure it is worse than mine—don't you think so?"

JENKINS (who has been thinking of something else, probably of his other girl, hastily and reassuringly)—"No, indeed, it could not be that, I assure you, my dear Miss Smith."

#### A HUMAN LOADSTONE.

"YES, Brown has the most taking way of almost anyone I ever saw." "Indeed, may I ask in what form he displays his particular attractions?" "Certainly. He becomes attracted to money and valuables principally, and as a result has several times gone into the stone business at Kingston."

#### FIGURE-ATIVELY SPEAKING.

OLD LADY from country (in front of tailoring establishment)—"My sakes, Hennery, how natcherl they do git up them figgers, now," pointing to one.

LITTLE FIGURE (interrupting)—"Soi, mister, have yer got any terbacker about yer?" Old lady faints.

#### A CONVIVIAL SOUL.

MRS. BLOBBINS recently told her neighbor that when "that ere chap Greene an' a lot o' congealed spirits gits together there's no knowin' what'll result."

#### ONE AUDIBLE STILL.

MR. GUSHINGTON—"Time was when the morning stars sang together in glory and the spheres choired to the young-eyed cherubim; but they all are silent now."

MISS LUSHINGTON—"Ah, yes! They all are silent now—er—excepting woman's sphere."