

## The Planet

S. STEPHENSON, Proprietor.

## ANOTHER WORTHLESS CENSUS PROPOSED.

The Windsor Record indulges in this snarl at The Planet, which though undeserved, furnishes an opportunity to discuss the kind of census Canada proposes to spend a couple of hundred thousand dollars on.

"While its party were in power, the Chatham Planet was as mild as a cooling dove, but ever since it got into the cold shades of opposition it has been in a very perturbed state of mind. It cannot agree with anything the present government does. Its latest will is that the government propose to take the next census under the de jure system, and forthwith registers its kick. The 'de jure system' counts those who are out of Canada temporarily. For instance, a number of our people might be in Detroit visiting or working when the census-taker called at their homes. Would it not be absurd to refuse to count these?"

The Planet so far has not made any protest against counting them. It simply referred to the matter to show the inconsistency of the Record's leaders at Ottawa. When the Conservatives followed the de jure system, the Liberals protested. They wanted a de facto census, that is a numbering of the people actually in the country. Now they are in power, why don't they take the kind of census they preached when in opposition? Will the Record kindly say?

To be frank, and we are finding no more fault with the Laurier administration, than with their predecessors, we think the de jure system is a farce. Foreigners temporarily present in the country will offset Canadians temporarily absent. When both are counted, the census must necessarily be unreliable.

## HOW AMERICAN LAW TAKES LIFE.

In different parts of the United States capital punishment may be administered by hanging, electrocution, shooting or the guillotine. The latter method Uncle Sam inherited from Spain as the result of the recent war—a painful fact which was disagreeably impressed upon the public mind some weeks ago, when the barbarous weapon was used for the purpose of putting to death certain notorious malefactors in Porto Rico. The general sentiment in the States is adverse to any such cruel punishment even in the case of the worst criminals, and now a similar sentiment is spreading throughout Spain itself.

The first evidence that the Spanish people had begun to disapprove of the horrible method of execution which has prevailed in their country for centuries, appeared a few days ago, when the Spanish parliament decided that condemned criminals should in future be executed within the prisons, and not, as heretofore, in public, and that the moral tortures which have heretofore been inflicted on such criminals before they are handed over to the executioner, should be at once abolished. Henceforth, when a criminal is executed in Spain, a black flag will be hoisted above the prison at the moment of the execution, and no more will be witnessed those deplorable scenes which usually took place when a criminal was executed in public. Furthermore, the executioner will in future do his work quickly, and not as heretofore, in such a manner as to needlessly prolong the agony of his victim. Instead of testing the garrote for several minutes in the presence of the man who is to die, he will have to make all his preparations before the criminal leaves his cell, and he will be held responsible if the instrument fails to cause speedy death.

There has been talk in Spain of abolishing the guillotine altogether, and more than one member of parliament has recently urged that some more humane weapon be substituted for it. Their arguments have made a strong impression on their colleagues, and one result is that condemned persons will not in future be tortured before they die. The torture in such cases was the refinement of cruelty. The condemned man, clothed in funeral garb was taken from his cell 24 hours before the time set for his execution, and was led into another cell, which had been temporarily transformed into a chapel. He knew then that his plea for pardon had proved fruitless.

The walls of the cell were covered with black cloth, and near an altar, on which tapers were burning, stood several black robed monks, who chanted funeral hymns. In his gloomy cell, where the only sounds heard were the voices of those who prayed for the repose of his soul, the unhappy criminal was obliged to remain during the whole of his last day on earth. A few years ago he was obliged to remain in such a chapel during the two days and nights preceding his execution, but the time was reduced some time ago to 24 hours, and a further reduction was made still more recently by parliamentary decree. Several legislators, however, are clamoring for further reform in this direction. They insist that one hour in the chapel is sufficient. "The law," they say, "in

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condemning a criminal to capital punishment does not ordain that his execution shall be preceded by any other punishment, or that he shall be subjected to moral as well as to physical tortures.

The recent regulations provide that in future the chapel shall be divested as much as possible of its funeral features, and thus, though condemned persons will be required to spend some hours in it, they will not be tortured in the same manner as their unfortunate predecessors.

By all means abate the pole nuisance on King street.

The mortality among canines, as indicated by the number of applications for remission of dog tax, is so satisfactory that it is a pity the council couldn't double the penalty.

There must be some remedy for the railway hog pen nuisance. The board of health has been dawdling over the matter so long it looks as if that eminent body either had little real authority or else was so mightily afraid of the railway that it hadn't the courage to use what power it possessed.

It is a mistake to think that by including the King street poles in the sidewalk allowance that the space for vehicle traffic will be reduced. The poles occur so frequently that drivers must keep out and clear of them. Hence the distance between these poles is now neither useful for walking nor driving on.

Without going into the merits of the by-law, we imagine the impounder was taking some risks if he entered upon private property, fenced or unfenced, and unlocked and drove away cattle which did not belong to him. The criminal code calls the taking of another person's live stock, a different crime from impounding, and the criminal code is a higher authority than a Chatham city by-law. If Mr. Dunlop had thought of this he might have gone to the police instead of the city council with a different result.

A Conservative journal denies that Hugh John Macdonald's treatment of the foreigners is like Kruger's treatment of the Uitlanders. Its argument is that the Uitlanders were a superior people to the Boers, while we are superior to the foreigners. This seems to be substituting self-conceit for justice.—The Globe.

Of course the Globe has a right to speak for itself. It may therefore be counted out when Conservative journals claim that Canadians are superior in education and intelligence to the recently imported Donkshobors and Galkians of the Northwest.

## WHAT FOOLS ARE GOOD FOR.

Little Enoch—Paw, what are fools good for, anyhow?  
Farmer Flintrock—To teach us the results of blowin' into unloaded shot-guns, buyin' gold bricks, guzzlin' patent medicines, lightin' the fire with coal oil, goin' up in balloons, skatin' on thin ice, tryin' to beat other people at their own games, losin' all our friends' notes, thinkin' we know it all, flirtin' with grass widows, and so on and so forth, my son!

## ARE THE

children growing nicely?  
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## REPAIRING ARTERIES.

A Surgical Feat That Was Long Thought to be an Impossibility.

In the recent medical archives in the library of St. Petersburg is an account of a most wonderful operation performed by Kamtsky, one of the greatest surgeons of his time, an operation like which no other is recorded. Pottinkosh, a rich farmer, cattle raiser and reindeer farmer, residing north of St. Petersburg, suffered an injury to the upper end of the right thigh, caused by being violently hurled from his sleigh, the latter having struck a stump. The farmer in falling was jagged by a snag which struck about two inches below the fold of the flank, causing a torn, bleeding, gaping wound of about four inches in length, directly downward and in a line over the femoral artery (the large artery which supplies the entire leg with blood), the latter vessel having been laid bare and severely bruised in the wreck, no large vessels having been torn.

Kamtsky, with the great wisdom of a world of experience, wisely apprehended the possible results of this peculiar wound, and for the next twenty-four hours he spent every minute of his time, valuable as it was, working with chemical file, molten substances and apparatus of divers kinds until finally the object of his efforts was attained, a small, elastic, colorless tube, about five inches long, the composition of which is not recorded, consequently not known. In twelve hours after his task was finished careful scrutiny of the injured limb revealed, exposing about three and one-half inches of bruised vessel, ready to disintegrate. A clamp was placed on the artery an inch above where normal tissue began; then he cut the artery at the junction of the bruised and sound tissue, and carefully drawing the mysterious tube from its aseptic hiding place, he slipped the cut, round end of the vessel into it about an inch, being exceedingly careful while so doing to keep the hollow tube collapsed and empty, so as to avoid all danger produced by the entrance of air.

Repeating the same process at the lower end of the artery, he inserted the tube into the end of the vessel about the same distance at the upper end lay in the tube. Then gently releasing the lower clamp, he allowed the tube to fill with blood from the portion of the vessel below. Then the final test came when he gently and steadily removed the clamp above the tube, thus establishing an unbroken channel which would carry the blood to its normal distribution. A slight pouching of the tube at first caused some fear as to whether it were strong enough to stand the pressure of the heart wave of blood as the latter pulsed through its new channel. This latter defect was overcome, however, when the tube was laid on the bed of the wound, exerted portion and the external support of the muscles and tissues gave it sufficient strength to overcome the pressure of the blood stream. The wound was carefully closed, the parts set at rest and ready to heal.

In thirty-six hours the blue tint had disappeared from the toe and the color of the skin of the leg changed from a pale ashy to a pink. Two months afterward the patient was attending his every-day duties as formerly, suffering no inconvenience whatever from his wound. Five years afterward the patient died of acute pneumonia and a postmortem examination of the seat of the wound revealed a strong, firm plug of composition tube, immediately in the "situation" of the composition tube, the latter having been absorbed by the blood, not however, before the lymphatics had so encysted it, just as a bullet becomes encysted in the body after months of time, to the extent that when the tube was eaten away by the blood this fibrous coat answered the original plan of circulation.

Shell Shock Lasted Years.  
"I see by the war cablegrams," said a resident of Pittsburgh at one of the hotels, "that some of the dead Boers found in the trenches were without visible wounds. Apparently they had been killed by shock. That recalls to me very forcibly a remarkable case, for which I can vouch personally."

"During the first day's fighting at Gettysburg a young man named Joe Cady, second lieutenant in the Twelfth Pennsylvania, was supposed to have been killed by a shell which exploded within a few yards of his head. Later surgeons made an examination, and, greatly to their surprise, could find no wound. The man was alive, in a profound stupor, but to all appearances was physically unharmed at Washington, and from there, still in the same condition, to his home near Harrisburg. "For several weeks Cady lay exactly like one dead, and then, very gradually, he began to emerge from unconsciousness into a horrible, automatic sort of life, next door to complete idiocy. That condition remained unaltered for nearly three years; then suddenly he had a seizure like cataplexy, from which he awoke in a few hours in complete possession of his reason."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Perfect Kitchen.  
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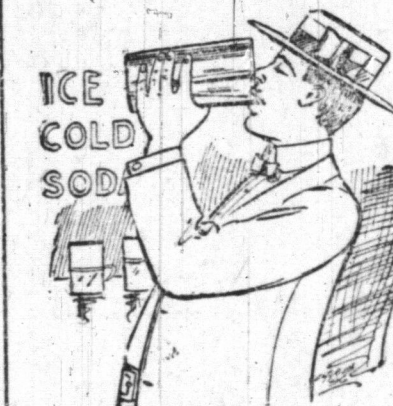
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  - 9.30 a.m. Amusing contests on King St.—Free.
  - 9.30 a.m. Public School Championships on Tecumseh Park.—Free.
  - 10.30 a.m. Professional Baseball on Athletic Park.—Admission 25¢.
  - 2 p.m. Drill Competition on Tecumseh Park (the Cadet Corps of the Collegiate Institutes of London, St. Thomas and Chatham and company of military young ladies, and the London, St. Thomas and Chatham Cadet Corps; Band Concert by the City and Excelsior Bands.—Admission 15¢. Grand Stand 10¢ extra.
  - 4 p.m. Professional Baseball on Athletic Park.—Admission 25¢.
  - 7 p.m. Football at Athletic Park, followed by a fancy drill contest and exhibition by the "Daughters of The Regiment," Windsor's crack company of military young ladies, and the London, St. Thomas and Chatham Cadet Corps; Band Concert by the City and Excelsior Bands.—Admission 15¢. Grand Stand 10¢ extra.

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For Further Particulars See Small Bills

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