

CAZLA.
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LONDON, MONDAY, MARCH 28.

The Flood.

West London is not alone in its misfortune. Floods are reported in Chatham, Thamesville, Wallaceburg, Vienna and other municipalities in this district. The breakwater which almost half surrounds the western suburb of this city has been an adequate protection against the annual freshets until this year. It withstood the force of the current on Saturday, but the river overflowed in places, rising higher than in any year since the deluge of 1882. The extraordinary snowfall of the past winter, is, of course, responsible, and it may be that the experience will not be repeated in a lifetime.

There is no reason why the property-owners of West London should be pessimistic over the situation. They have enjoyed immunity from floods since the embankment was erected and had it been a foot or two higher below the forks the village would have been spared a very serious incursion this year. The breakwater is not an expensive affair, but it has hitherto served the purpose, and it has made more secure without laying a crushing burden on the ratepayers of the village. West London is better off than several other municipalities along the rivers in this part of the country, which have no artificial protection against floods, and are exposed to them every year.

The terms of amalgamation exempt the city of London from financial responsibility for damages caused by the flood, but private distress should be relieved immediately. What appears to be wanted more than anything else by a number who have been flooded out is a supply of bedding. Orders have been given to the city relief department to render aid to applicants, but there are many who will not go to the city hall to ask for help, and who are sorely in need of it. The relief officers should be instructed to make a tour of investigation, so that assistance may be rendered without putting deserving people in the position of begging for charity.

The Taxation of Railroads.

Mr. Whitney went through the Province during the last provincial campaign denouncing the taxation which the Government had levied on financial and railway corporations, and declaring that it should be removed. Mr. Whitney now offers to support Mr. Pettipiece's sweeping bill for the taxation of railroads upon a new basis. He throws his professions to the winds, because he thinks he sees a chance of turning out the Government by supporting a measure introduced by a Liberal member. The Government has not accepted Mr. Pettipiece's bill in its entirety, but has recognized its main principle, the increased taxation of railroads. The bill reported by the special committee on municipal taxation provides that railroads shall pay municipal taxation on their real estate, according to its value, and in addition, pay a mileage rate for providing a service. This rate is now \$2.00, but will be increased, it is said, to \$5.00. Mr. Pettipiece's measure provides for the appointment of a provincial board for the taxation of railroads, the assessment to be based upon their cost of construction, earning power, and value as going concerns. The bill would enormously increase the taxation of railway corporations, and they claim they would be driven to recoup themselves by a sharp advance in freight rates. Mr. Pettipiece has presented his case with considerable skill and ability, but he will, no doubt, prefer to accept for the time being the Government's moderate measure, rather than play into the hands of those who have no sympathy with the principle of his bill and would throw it out if they ever reached the treasury benches.

The Transvaal Ordinance.

The British Liberals are finding in the Transvaal labor question a weapon against the Government as potent as the education bill or the tariff heterodoxy of Mr. Balfour. The Government refused to dissolve the ordinance of the Transvaal Council, and escaped the censure of the House of Commons by a perilously narrow majority. This ordinance will permit the mine owners of the Transvaal to recruit Chinese coolies, who will be indentured for a term of years, and will be forced to leave the Transvaal when the contract expires. The imported Chinese will be required to live in separate quarters or compounds. If an indentured Chinaman violates his contract and seeks to escape from his compound, he may be arrested and brought back. There is something in this system which smacks of slavery and grates on the liberalizing sentiments of the British people. Only as an absolute necessity to the recovery of the exhausted colony can it be defended. The ordinance has been petitioned for by the majority of the white population of the Transvaal. The whites are not employed in the mines, but they depend for their livelihood upon mining operations, and have been influenced by the capitalists of the Rand to support the introduction of the Chinese. The opponents of the ordinance say that Chinese labor will destroy the prospect of the Transvaal becoming a white man's country, and that the mine owners are well able to pay wages which will attract white labor. The mine owners allege, of course, that the mines cannot be profitably worked at the wages which would have to be paid white men to enable them to live in the Transvaal, where everything is high-priced. Whether they have deliberately curtailed

operations so as to force the Government to allow them to import cheap yellow labor is a question upon which there is difference of opinion.

If Togo should succeed in bottling up Port Arthur what would the world do for war news?

More money might be spent on the breakwater, and less on granolithic sidewalks in West London.

The Russian sea-fighters are beginning to recover their nerve. The Japs haven't lost theirs yet.

The Thames is a lazy stream the greater part of the year, and West Londoners wish it would always keep its bed.

The London Chronicle thinks Canada is more temperate than England because of her climate. There may be something in that. The sad and soggy atmosphere of the old land probably conduces to the taking of stimulants in self-defense. British tourists say they find a stimulant in the very air of this country.

The London Speaker points out that since the Unionist party came into power in 1895, Great Britain has been engaged in fourteen wars and military expeditions. Of the wars referred to by the speaker, one was in the Sudan, one was on the northwest frontier of India, one was the Boer war, and there remain the Chinese expedition, and "adventures" in Venezuela, Kano, Aden, Somaliland and Tibet.

"The two last named," says the Speaker, "are still with us and are involving a heavy expenditure which cannot be measured accurately, but certainly runs to several hundred thousand pounds every month." The cost for the active operations of war during the nine-year period is put at \$250,000,000, or roughly \$1,250,000,000, and it is added that during the same period the Government has paid through £400,000,000 (\$2,000,000,000), "in the way of 'normal' or peace expenditure on soldiers, sailors, battalions, barracks and forts."

In the meantime consols have declined from 114 to 85 and the national debt has increased from £835,000,000 to £798,000,000. Great Britain is probably the only country in Europe that could stand this pace, but how much longer can she keep it up?

KUROPATKIN.

[Council Bluffs Nonpareil.] There's a rumbling as of thunder far across Siberia's plain, And the stricken earth is rocking and the mountains groan in pain. The sky is rent asunder, and the sun is ashy gray. As it sinks away in terror—Kuropatkin's on the way.

He is coming with his legions and his weirdly grand mustache. Rivers turn and flee before him at the snapping of his lash. Forest trees are scared and blasted, and the flowers bright and gay. Wither forty miles around him—Kuropatkin's on the way.

He has asteroids for breakfast, he eats and confines at noon. He'll pick his teeth with splinters from his blasted battalions. With her islands on his watch-charm like a happy boy he'll play. Fly, you sea and seek the ocean—Kuropatkin's on the way.

Oh, her army's just a bubble; o'er Japan he'll smack his lips. He'll pick his teeth with splinters from his blasted battalions. With her islands on his watch-charm like a happy boy he'll play. Fly, you sea and seek the ocean—Kuropatkin's on the way.

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another sample of the work done by a business Government which "does things." We have heard a great deal of talk about "Canadianism" for years, but no definite step was ever taken before which could be as confidently expected to lead to the removal of that curious anomaly in our military system—a bar against any Canadian officer, no matter how able—ever rising to the command of his own native militia.

The right one secured, it may not be necessary or advisable to exercise it at once or even frequently. We need the advice of a British officer in the "knocking into shape" of our little citizen army. We ought, at all times, to remember that we will fight, on most occasions, as a part of the British military system; and it is hence advisable that there should be a uniformity in our training and a close "shoulder touch" between our men and those from the other parts of the Empire.

Expert British advice we should have on all occasions; and the British officer commanding" then from some other official attaché of the local militia establishment.

LITERARY NAMES.

[Exchange.] "Yes," says the fond mamma, "I think we picked real pretty names for the twins. Pa got them out of a book. I always did like a name with a literary tone to it."

"And what do you call the little darlings?" "Fauna and Flora. It's from a book in the library, downstairs that tells about 'The Fauna and Flora of the Western Hemisphere'."

LOUBET BARRED FROM VATICAN

Pope Takes a Firm Stand in Regard to French Persecution.

Rome, March 28. — The Vatican has declared "open war" against the French Government. While the predecessors of Pius X. sacrificed everything in their efforts to preserve the concordat of 1801, which provides for the material needs of the church in France, Pius X. has come to the conclusion that after all the concordat is only an obstacle to the free and untrammelled exercise of religious rights by the French clergy, and has decided to raise his voice in a solemn protest against the action of the French legislators regarding the religious orders and the bishops of the empire.

The Pope's address to the cardinals on the eve of the feast of St. Joseph, in which he severely condemned the actions of the French Government, was a premeditated effort to change the policy of silent submission which has been followed for so many years in the face of the hostile attitude of the French Government.

From a diplomatic point of view the Pope's address is considered a masterpiece, for in a moment it solved the delicate question of receiving President Loubet at the Vatican without the necessity of a direct refusal. The insistence with which the French officials, especially the Italian ambassador, tried to obtain the desired audience, even sending bishops to Rome to persuade the Pope to change his mind, had placed the Vatican in a rather embarrassing position. The Pope's speech has had the immediate result of making it impossible for the Emperor to ask to be received at the Vatican, even if he were so inclined.

Pius X. also has decided on closer relations with Germany. Emperor William is now in Italy, just at the right moment, and it is rumored that negotiations are pending for a representation of the Pope to the Emperor, even if private visit to the Pope. The German sphere of influence in Palestine and the far east is to be enlarged by extending the German protectorate over Catholic missions at the expense of French prestige.

Trustworthy reports state that within the last few days the German Government has consented to the appointment of a papal nuncio at Berlin and to a permanent German representation at the Vatican, a diplomatic move which would make the French Government consider the German protectorate over Catholic missions at the expense of French prestige.

Major-General Count Pfeil, retired, estimates that the Russian forces at the disposal of Gen. Kuropatkin number 181,895 men, with 540 to 600 guns, which are sufficient, he says, to carry on defensive operations until reinforcements shall have arrived from Russia.

The Matlin's St. Petersburg correspondent says that it is alleged, that the Vladivostok squadron is en route to Argentina, where it expects to overtake the warships "bought by Russia." The Russian Government has notified the United States Government that it

BLACK ART IN LONDON

Law suit Over Mystic Clasp Reveals Belief in Secret Magic.

London, March 28. — A strange story of mystic society and belief in the black art which still exists among people in unsuspected quarters is being told this week in King's Bench division in the course of an action brought by Mrs. Marion Cunningham to recover possession of an alleged mystic clasp said to have been given by Cagliostro to Marie Antoinette.

Mrs. Cunningham's story is that meeting Dr. Berridge for professional treatment, she discovered that he was the head of a body known as the Hermetic Society, and he professed to be an astrologer and magician able to see into the future, the cause of illness, break off engagements, and to perform other wonders.

Mrs. Cunningham believed in him, and became a member of the secret society. It was then Dr. Berridge took a fancy to the mysterious clasp, upon which were engraved curious cabalistic signs, and offered to pay \$5,000 for it. In the course of the proceedings expert witnesses deposed that the clasp was a fake, and that its manufacture, and might be worth 75 cents.

CONGO BOOK SUPPRESSED

Capt. DeKeyser Wins His Case in the English Courts.

London, March 28. — The libel suit brought by Capt. DeKeyser, formerly connected with the forces of the Congo Free State, against Cecil Burrell, also formerly in the employment of the Congo Free State and the author of a book entitled "The Congo in Central Africa," and against Everett, the publisher, ended today in a verdict for Capt. DeKeyser. The damages were fixed at \$500. The court granted a perpetual injunction against the publication of the book.

The book accused DeKeyser of cutting off the hands of natives, and of other barbarities. Defendants' counsel withdrew the plea of justification. Capt. Burrell did not testify. DeKeyser denied the accusation, maintaining that the book was intended for blackmail purposes.

Boils were so painful could not sleep at night.

APPEARED ON NECK, LEGS AND ARMS.

Burdock Blood Bitters CURED THEM.

It is well-known to all that bad blood is the direct cause of all skin diseases and it is necessary for the blood to be cleansed before the eruptions will disappear. For this purpose there is nothing so equal as Burdock Blood Bitters as the thousands of testimonials we have on hand will testify.

Mr. Willard Thompson, McNeill's Mills, P.E.I., writes us as follows: "I wish to state to you that Burdock Blood Bitters has done for me. Some time ago my blood got out of order and I was afflicted with boils on my neck, legs and arms. They were so painful that I could not sleep at night. After having tried many different remedies without any success, I finally decided, on the advice of a friend, to use Burdock Blood Bitters. Before I had quite used two bottles the boils had completely disappeared, and I wish to emphasize the fact that I think Burdock Blood Bitters the best blood purifier on the market to-day."

TOGO MAKES ANOTHER DASHING ATTEMPT

(Continued from page 1.)

eloped for it to reach Japan, or even Korea, and therefore it was concluded that the Japanese must have a base in the vicinity of the Russian fortress, perhaps in neutral Chinese territory, which would be a violation of the pledge of the powers. It was also suggested that the Elliott Islands, fifty miles northeast of Port Arthur, might be the location of the Japanese base, and this group Vice-Admiral Makarov is believed to have examined.

PAT ON THE SCENE.

St. Petersburg, March 27. — "I shall feel relieved when General Kuropatkin assumes command," remarked the Emperor yesterday at the winter palace. Tonight his majesty received telegrams not only announcing the general's arrival at Harbin, but bringing word that the mobilization of the Manchurian army was completed. Gen. Kuropatkin stopped at Harbin to visit the fortress there. He will arrive in Mukden tomorrow, and will review the troops.

WAR NOTES.

The steamer Active has arrived at the Foo, from Kobe, Japan. She reports that on the 25th inst. she passed a fleet of Japanese transports, conveyed by cruisers, in the inland. They were bound for Korea.

It is stated that apparently reliable authority that Vice-Admiral Makarov's report of his reconnaissance of the Elliott Islands yesterday, and to be engaged in erecting six additional encampments. It is also reported that four batteries of artillery have been established at Chiyang Siang.

Gen. Mishchenko has been informed that the Japanese have suspended their advance on the Ping Yang-Anju line. Three thousand Japanese troops are stationed at Anju, and a thousand at Pak Ching. While forty Japanese warships and transports are anchored at Chiyang Siang.

A report from Vladivostok says that a mine has been discovered under the fortress with wires leading to a Chinese house in the town.

It is learned upon reliable authority that the telegraph of it is alleged, that the Vladivostok squadron is en route to Argentina, where it expects to overtake the warships "bought by Russia." The Russian Government has notified the United States Government that it

A startling statement comes from Vladivostok, apparently from a reliable source, to the effect that Captain Reizenstein's squadron returned to the harbor, having a second-class Japanese cruiser.

The Russian Government has notified the United States Government that it

Two detachments of Russian troops, one estimated to number 500 and the other 200 men, are reported to be pillaging the country around Anju. The natives, in fear, are fleeing south. Anju is forty miles north of Ping Yang, and about sixty miles south of the Yalu River.

In order to provide for the requirements of the army of occupation, the Japanese authorities have decided to extend the fishery concessions in the Korean provinces of Hwang Hai, Churing and Ping Yang.

A dispatch from the Birmingham Post says the British admiralty are arranging for the construction of flat-bottomed gunboats for service in the Chinese rivers.

Smallpox has become epidemic in the interior of Siberia. The authorities have taken measures to stamp out the disease, which has not as yet affected the troops.

St. Petersburg, March 28.—In order that the Russian troops shall not present a bright target for the enemy an order has been issued by the ministry of war directing that gray instead of white shall be the color of the uniform during the summer season.

THE MIKADO'S DONATION. Tokio, March 28.—The Emperor today donated 100,000 to the Soldiers' Relief Society. Counts Matsugata and Inouye, promoters of the society, who had an audience with the Emperor, were given the donation.

General Sir William Nicholson, director-general of military intelligence of the British war office, has arrived here. General Nicholson will accompany the Japanese army for the purpose of making a special study of the methods of transportation.

Captain Trowbridge, the British naval attaché, has departed for London.

CIVILIANS MUST FIGHT. St. Petersburg, March 28.—Lieut. General Stessel, in command at Port Arthur, has issued an order forbidding civilian functionaries to desert their offices and seek places of safety during bombardments. General Stessel sarcastically observes that he has not seen them at the batteries when the enemy was attacking.



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Herringbone Twill Suitings.

Excellent selection of six different shades. The very choicest colorings of mid-gray, light gray, fawn, fawn brown, light reseda, mid-reseda, 52 inches wide; selling at per yard..... **85c**

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Very worthy selection of Scotch Suiting, in Oxford gray, Cambridge gray, fawn, pearl gray, light reseda, mid-reseda; all wool, light weight; stylish for summer suiting; 56 inches wide; **\$1.00** our price.....

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A special variety of mixed suitings, in eight shadings of green and white, reseda and white, brown and white, pearl gray and white, black and white, silk finish; an ideal material for summer suiting, selling at..... **\$1.25**

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SOUTACHE BRAID—The very latest and stylish trimming, in two widths, all leading colors to match suitings.

FANCY INSERTIONS—Various widths, in champagne, cream, white and tan; selling at from 8c to 50c per yard.

Great Variety of Colored Tinsel Edgings to Match Suitings.

KINGSMILL'S.

THE CAREER OF BLUEBEARD II.

London Wife-Murderer Sui-cides to Avoid Arrest.

BODY OF LAST WIFE FOUND

At Different Times Married Eight Women Most of Whom Mysteriously Died or Disappeared.

London, March 28. — Public interest continues to be largely absorbed in the extraordinary developments attending the suicide of a man named George Crossman.

On the night of March 23, Crossman, who was living in the respectable suburbs of Kensington, killed himself to avoid arrest by the police, whose suspicions had been aroused regarding the contents of a trunk which Crossman was sending away from his house. On opening the trunk the body of a woman was found encased in cement.

An investigation proved that she was murdered about six months, and that she was one of Crossman's eight wives. Five of his wives were traced and found alive, one is dead, and two are missing.

The identity of the body found in the cement cannot yet be ascertained on account of decomposition and injury to the skull, which had been split with an axe or similar instrument. The police believe it possible that the investigation may prove that Crossman adopted a systematic method of ridding himself of other superfluous wives, of which it is suspected, he had several who have not yet been traced.

Though about 30 years old, Crossman's career rivals that of the most famous criminals. Under various aliases he led a double and even a triple married life, posing successfully, according to the fancy of the movement, as an engineer, composer, wig-maker, and bookmaker. His chief means of support, however, appear to have been derived from his wives, several of whom he secured through advertisements.

His neighbors always regarded Crossman as a respectable man, who led a quiet and uninteresting life. Crossman secured a fifth wife under the name of Seaton. A month later he married again. The whereabouts and fate of the sixth wife are still uncertain. He took his seventh and eighth wives without suspicion being aroused. Crossman found his eighth wife in the young daughter of a London railroad employee, and she is supposed to be the victim he encased in cement.

At the time of his suicide Crossman thus had five wives, besides several children. The discovery occurred through the suspicions of a lodger, to whom Crossman let some rooms at Kensington. Crossman was living with

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Corner of Eleventh Street and University Place, one block west of Broadway. A homelike, comfortable hotel, at moderate rates. The service is of the highest quality. Away from the rattle and noise of Broadway. Convenient to wholesale and retail business. Near the larger retail emporiums.

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one of his many wives, who occupied the same room where the dead body of the other wife was concealed in a trunk. The lodger traced an odor there, and Crossman agreed to send the trunk away. When he attempted to do so the lodger notified the police, and when they attempted to arrest him Crossman cut his own throat and died instantly.

The body found in the trunk, from which the cement has now been chipped off, is that of a young woman. The police theory is that Crossman, while she was undressing, struck her from behind with an axe, completely severing a portion of the skull, part of which is now missing.

SOUTHWEST LIMITED CHICAGO TO KANSAS CITY.

Via the Santa Fe Road. The Southwest Limited via the new Short Line of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, Chicago to Kansas City, has taken its place with The Pioneer Limited, Chicago to St. Paul and Minneapolis, and The Overland Limited, Chicago to Omaha and St. Paul, among the famous trains of America.

These trains offer excellence of service and equipment, and are available elsewhere. There are many reasons for this, one of which is the fact that this railway owns and operates its sleeping, dining, library, parlor and other cars, thereby securing an excellence of service not obtainable elsewhere. If you are going West it is worth while to write for descriptive folder. A. J. Taylor, Canadian Passenger Agent, No. 8 King St., Toronto, Ont.

Notice. Feather Pillows and Mattresses cleaned and sterilized. New Feather Pillows in art tickings, and Cushions, Hair Mattresses, Wool Mattresses, Spring Beds, Iron and Brass Bedsteads. Feather sold by the pound at Hunt & Sons', Feather Pillow and Mattress Manufacturers, 533 Richmond street north. Telephone 327.

Leave London 7.05 P. M. Arrive New York 10 Next Morning.

After time is made by Michigan Central-New York Central route. Through sleeper from St. Thomas. 58 ba

During March and April The Canadian Pacific will issue one-way tourist tickets at very low rates to principal points in British Columbia, Oregon, Washington and California.

Full information can be had at the City Ticket Office, 151 Dundas street, corner Richmond. 63c

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