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For the TRUE WITNESS.

Eventide. When the shades of night are lying O'er the verdant hill and dale, When the day is softly dying Let such thoughts as these prevail.

For and About Women.

It costs \$300 for a wedding in China. The fagured bow is used to trim dresses. A new figured velvet looks like leopard skin. Pole-draw cloths trimmed with fur are worn by young ladies.

Scottish News.

The number of voters on the register of the Edinburgh University for 1879 is 4171. The South of Scotland Chamber of Commerce recently adopted a resolution in favor of the amendment of the laws.

Ontario. The total area of this Province is now 221,000 square miles, including the recent acquisitions by the settlement of the boundary question.

Death. A Russian statistician has lately undertaken to find out at what rate people die in Europe, and the results of his labors show the following yearly proportion of deaths out of every thousand souls:

Table with 2 columns: Country, Proportion of deaths per thousand. Includes Russia, Hungary, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Austria, Spain, Italy, Germany, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Great Britain, Denmark, Norway & Sweden.

It will be seen that the mortality is greatest in Russia, whereas Norway and Sweden seem to be the healthiest of the countries. France ranks fourteen on the list, and shows a slight advantage over Germany.

Phosphate in Canada.

The London Globe calls attention to phosphate discoveries in Canada, and to Mr. Henry Vennor's reports on the discovery of tri-basic phosphate of lime on apatite immediately to the north of Ottawa.

The Timber Trade Between Great Britain and Canada.

There appears to be a prospect for a considerable trade in manufactured lumber between Canada and England. At a recent dinner given by a large building firm at Dundee, the chairman said: "When he occupied the chair on a similar occasion last year, he prophesied that, though the Americans could supply them with very excellent and cheap wood, they would not be able to give them finished work."

Mulberry and dragon green are the favorite shades in the fashionable spun silk hose.

French Serving Girls.

The French servant girl is generally much better off than her American or British sister. She carries three-fourths of her earnings to the savings bank, and is never content until she is the possessor of at least \$100 with which to buy a debenture bond of the city of Paris.

THE PEDESTRIAN CHAMPION BELT.

O'Leary notified that he must walk for it against Rowell in March next. The London Sporting Life has decided that O'Leary must arrange a match with Rowell to compete for the Astley champion belt, and that the race must take place in March.

The New President of France.

François Paul Jules Grévy is a native of the mountain department of Jura, near the Swiss frontier, and has in his native much of the rugged downrightness appropriate to his early surroundings. Born at Mont-sous-Vaudrec on the 8th of August 1813.

A comparatively new insect, the bean weevil, threatens to become a common pest of farmers. It operates in the same manner as the pea weevil, by boring into the seed while in the pod.

Sitting Bull's Lament.

BISMARCK, D. K., January 27, 1879.—Runners from Sitting Bull, arriving at Standing Rock agency, say the warrior wants to return to Standing Rock, as his tribe, the Uncpapas, stop on that reservation. The Tribune to-day publishes this message from Sitting Bull to the Uncpapas.

The Condition of English Peasants.

The London correspondent of the Tribune, in speaking of the condition of the English peasant, says of him: "He and his progeny do not live; they merely exist. Poets have sung and moralists sentimentally decanted upon the British peasant; but strip him of his romance, and look at him truthfully and soberly, and he presents a melancholy spectacle."

Italy as It Is.

The Annuario storico for 1879 publishes the following statistics relative to the condition of Italy:—The average age of the population is twenty-seven years. The average length of life is thirty-one years and ten months.

Ex-President McMahon.

Marie E. Patrice Maurice de McMahon, Marquis of McMahon and Duke of Magenta, was born in 1808, of a family that had emigrated from Ireland in 1689, after sacrificing all their property to the cause of the Stuarts.

Agricultural Progress.

The agricultural progress of the Lake St. John district of Quebec is reported to be exceedingly rapid. Statistics are printed by Quebec Journals showing that during the past ten years the population of the locality has increased 67 per cent.

Paper Bricks.

A manufactory of paper bricks has been opened somewhere in Wisconsin. The bricks are said to be exceedingly durable and moisture proof. They are also larger than the clay article.

Dynamite Shells.

Experiments are now being made in Russia with dynamite shells of a novel type, which are intended to supersede torpedoes. Various appliances having been constructed to ward off torpedoes either by intercepting them in their course or else by revealing their presence or approach, the Russian Government has turned its attention to the invention of some other weapon which is to serve the same purpose without admitting of an easy defence.

The German Emperor.

The German Emperor has conferred Prussian decorations upon the French officers who were present at the German autumn manoeuvres. The Emperor has also confirmed the appointment of Professor Owen and Mr. Charles Darwin to members of the German Academy. It was 72 years exactly on New Year's Day since the Emperor received his first commission in the Prussian army.

Manufacture of Steel Rails in Canada.

The Mayor of Kingston is in communication with a company which proposes to establish a manufactory for the production of steel rails for Canadian railways. The company (represented by a Mr. Wrigley,) which is said to be composed of a number of wealthy and enterprising men, who mean business, propose to make a beginning by manufacturing bar and sheet iron, fish-plates, etc., from Canadian scrap iron, and after feeling their way, to proceed to the manufacture of steel rails and other supplies for Canadian railways.

A New Field for English Manufacturers.

A new field for English manufactured goods has been opened, and the prospect has given some encouragement in the mother land. The Russian Minister of Finance, having in view the encouragement which the Czar is reported to give to the slowly developing Siberian trade, has resolved, for a time, to allow all foreign goods, except books, patent medicines, lithographic stones, spirits and printed matter, to enter the provinces of the Obi and Yenesei free of import duty. Some vessels have succeeded in taking out cargoes of English manufactured goods to the mouth of the Obi in less than three weeks, and have returned to Europe with cargoes of wheat. Thus far the Germans and Swedes have been the most strongly represented on the Siberian coast, but English merchants are now entering into the trade, especially as the fear of war between Russia and England is dying away.

An Extraordinary Invention.

The last scientific story is told thus.—The Saturday Review once declared that the greatest benefactor of the human race would be he who could enable man to drink an unlimited quantity of wine without getting drunk. Such a man has been found. Dr. Bell invented the telephonic, but he wonders pale before the telegraphoscope. This is an electrical machine by which the palate can be tickled, and pleased by any flavour, and for any length of time, without any feat of digestion or inebriety. By putting soap or fish oil wine into a receptacle connected with a powerful battery, the taste of the daintiest viands can be conveyed along a telegraph wire for miles, and to any unlimited number of bon vivants. They have only to put the wire into their mouths, and they seem to be eating and drinking. They may get drunk or over-fed, but the moment the contact is broken the evil effects pass off, and nothing remains but "a delightful exhilaration." The inventor, however, keeps the modus operandi a perfect secret, and wishes to protect his discovery before he discloses it to the world.—Galignani's Messenger.

The American Lakes.

There is a mystery about the American lakes. Lake Erie is only 60 to 70 feet deep. But Lake Ontario is only 592 feet deep, 250 below the tide-level of the ocean, or as low as most parts of the Gulf of St. Lawrence; and the bottom of Lakes Huron, Michigan and Superior, although the surface is much higher, are all from their vast depths on a level with the bottom of Ontario. Now, as the discharge through the River Detroit, after allowing for the probable portion carried off by evaporation, does not by any means appear equal to the quantity of water which the three upper lakes receive, it has been conjectured that a subterranean river may run from Lake Superior, by Huron, to Lake Ontario.

Meerschaum.

Of those who indulge in the delights of a meerschaum pipe, few, perhaps, know what meerschaum is, or where it comes from. The word "meerschaum" literally translated, means "sea foam," and the substance which this word represents derived its name from its resemblance to the froth of the sea. Meerschaum is a mineral substance which in chemical parlance is called a hydrous silicate of magnesia, silica and water. This mineral is found in Moravia, in Spain, and Asia Minor. The best comes from the latter country, from the mines near Eskischehr, on the Parnack river. These mines, it may be remarked, are worked chiefly by Armenian Christians, and have a world-wide reputation in commerce. Large quantities of this Asiatic meerschaum are imported into Europe, to be manufactured into pipes. The pipe manufactory is principally carried on in the city of Vienna in Austria, and in Ruhla, in the Duchy of Saxony-Gotha. So rare is the quality of pipes manufactured at these places that their commercial value may safely be estimated at \$2,000,000 a year. Large quantities of them, however, are cut from artificial, and not from genuine material. The artificial material is composed of the waste from the carvings of the article, to which linseed oil and alum are added. These ingredients are boiled together, and when the mixture has acquired the proper consistency and cohesiveness it is cast into molds and carefully dried. The blocks thus formed are then carved into pipes, just as the pure meerschaum pipes are carved. The demand for meerschaum pipes is so great, and the manufacture from artificial material so profitable, that scarcely half the number now offered for sale are made from the genuine meerschaum.

A Misrepresentation Corrected.

Irish Canadian. A month ago we were assured that Sir John Macdonald had declared that the Speakership is to be given to Mr. Costigan. The right, or left, honorable gentleman's promises are deserving of so little attention that public mention, even now, should not have brought of it, so thorough is our conviction that Sir John's every word is an outcome of crafty humbug, and our attention not been called by circumstances to the attempt made to prejudice the claims of Mr. Costigan by the Hon. Mr. Anglin. Bitter representatives of the Irish Catholics of New Brunswick as they are, Mr. Anglin was, of course, glad as a Grit to see the Catholics of the Province snubbed by the Premier in the exclusion of Mr. Costigan from the Cabinet.

The Hon. Mr. Anglin has declared through his journal, the St. John's Freeman, that the Irish Catholics of New Brunswick regard the question of Mr. Costigan's admission into the Cabinet with indifference. A treason of the very gravest character to the rights and interests of his people lies, in this case, at the door of the Hon. Mr. Anglin. The Hon. Mr. Anglin's constituency is in the Diocese of Bishop Rogers. Now His Lordship must be presumed to be as faithful a reflex of the feelings of the Irish Catholics in that constituency as Mr. Anglin. The following letter is good, therefore, as an evidence conclusive beyond doubt that the selection of Mr. Costigan for the Cabinet is a subject of such concern to the Irish Catholics of that constituency as to have led their Bishop to consent to its publication.—

New Brunswick, Chatham, Sept. 29, 1878.

JOHN COSTIGAN, Esq., M.P., Grand Falls, Victoria, N. B. My DEAR MR. COSTIGAN.—Your esteemed letter from Little Falls duly came to hand. I need not say to you how highly gratified I was to learn of your success again, in being selected for your native County by such a respectable majority.

I perceive by the newspapers that you are spoken of as one of the probable Ministers of the new Cabinet. I sincerely hope that this index of public opinion may become realized. Your faithful, consistent and honourable course in Parliament, in relation to the question of the Common School Law of New Brunswick, is a guarantee that you would faithfully represent your fellow Catholics in the new Cabinet. Should such legitimate hope become realized, I need not say to you how much satisfaction it will afford to myself.

Beginning God to bless you and to direct your course and that of your colleagues in transacting the important public business of the country, I remain, my dear Mr. Costigan, very sincerely yours in X, JAMES ROGERS, Bishop of Chatham.