

THE DOUKHOBOR INCUBUS.

It is stated on the best of authority that the Government has been quietly endeavoring to negotiate a loan of \$1,000,000 to tide the 7,000 destitute Doukhobors over a couple of seasons. The Government will not officially guarantee the loan, but it is proposed that the security should be a first mortgage on the land and that if, within a stated period, the holder of any land fails to become an industrious husbandman, his holding shall revert to the lenders of the money. The latter, however, are dubious about the surety, principally because they have little faith in the future of the Doukhobors, and they point out that any land which may revert to them will be practically unsalable as no "white" people would care to buy the land and settle alone in the midst of these Doukhobors.

The effort shows to what straits the Government has been reduced by the blunder in allowing the country to be loaded down with such an army of alien paupers.

The Pall Mall Gazette predicts that Hugh John Macdonald is the coming man in Canada.

The chances are that Buller won't even be able to eat his Christmas dinner at Ladysmith—Hamilton Herald.

And if he doesn't the garrison may have no Christmas dinner to eat.

The English public is mightily long-suffering to stand the present fool censorship, which is shutting them out from war news they are entitled to.

Through the recent flurry in Wall Street James R. Keene is reported to have cleaned up \$5,000,000. He ended his conscience then by presenting his wife with half of it for a Christmas present.

Lieut. Winston Churchill imitated the example of his superior officers in all but that they retreated in the face of the enemy, while Winston skedaddled when the enemy's back was turned.

On December 4th Colonel Kekewich signalled that Kimberley had supplies for forty days, forage for thirty days and plenty of water. January 14, 1900, thus appears to be the earliest date at which Kimberley can approach the danger of being starved out. The garrison could probably hold on until February 1st at a pinch. This means that all the troops now landing must be sent to aid Methuen in forcing his way into Kimberley. Three or four weeks is not long to act in.

The Duke of Wellington, on being asked whether he had given the command at Waterloo, "Up, Guards, and at them!" sniffed, and called the author of that story an adjectival fool. Now Sir Redvers Buller has been under the necessity of denying that he vauntingly proclaimed his intention of eating his Christmas dinner in Pretoria. The following is an extract from a letter to an old friend of the general, which appeared in the weekly edition of the London Times on Dec. 1.

"Don't let me, at Sea, Oct. 27. I never was foolish enough to make any such statement as attributed to me. There is no old saying which has

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sound sense in it: "Never prophesy unless you know."

"Yours very faithfully,  
"Redvers Buller."

**THERE IS ONE OTTAWA MAN WHO BATHES.**

Montreal Gazette.

The Ottawa police report shows that last year one man was condemned for "bathing on the Lord's day." An attempt of an Ottawa man to clean himself seems, by those who best know Ottawa men, to come within the category of labor. Otherwise a Sunday wash would hardly be counted a crime.

**HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.**

The Spectator.

This gun episode reminds one of a happening in the American civil war, when a German captain of artillery approached his general, saluted, and remarked:

"General, I am sorry to have to report that we lost our guns."

"What! Did you spike 'em?"

"Spiked 'em!—spiked some nice new guns! No, it would spike 'em!"

"Then, what in thunder did you do?"

"We went and took 'em back again!"

**A MUCH IMPROVED TONE.**

Detroit Free Press.

"Any intimation that the British Empire is tottering is ridiculously absurd. Were its resources all in the current struggle, were there any considerable element of truth in the jibes at her army and navy, had the other continental powers dared to join forces for her overthrow at this critical juncture, were she not mistress of the seas and were her soldiers not as brave as ever faced an enemy, were her reserve strength not almost inexhaustible, and were not the wisdom of her colonial policy attested by the loyalty with which the colonies are rallying to her support, some weight might be attached to the predictions of German papers with which the wish seems father to the thought. We have no doubt that England wishes that she had made peaceful settlement with the Boers, as she should have done, but she has not committed self-destruction."

**Progress in Getting Acquainted.**

A Ravenswood man tells this story about a friend of his whose business takes him away from home frequently:

For the last month or so he has had a reprieve and his neighbors have noticed the unusual length of his visit at his own house. One of them asked him recently if he had got pretty well acquainted with the members of his family.

"I think I am making an impression," he responded. "My little girl went to her mother the other day and said: 'That man who comes here, sometimes, spanked me to-day.'"—Chicago Daily News.

**Proof That Business is Booming.**

A Philadelphia instrument-maker the other day ordered from a large manufacturer of tin boxes in that city a box about two feet cube as a sample. He was surprised when it was brought to his factory by a well-dressed gentleman and asked him why he hadn't sent it by an express boy.

"Well," said the man, mopping his brow, "I'm a salesman, and it isn't my business to deliver goods this way, but just now we're so busy and full of work that the salesmen are the only idle people in the place. We've got all the errand boys in the shop punching tin. As we don't want any more orders, we salesman are running errands."—Electrical Review.

**Standing Up for His State.**

"Your part of Kansas is getting to be dangerous to live in. I see there have been some bold robberies out there lately."

"Well, blame it; that shows we've got lots of things worth stealing!"

**No Time to Lose.**

Old Gentleman—Little boy, do you know that I am seventy years old, and have never used tobacco in any form?

"Kid—Gee! Yer better get a hustle on yerself if yer want ter learn it before yer

Minard's Liniment Cures Burns, etc.

**CULTURE OF BULBS.**

Why Flower-Lovers Should Plant a Generous Supply in the Fall—Some Directions of Value.

There is no other class of flowering plants that gives as little trouble or can be so successfully managed by the amateur flower-lover as the bulbous class. The culture is extremely easy, as throughout their growing time they require no more care or labor than does a potato in being it to maturity, and during their time of rest no attention whatever is necessary.

Of all the bulbous plants, the spring-flowering bulbs are most to be desired. These, which are generally called "hardy" or "Holland" bulbs, come into bloom early in the spring, some of them even showing their dainty flowers while the streamlets are still frozen in the woodlands and the snow-drifts hang along the mountain's brow. After months of intense cold, cloudy days and seeming endless nights, there is nothing more pleasing to the eye or that gives more genuine pleasure to the heart than to see the dainty spring-blooming bulbs forcing their heads through the recently frozen earth, and defying the ice king to again venture on his death-dealing mission. They come in a time when it is impossible to have any other plant out of doors. The house plants cannot stand the frosty nights, the perennials are just beginning to grow, and the seeds of the annuals have just been planted in some pan or box in a sunny window. The fact that plants giving bloom at this very desirable time are of such easy culture, and that the different kinds of bulbs can be secured at such a moderate price, should induce everyone to plant extensively.

To have a succession of bloom from the time when snow is still to be seen until the last of June, one should plant scillas, snowdrops, crocuses, hyacinths, narcissus, cuscutha imperialis, paeonies, daffodils, tulips, etc.

Bulbs will thrive in any kind of soil and in any situation, so no one should be without them. While this is a fact, better results are obtained when more care is exercised in the selection of soil and location. A good deep, sandy soil gives best satisfaction, located where the bed may receive at least a part of the forenoon sun. In preparing the bed, it should be spaded up deep and made fine. The bulbs should be planted from two inches to six inches deep, and from three inches to six inches apart. The bed should be slightly raised above the surrounding soil, so that water will not settle around the roots and bulbs.

Although most of the Holland bulbs are perfectly hardy, they do much better if they have some protection through the winter. A covering of stable manure over the bed after it is planted in the fall, to the depth of from four to six inches, is the proper thing. This will keep the bulbs from being repeatedly thawed out and frozen up, should the winter be an open one. Besides this, the strength is washed out of the manure during the late autumn rains, and annually enriches the soil. By this annual covering the flowers are made much larger and of a more brilliant color. Of course, the manure must be removed in the spring.

All these hardy bulbs should be planted in the fall, and the earlier they are put in the better. While they may be planted on into November, if the ground is not frozen, far more satisfactory results are obtained from earlier plantings. The bulbs have to make the most of their roots in the fall, before the ground becomes frozen, for as soon as the frost is gone in the spring the bloom makes its appearance, and there is no time for the bulbs to make roots, at, instead of that, the roots must be feeding the flower and producing a new bulb. The sooner they are in the better, as more time is given for root growth, and the stronger the roots the larger the flower the following spring. The first of September is the time when bulbs should be planted to give most satisfactory results.

In planting bulbs, do not mix the different kinds in the same bed. Keep the tulips in a bed by themselves, and the hyacinths by themselves, and the same with the other varieties of bulbs. Nothing gives more displeasure than to see a bed of all kinds and sizes mixed. Hyacinths of dwarf growth and tulips with long stems do not look well together. Keep each kind by itself.

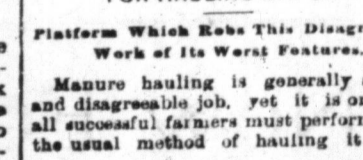
Many people take their bulbs up annually, after they have ripened up in the summer, and replant them again in the autumn. This is useless. They should be left in the ground three or four years, and then the clumps should be taken up and divided and replanted. By leaving in the ground year after year finer flowers are produced, and the labor of replanting is done away with. They also multiply more rapidly when left undisturbed for some time.

Every lover of flowers should plant freely of these hardy bulbs, the culture of which is so very simple, and whose brilliant bloom is produced at a time when most desired.—Florist in Farmer's Advocate.

**FOR HAULING MANURE.**

Platform Which Holds This Disagreeable Work of Its Worst Features.

Manure hauling is generally a hard and disagreeable job, yet it is one that all successful farmers must perform. By the usual method of hauling it in the



PLATFORM FOR HAULING MANURE.

farm wagon both the loading and the unloading are hard work. If a man does his duty to his farm he will use a manure platform often enough to pay for having one. The accompanying sketch will show one on low-wheeled running gears, and without the sideboards, which are easily put on when required. It is merely a platform nailed to two by fours, which are bolted securely to a frame made of two by six plank which fits inside the standards that hold the wagon box in place. There are holes cut through the platform to let the tops of the standards through. The platform sits just high enough to be free of the wheels. It can be made seven feet wide if the width is desired.—J. L. Lewis, in Agricultural Epitome.

**Salt Lick for Horses.**

Place a box of salt near the watering place so the horses can lick it whenever they go to drink. This is preferable to the usual method of salting the farm horses once a week.—Farm Journal.

**WESTMAN BROS.**

Will Inaugurate an Immense

**Cash Removal Sale**

Commencing DEC. 1st., Continuing for Two Months

Every Heating Stove Must be Sold.  
Every Cook Stove Must be Sold.  
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ALL AT REDUCED PRICES. COME AND SEE US FOR BARGAINS IN ALL LINES

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45c on the Dollar—Cash

And will give the Public the benefit of the deal.

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Such an opportunity was never offered the general Public before.

As a sample of our price-cutting, we mention the following lines:

Hats, Former Price \$3.00—Slaughter Price.....\$1.50

Hats, Former Price \$2.50—Slaughter Price.....\$1.25

Hats, Former Price \$1.50—Slaughter Price......75

Hats, Former Price \$1.00—Slaughter Price......50

Hats, Former Price 50c—Slaughter Price......25

All other lines of goods in this store reduced in the same proportion.

We are simply giving goods away.

**STONE & COMPANY**

Garner House Block  
Sign of the Big Hat.

(No goods charged—everything spot cash.)

**Wanted Immediately**

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LARGE QUANTITIES OF WHEAT, OATS, BARLEY, NEW AND OLD BEANS

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THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST.

Flour made by the Gyrator System takes more water, and gives you a larger whiter and sweeter loaf, and makes more cakes to the barrel than any other Flour.

Seven Breakfast Food and Family Cornmeal, freshly ground, always on hand.

Farmer's Feed ground and on quick notice by a three reduction roller process, much ahead of the old system of chopping.

The Trusts and Guarantee Company, Limited, 14 King Street, West, Toronto, to accept appointments as Trustee and Executor under will. Different wills may be obtained from the company upon request. These forms may be used as suggestions by persons desiring to make their wills. Wills appointing the company executor will be kept free of charge in Company's fire and burglar-proof vaults.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

**Dover Taxes**

The collector of Dover, for Division 2 and 3, will be at the Mountain House, every Saturday until January 10, to receive taxes and give receipts for same.

**H. N. BECHARD,**  
Collector.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

**NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.**

Two per cent. will be added to all taxes unpaid up to 31st inst., after which date 5 per cent. will be added.

Wm. Rennie, collector.

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COMPANY.

36th—Half Yearly Dividend—36th

NOTICE is hereby given that a dividend at the rate of SIX per cent per annum upon the paid up capital stock of this company has been declared this day for the current half year, ending December 31st, 1899, payable at the Company's office, on and after January 2nd, 1900.

The transfer books will be closed from the 21st to 31st December, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board,  
S. F. GARDINER,  
Chatham, Dec. 11th, '99. Manager.

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Please call before purchasing elsewhere.

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Finest Selected Raisins 25c

3 lbs. for 75c

Extra choice canned Currants 25c

3 lbs. for 75c

Cross & Blackwell's Peel 25c

per pound

Shelled Almonds and Walnuts 35c

per pound

Dates 25c

3 pounds for 75c

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Turkeys, Geese, Chickens and Ducks all at lowest prices.

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