

The Planet

DAILY AND WEEKLY

Chatham, Ont.
R. Stephenson, Proprietor.

THOSE NAUGHTY PICTURES.

That some of the pictures posted by the White Crook Company are positively indecent we think no unprejudiced person will deny. It is scandalous that they should be allowed to be displayed in any respectable community. But prosecuting one unfortunate billposter for putting them up is not going to remedy the evil. Of course, when the Chief of Police was complained to, and he deemed the complaint well founded, he had no other course open but to take proceedings. The proper place these complaints should have gone to, however, was the Attorney-General's department. It is the province of that department to take action. Surely there is some law against bringing such pictures into this country, and if there is, the man who brought them in is the man who should have been proceeded against. He is the real offender. Punishing a billposter here does not make any difference to the managers of the show. They can go on and post the next town just the same.

THE FIRE CRACKER NUISANCE.

"Citizen," writing to the Leamington Post, makes the following remarks about the fire cracker nuisance. "As the 24th of May is again approaching, I suppose I will be treated to the same old night cannon snorting as in the past. It seems a strange thing to me and others that a gang of rascals are permitted to parade the streets from midnight till day-light and bang away at all every front door as long as they like. In some cases there was serious illness, and although asked to pass on, this account, it made no difference. You would think in common decency, an appeal like that would have some effect, but those fellows don't seem to care whether people are sick or well. I don't mind the boys having their fun on the 24th, but they are carrying things too far, and as we can get no satisfaction from the town authorities to stop this thing, I would suggest that citizens provide themselves with shotguns and give them a dose of shot in the legs."

Of course things are not as bad in Chatham as "Citizen" says they are in Leamington. We are civilized here. But still, the fire cracker nuisance is carried too far and should be checked.

A JUDGE TO PREVENT LAW SUITS.

An article by Labouchere in London Truth will strike those who have had experience in law as quite as appropriate to Canada as to England. Labouchere says in Truth:

Suggestions confined to the law with a view to the suppression of "litigious actions." Some of them are a trifle fanciful, but I welcome them all, and I am open to receive and consider any number. I got one recently which may be commended for its boldness, but hardly on any other ground. Here, however, is a really useful and practical one.

The true remedy seems to lie in the direction of placing some restrictions upon the issuing of writs. In France, as you are doubtless aware, no writ can, with some few exceptions, be issued until the judge de paix has been consulted, and has tried to settle the case as mediator, and makes no charge for his valuable services. With us the parties can only consult their solicitors, who, of course, are always ready for a fight in which somebody else gets the kicks and they get the half-pence.

What a lot of litigation and bad blood would be spared if we only and some such official as the judge de paix in this lawyer-ridden country!

It would, indeed! In the twenty-two years that I have been in existence I have had to defend in court upward of fifty actions at law—to say nothing of other actions which have been abandoned by the plaintiffs. It is no exaggeration to say that out of

"A Fair Outside Is a Poor Substitute For Inward Worth."

Good health, inwardly, of the kidneys, liver and bowels, is sure to come if Hood's Sarsaparilla is promptly used.

This secures a fair outside, and a consequent vigor in the frame, with the glow of health on the cheek, good appetite, perfect digestion, pure blood.

Loss of Appetite.—"I was in poor health, troubled with dizziness, tired feeling and loss of appetite. I was completely run down. I took Hood's Sarsaparilla and after while I felt much better. Hood's Sarsaparilla built me up." LEONARD A. ROSS, Old Chatham, near Ottawa, Ont.

Skin Diseases.—"I have been troubled with headache and biliousness and was much run down. I tried Hood's Sarsaparilla and it gave me relief and built me up." A. MONTGOMERY, 50 Deane Street, Toronto, Ont.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints

Hood's Pills cure liver bile, are non-irritating and only cathartic to those with Headache, Sarsaparilla, Minard's Liniment Cures Burns, etc.

all these actions, not half a dozen would ever have been brought had the dispute been referred to an independent arbitrator in the manner above suggested before the issue of the writ. The correspondent to whom I have quoted points out very justly that the records of the law courts by no means convey an adequate idea of the number of frivolous, vexatious, or otherwise unnecessary actions which are every year commenced. A large number of such actions never come to trial, being either abandoned by the plaintiffs or settled at an early stage by the unfortunate defendants. For the sake of peace, and probably the number of actions of this class which end in one or other of these ways is larger than the number which is fought out.

If that King street pavement is to be put down this year it cannot be commenced too early. The rains and frosts of November are not conducive to good work.

The Canadian method of national book-keeping, by which, while spending more than their revenue, and yearly adding to the public debt, the government still claims to have surpluses, is gradually being exposed by the financial journals. Ontario's book-keeping methods seem to have been introduced at Ottawa.

THE PROVINCE DISGRACED.

Toronto Telegram.

There is reason to fear that Ontario has been disgraced in more or less recent bye-elections by crimes exceeding the examples of average crookedness, which are usually winked at.

RESULT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FRANCHISE BUNGLE.

Montreal Gazette.

It is now announced from Winnipeg that the writ for the filling of the vacancy for that constituency in the House of Commons will not be issued till the local authorities have completed the provincial voters' list. Thus, under Liberal statesmanship, as illustrated in the franchise legislation, does the greater body wait on the lesser.

REFUSING CHRISTIAN BURIAL.

Rider Haggard in Longman's Magazine.

Today I heard that the clergyman in a parish, where I have property has become involved in a controversy over the body of a parishioner. The case, as reported in the paper, is that my friend the clergyman refused to read the burial service over the deceased parishioner on the ground that his conduct while in life had been notoriously immoral. Ultimately, I believe, this officer was performed by a Non-conformist minister. I have no doubt, from what I know of the able and earnest clergyman in question, that according to the facts he was right in his decision. Yet the precedent seems dangerous. Supposing, however, that I am wrong on this point, ought not the deceased to have a fair trial? The ancient Egyptians, a people whose wisdom had mellowed through thousands of years of experience, formed an especially constituted court to try such cases. The dead man and his advocate, and Set, or the Devil, and his advocate, and until the ideal became a mere religious form, the thing was thrashed out before a competent jury. But here there are no advocates and no jury; the clergyman apparently is both accuser and judge, for even if he refers to the bishop, the statement of the case must necessarily be ex parte. Yet the verdict which he is empowered to give carries a very severe penalty—namely, loss, indeed, that a man's body should be refused Christian burial. Were that man still living, if such a verdict chance to be given against him unjustly, one can imagine the injury that would entitle him to heavier damages. Yet this formidable power—for it is formidable, both in its spiritual aspects and in the effect that may be produced upon the minds and interests of survivors, to say nothing of the memory and reputation of the deceased, is left in the hands of an individual, who might conceivably, though perhaps this rarely happens—be so prejudiced as to be incapable of forming a just and sober opinion. A century or so ago our forefathers condemned suicides to be buried at four cross-roads with a stake driven through their breasts, yet there must have been cases where such treatment was laid upon suicide. We have abandoned that practice, but apparently a single clergyman can still pass what—leaving out the stake and the cross-roads—a similar sentence of excommunication from the company of the Christian dead.

MOLLIFIED.

He kissed her boldly on Market street, opposite the Phoenix building. "Sir," she shrieked, "you are an utter stranger to me! What means this familiarity?"

"Mae," he replied, bowing low, "though we never met before, you must excuse me. I met my friend that I would kiss the prettiest girl I saw on the block."

A soft, forgiving smile replaced her wrathful glance.

"You are forgiven this time," she said sweetly, "but please don't let it occur again."

A woman has to be a lightning thinker if she thinks before she speaks.

ALL HEADACHES

from whatever cause cured in half an hour by

HOFFMAN'S HEADACHE POWDERS.

10 cents and 25 cents at all druggists

BIRD FLIGHT.

They flock upon the hazy air,
Silent of note and purpose of wing.
Nor group of the nesting time
Disrupts their rhythmic, air-born swing.

Across the dying fields light shadows fall
That, for a moment's space, obscure the sun;
Then swift—a graceful troop—they wing their way,
Pursued in haste by some belated one.

Now all the stubble land turns twilight gray
A-hum with mystic runes and harvest rills
Above the watching world a tiny speck
Groves pale and fades against the southern hills.

—Elizabeth Alden Curtis in Philistina.

WAR AND MATRIMONY.

Cupid is Much the Busiest in Times of Peace and Prosperity.

"There is a close connection between marriage and the price of wheat, beef, pork, beans, corn and other things which go to make up the main portion of human food," writes Professor D. R. McNally of "The American Girl's Chances of Marriage." In the Ladies Home Journal. "As the price of these commodities goes up, the number of marriages goes down. From 1851 to 1854 times were good, food was cheap, and the marriage rate in Massachusetts went up to 26 per 1,000. Between 1855 and 1859 there was great depression of trade, and in 1858 the marriage rate went down to 17 per 1,000. The years from 1873 to 1878 form another period of depression. Factories were closed and manufacturers of every kind suffered severely. In one year, at least, crops were short and the prices of food were high. The result was immediately seen in matrimony, for in 1874 the number of marriages went down from 21 per 1,000 of the population to 18, and in 1876 and the following two years declined to 15 per 1,000—a tremendous falling off from 26 per 1,000, the figure attained in 1854, which was the banner year in the state of Massachusetts for matrimony.

"Almost as unfavorable as that of hard times is the influence of war upon matrimony. Whenever Mars is in the ascendant Cupid's stock goes down. During the civil war the number of marriages in this country fell off from 20 per 1,000 of the population to 17 per 1,000, and immediately after the civil war was ended, in 1865, the number rose to 22 per 1,000, declining in 1869 to 21. The woman who is looking for a husband has a better chance of getting one just before or just after a war than at any other time."

With the Fading of Beauty.

A 16-year-old girl imagines that she is an angel, and never gets over it. After a woman gets old she thinks of how she was admired and complimented in her youth and feels that some great wrong was done her because she did not remain as pretty as she was at 16. If she is married, she is apt to lay the blame on the brutality of her husband; if she is an old maid, she lays it on her father, who was poor, and thus forced her to marry. The girl who is at her worst at 16 and does not reach her best until she is 26 to 30. By that time he has acquired a little sense, and never mistakes a compliment for the truth.

Sunday School Gems.

Stories of strange and amusing answers given to examination questions are frequently told, but we do not so often see recorded the equally surprising answers given by children in Sunday school, and yet they are frequently original enough.

A teacher, lately wishing to turn the young idea toward the mission field, asked, "What are good men called who leave their homes and go to foreign lands to teach the heathen?"

"The ten plagues!" answered with more fervor than gallantry, "The ten virgins, sir."—Westminster Gazette.

Have No Use For Cents.

Pennies are not used by the banks of New Orleans in the payment of checks. If a check, for example, is drawn for \$62.18, the holder receives \$62.20. If the amount is \$62.17, he gets \$62.15. The split is made between the second and third cent, and the system, which has been in vogue for many years, is very rarely the subject of any complaint. It makes an exact balance of coppers at the end of the day's business rather unlikely, but the doctrine of averages operates to even things up to within a few cents. In the long run about as many checks break on one-half of the nickel as on the other.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Money Making Indians.

The Monominee Indians, in north-western Wisconsin, are making as much money in lumber operations as are the Ojegas at farming. By the sale of pine logs in years past the 1,300 men, women and children have accumulated a tribal fund aggregating \$1,000,000, which is still growing. The tribe expended about \$75,000 a year in logging operations and clears from \$50,000 to \$100,000 annually.

Detecting Flaws in Metal.

To detect hidden cracks opening from the surface of metals the surface is first moistened with kerosene and is then dried off with a cloth. It is then coated with chalk. After a little while the oil works out of the little cracks and stains the chalk. A sort of diagram of the hidden fissures and defects is thus produced.

Professor C. Lloyd Morgan has in his book on "Habit and Instinct" advanced the theory that while the calls and alarm notes uttered by birds are probably due to simple instinct, their language may be traditional—that is, handed down from generation to generation and perpetuated through the faculty of imitation.

Spring Weather Weakness

Try as you may, you cannot escape the weary, worn out, don't-care-to-work feeling that accompanies spring weather. Trouble is, the system is so loaded with impurities that every organ of the body is impaired.

Brain is not as clear as it ought to be; there is languor and listlessness instead of energy and activity.

Burdock Blood Bitters is what people need this weather. It sets the liver, bowels and kidneys acting, whereby all poisons are eliminated from the system; cleans the tongue, improves the appetite, purifies and enriches the blood.

MISS MARY J. IRWIN, Holland, Man., writes:

"I have used Burdock Blood Bitters as a spring medicine for three years now and don't think there is its equal anywhere. When I feel drowsy and tired, and have no desire to eat, I get a bottle of B.B.B.

"I think it purifies the blood and builds up the constitution better than any other remedy."

A LIGHT IN CANADA

WRAY, THE SEER

Great light; wonders and miracles coming. The Gospel dispensation is the dispensation of dreams, inventions, revelations and prophecies. The people who live shall see greater light and greater things, and also greater powers. The Prof. has got the gift of prophecy. He also has the testimony of Jesus, which is the spirit of prophecy. The seer prophesies one can see the proper locations for the wells, and also the proper places to sink the shafts for mines. Prospectors and speculators, do you want rich Oil fields, rich Gas fields, rich Copper, Silver and Gold fields? If so, I can locate them for you. The Prof. has the gift and power to explore and locate WATER, GAS, OIL, COAL, COPPER, PAINT, LEAD, SILVER, GOLD, and Other Hidden Treasures. There is nothing against the seer, and his works, only ignorance, infidelity and the Devil.

For sale—Pure instruments for locating minerals. Terms on application.

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TONIC AND BLOOD PURIFIER

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Highest price given for Rags, Bones, Hides, &c. Old Iron, Lead, Copper, &c. Cash for sale.

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GRATEFUL COMFORTING

Distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of Flavor, Superior Quality, and Nutritive Properties. Specially grateful and comforting to the nervous and dyspeptic. Sold only in 1/4 lb. tins, labelled JAMES EPPS & Co., Limited, Homoeopathic Chemists, London, England.

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Oysters, Fruits, Nuts, Luncheon at all hours. Call and see us.

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Has just received another shipment of those new raisins which he will retail at 5c per lb., just the thing for pies.—Call quick for they will soon go. Also the best prunes in the city at 4 lbs. for 25c. Goods delivered.

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BALED HAY

We have a quantity of nice upland Timothy and Clover mixed, also clear

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And bright, clean Out Straw, suitable for mattress filling which we will deliver to any part of the city on shortest notice.

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Marriage Licenses

The young man loves the young woman—that is his business. The young woman loves the young man—that is her business. Pretty soon they will need the marriage license, and that is my business. You can procure them by calling at the sign of the

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MAGNETIC MINERAL WATER—Southampton.

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For sale by Central Drug Store, and F. A. Robert.

Minard's Linalum Cures Garget in Cows.

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Cook's Cotton Root Compound

is a powerful, safe, and monthly by over 100,000 ladies. See Official Letter ask your druggist for Cook's Cotton Root Compound. Take no other. It is a most palatable table water, and is absolutely pure. Recommended by leading physicians. A trial will convince you that it has merit of a high order.

For sale by Central Drug Store, and F. A. Robert.

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