# The Planet

Daily and Weekly CHATHAN, ONT.

## The Haily Planet

THE PRICE OF THIRD READERS.

THE PRICE OF THIRD READERS.

The Banner repeats that the "official price of Third Readers is thirty cents," and has been for some time. The former price was thirty-five cents and the old books still have the old price stamped on them. If some Chatham dealers are selling them for thirty-five cents, that is not the fault of the Government.—The Banner.

There is an insinuation contained in the above that these Chatham dealers are swindling the public. The insinuation is made to shield the bungling Hardy Government.—The facts are these.—The price of Third Readers was so extortionate that Hardy & Co. got in a sort of panic in the face of the elections and induced the publishers to reduce the price from 35 to of the elections and induced the publishers to reduce the price from 35 to 30 cents, which, by, the way, is still fifteen cents too high. But, tike everything they meddled with, they made a mess of this, too. Dealers in school hooks were not getting a large profit. Many of them had their stocks on hand. Now, this reduction should have been allowed them on all unsold books. But the bunglers did not do that. Hence the dealers with stocks on hand could not reduce their price until the old stocks were sold out. That is the reason Third Readers are That is the reason Third Readers are being sold at two prices. But the peo-ple who sell them at the old figure are not swindlers. Having paid extortion prices for the readers there would be absolutely no profit in the books if they sold them at the reduced price.

Any further information the Ban-mer or the public may want about school book monopoly prices can be had at this office. It can be given from experience.

### ANOTHER ANSWER.

A correspondent from Cedar Springs A correspondent from Cedar Springs sends a very cleverly worked out solution of the oil tank problem. This problem is from one of the Hardy Government's text books, and no two mathematicians have yet been able to get the same answer, but the majority agree it is somewhere in the neighborhood of 252 gallons. Yet that is the question a child is expected to work out. Our Cedar Springs correspondent writes: 'We see by The Planet that the coal oil tank problem is again to the fore. This time it is analyzed very elaborately by an expert, 'W. E. H.' We have no doubt but that his answer is correct.

answer is correct.

"Our public school arithmetics tell us that an imperial gallon contains 277.274 c. inches, and that the area of a circle is equal 3 1459 times the square of the radius. Assuming that this be approximately correct, and we ordinary mortals are not supposed to doubt it, we think that the answer

### PLANETOIDS.

"I have always tried to stand i ople,"—Hon. A. S. Hardy. of Michigan.

The name of Hardy spelled "per-We're glad you told us. Most peop ad the idea it spelled bungled legi

No closed doors and plugged key-coles at Reform conventions.—Ridge-covn Standard.

No, leave that kind of thing for the Ontario Government when a Michigan

THEIR HEADS ARE IN DANGER.

Ridgetown Dominion If the license commissioners, police magistrates and division court clerks can save Ferguson they are bound to do it. They were out in full force at Thanneaville, But the people have to be reckoned with.

WILL SHOW THEIR GOOD SENSE.

Toronto Star. The appearance of a Spanish battle-ship at several United States ports may be the occasion of an outburst of jingoism in the republic, but the said outburst will come from well in the interior, and the howlers will take good care to keep away from the sea coast.

GIVING AWAY EVERYTHING

Hon. A. S. Hardy had better hurry on the election before his last chance of victory is given away along with the other assets which his friends at Ottawa are so lavishly distributing among the capitalists who go looking for favors on Parliament Hill;

MR. PARDO SHOULD PONDER OVER

Hamilton Templar Hamilton Templar.

Party is no longer a sacred thing in the people's eyes. Defeat will follow defeat until public men and political parties learn to keep faith with the voters. Shuma and shadows will not be accepted for the real substance of

HE'S ANOTHER SIR MICHAEL HICKS-REACH.

HICKS-REACH.

Ridgetown Dominion.

F. Tamper editorial, "East Kent's Member," makes very amusing reading. We are told that Mr. Ferguson "has ever been found among the forement in the House attacking Tory tactics and misdoings and championing henest and open government." That is rich, indeed, and we can only account for it by the fact that the Banner's new editor has never listened to one of Mr. Ferguson's ferocious speeches against the wicked Tories, Why, umm, the member for East Kent sits session in and, session out as dumb as an oyster, and the only speech he ever delivered in the house consists of the historic sentence. I know that farm." Mr. Ferguson is a level headed man of business, and a good fellow to boot. Everybody admits that, but when the Banner tries to picture him as one of the foremost mits that, but when the banner to picture him as one of the foremost in attacking the Tories in the House it covers him with ridicule, and not even an opponent desires that.

### THE RETIRED BURGLAR.

THE ESTRED BURGLAR.

How He Once Stepped Through a Ceiling and What Happened Afterward.

'Once, said the retired burglat, 'I stepped through the ceiling of a room from a room above, where there was no floor laid. Seems as though I ought to had sense enough to kept out of that room, but I didn't. It was the upper room in a two story extension that had never been finished. They'd laid boards down on the floor beams in one part of it and stored some stuff there, and I was foolish enough back I stepped off a beam, and then before I knew it my other foot slipped and both feet went down good and solid plumb through the ceiling and left me setting there astride of the beam.

"Well, this place was over the kitchen, and I had great hopes on that account, but I'd made a lot of noise, laths breaking and platter dropping, and when I come to move I made more. But that wasn't the worst of it; when I tried to pull my legs up, they wouldn't come; the ends of the laths stock into them like the barbs of a fishhook. If I'd have had both legs together on ome sida, I could have crowded on town through easy enough. I guess I'd have gone through of my own weight, but as it was I'd got to get one leg up.

They are the proper of the profession shy in the armount as the other of the profession shy in the armount as the cottor of the cottor of the cottor. They of the cottor of t

The yeomen of Kent will no doubt support Mr. Pardo, the well-known bowling alley proprietor against Farmer Hall.

The Conservatives are making all rash promises about what they will do for the Province—The Banner.

So all your shouting aixus, the Conservatives having no policy, was fiction, eb?

Perfectly Cured

Weak and Low Spirited—Nervous Prostration—Appointe Poor and Could Not Rest.

"I take great pleasure in recommending Hood's Sarssparilla to others. It has been the means of restoring my wife to good health. She was stricken down with an attack of nervous prostration. Bhe saffered with headaches and her across were under severe strain. She because very low spirited and so weak she could only do a little work without resting. Her appetite was poor, and being so weak she could not get the proper rest at night. She cedded to try Hood's Sarsavarilla, as we had heard it highly praised, and I am ged to state that Hood's Sarsavarilla, sa we had heard it highly praised, and I am ged to state that Hood's Sarsavarilla, sa we had heard it highly praised, and I am ged to state that Hood's Sarsavarilla, sa we had heard it highly praised, and I may get the state that Hood's Sarsavarilla, sa we had heard it highly praised, and I am ged to state that Hood's Sarsavarilla, sa we had heard it highly praised, and I am get to state that Hood's Sarsavarilla, sa we had heard it highly praised, and I am ged to state that Hood's Sarsavarilla, sa we had heard it highly praised, and I am get to state that Hood's Sarsavarilla, as we had heard it highly praised, and I may feet tied together below and hop-ing that he would along sounder in the last half of the night than he had in the last half of the night than he had in the last half of the night than he had in the last half of the night than he had in the last half of the night than he had in the last half of the night than he had in the last half of the night than he had in the last half of the night than he had in the last half of the night than he had in the last hand on the nig

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Wells & Richardson Co.,
Dear Sirs.—I had dyspopsis and indigestion so bad that I lost all desire for food. The very sight of it would sisken me, and I was in misory. Frightful constitution, which fequired daily attention, added to my burden, so that really I felt at times saff life were scarcely worth livings. I was never without a cough, and always had a heavily coated tongue and bad taste in my mouth. My ailments and failure to got reliof discouraged me, and, physically run down and mentally worried, I felt little like looking for work, and less like doing it. Now I am strong and well, able for any work, and willing to do it you can be sure. The greet change was wrought by Paine's Celery Compound, used according to directions.

WMF. H. BUCKINGHAM, 174 Hunter St., Hamiiton, Ont. Wells & Richardson Co.,

In The Congregationalist Richard Burton tells this story of his father, the late Dr. N. J. Burton, pastor of the Park church, Hartford: "Among my father's effects was found an old check, yellowed by age and torn across, the date 1870 or there about. It had been sent by the editor of The Independent, with an urgent request for a contribution, the amount of the honorarium to be written in according to the contributor's judgment and pleasure—a rather danagerous liberty to allow some of the literati. But the check remained, never filled out, in his pocketbook. The incident is typical. It was fairly pathetic to see how distrustful he was of his own accomplishment, how self depreciating. Yet at rare intervals, in moments of sudden creative enjoyment, he realized he had done something not ordinary, and then in fitting privacy and with a desuriful frankness would say so. I remember, when he was lying on a sickbed in what was to behis mortal sickness, how unfeignedly he was pleased at the news of his appointment as preacher to the American board more appreciative of such recognition. Yet more than likely he would have sent in a declination. Concett and he lay asunder like pole from pole."

CATARRH CAN BE CURED.

Dr. Henry G. Carroll, M. P., Kamou aska, Que., is One of Fifty Members of Parliament Who Have Successfully Used and Endorsed Dr. Ag-new's Catarrhal Powder.

mew's Catarrhal Powder.

Medical etiquette and conservatism makes irembers of the profession shy in bearing testimony to the efficacy of a proprietary medicane. Medicines that the doctors do endorse you may be sure are good, Dr. Henry G. Carroll, M. P., of Kamouraska, Que., tellavover his own signature of the good qualities of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, not alone from personal use, but as a medical man. Upwards of fifty members of parliament, who have suffaced from Catarrh have used this medicine with success.

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and in that way I formed the habit of taking morphine. I had taken it for eleven years when I entered the Monroe Improved Gold Cure at Windsor. I was taking twenty grains of morphine and thirty grains of quinine per day. Had slept in a chair for five years. I can say I am free from opiates, and do not even have any desire for anything of the kind. I advise all who are addicted to the use of the drug, not to hesitate about going to the Cure and improve the first opportunity afforded to receive treatment at this institution. All those concerned with the Institution are gentlemen in every respect, and it seems more like home than it does like a Sanitarium. Am ready to answer letters on the subject.

L. DAWSON, Fostoria, Mich.

March 2nd, 1895.

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# WORTH KNOWING. ALPHABET ODDITIES.

ORIGIN OF MANY OF THE LETTERS WE

Orthography of Coffee Years Age Eccentric Devices Made by Peculiar Arrangements of Letters.

seatric Devices Made by Feeuliar Arrangements of Letters.

To invent and bring to perfection the score or so of spoken sounds which we call an alphabet have proved to be the most arduous, enterprise on which the human intellect, has ever been engaged. Its achievement tasked the genius of the three most gifted races of the ancient world. It was begun by the Egyptians, contained by the Semites and finally perfected by the Greeks.

Writing began with ideograms (pictures representing either things or thoughts), which afterward developed into phonograms (the graphic symbols of sounds). Although our own writing has reached the alphabetic stage, yet we still employ a number of photographic and ideographic signs. The digits I, II, III stood as pictures of fingers. The V was from the finger collected and the thumb-part; VV or X represents the two hands, while IV and VI are only pictures of the hand, with the subtraction or addition of a finger. Ideograms 6,000 years old, and which we are showing no possibility of improving on, are such printers signs as the index, exclamation and parallel.

If the history of any one of our alphabetic symbols be traced back, it will be found to resolve itself ultimately into the conventionalized picture of some object. The letter M, for instance, was the picture of an owl, the conventionalizing process of 6,000 years having left only the two peaks, which are the lineal descendants of the breast.

The letter F is derived from the horned of the breast.

strokes are all that remain of the outlines of the breast.

The letter F is derived from the horned Egyptian sap, the two bars being the survival of the two horns, while the vertical stroke represents the body.

The letter Y descended from the same picture, the two horns and body being retained. Then, too, in those days there was a four horned asp, which has come down to us in the letter W, the four strokes necessary to its making representing the four horns, although 6,000 years seem to have been a few too many for the body, yet that of a Kansas grosshopper raay be found supplemented by the people 6,000 years from now.

The-letter A was originally the picture

found supplemented by the people 6,000 years from now.

The letter A was originally the picture of an eight, Egypt being the eagle's real home land, and R was taken from a picture of the human mouth. D was evolved from a picture of the human mouth and so on through the pictorial origin of all our letters.

The immediate parentage of our Eng-tish alphabet is most difficult to deter-mine. By a series of easy steps the forms of the very letters the reader sees before him on this printed page may be traced back for some 25 centuries. These "Ro-man, types," as they are appropriately called, have not varied appreciably in their forms from the types used at Rome and Venice by the Italian printers of the fit-teenth century.

ceited, have not varied appreciatory in their forms from the types used at Rome and Ventee by the Italian printers of the fifteenth century.

The puzzle of all English literature is giving 26 letters an arrangement by which they will present some new impression to the mind. The more brilliant that arrangement the more successful the writer. The writers of the English dictionary alone have been able to fit more than 40,000 words constructed from these letters without much effort. The language is said to contain 100,000. The confusion of English sounds and letters is well illustrated by spelling coffee without one correct letter—kauphy, which spelling is nearer the friginal than, the one in use, for a pamphlet was printed in Oxford in 1659 on "The Nature of the Drink Kauphy, or Coffee."

Many eccentric devices of literature depend upon the peculiar arrangement of letters. Some of these have fine sounding names and are recognized as famous recreations of the learned. The palindrome, which is a line that reads backward and forward, is one of the most difficult of all feats of letter juggling and has engaged the attention of the world's eleverest brains.

The anagram has occupied a most pretentious place in literature. Wits and viseacres of the olden times looked into the names and places for satires and for omens. Several astronomers have used anagrams to secure the credit of discoveries which they did not wish to reveal. Louis XIII retained in his service as an anagrammatist named Thomas Bullou, with a pension of 1,200 livres. It was deemed a prophecy of fate when it was found that the name of Louis de Boucherat could be transposed to "est la couche du rui" (is the mouthplece of the king); that of Francis de Veloya to "de facous suis royal" (of royal strain). The fascinating Marie Touches the propercy of size with the propercy of the work of the content of the could be transposed to "est la couche du rui" (is the mouthplece of the king); that of Francis de Veloya to "de facous suis royal" (of royal strain). The fa

"Do they play the piano much at our house?"
"No, but I have it tuned several mess a year—my wife likes to hear it o much."

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