

LETTER FROM LONDON.

Weekly Correspondence of the Register.

LONDON, Eng., Friday, Jan. 10, 1894.

The weather has remained mild during the week, but the influenza microbe is still abroad in the land, and in some quarters is playing havoc. The sad death of Viscount Somerton in Dorset yesterday is only one out of several cases. The Lord Chancellor does not appear to have been hit very hard by the epidemic, but it is characteristic of the influenza that those afflicted with it very often recover from it only to be stricken down by what may be regarded as its concomitants or sequel. People, too, of delicate constitution often recover far more completely and far sooner than those whose health is normally robust. The Speaker looks anything but a strong man, but he has vanquished the bacillus with comparative ease. The Princess of Wales is known to be very delicate; yet, despite alarmist rumours to the contrary, she is now, it is understood, quite herself once more.

News comes from Paris this morning that Mr. James Gordon Bennett, the well known proprietor of the New York Herald, whose life was almost despaired of after his coaching accident, is very much better again and is taking walking exercise once more. Another American newspaper proprietor, Mr. Joseph Pulitzer, is also in France. The proprietor of the World has an elegant villa at Nice. He is one of the most interesting personalities in the journalistic tribe. He is so blind that he can no longer see to read. His lungs are so weak that the slightest breath of cold wind affects them. His affliction from dyspepsia makes him almost a daily martyr. Yet does every day more than most of his confreres do in a week. From his European residence he conducts the policy of his paper, and does it so well that the World is regarded as, perhaps, the most vigorous and enterprising of all the New York journals. He sends off his daily telegram. He dictates a most complete correspondence. Frequently he gives his amanuensis a leader to be wired and is as untiring as though he had eyes to see, lungs to breathe freely, and the appetite of a German Prince.

The news of the death of M. Waddington has been received in England with surprise and regret. He was not looked upon as a foreigner in this country during his ten years' residence as the French Ambassador at the Court of St. James. Himself English by descent and education, he came here no stranger to the people and country, and so popular did he become that he was regarded rather as a public man interested in all English affairs than as a foreign diplomatist. Frenchmen, therefore, will not feel his loss more keenly than will Englishmen who last year bade him adieu when he departed for France. Only the other day the people of this country were attentively watching his contest at Laon for a seat in the Senate, and it was with disappointment that they learned of his defeat. No one then imagined that death had cast its shadow over him, although it had been known for some time that he was in delicate health. By his death France has lost a statesman whose patriotism has never been called in question by those who know him.

An interesting account was given in the Westminster Gazette this week of the circumstances which led Mr. Cecil Rhodes, of South African fame, to contribute £10,000 to the funds of the Irish Parliamentary party. It appears that in 1887 Mr. Swift MacNeill met Mr. Rhodes when voyaging to the Cape in search of health, and as a result of their consultation the Cape Premier offered the above amount as a contribution to the party funds on condition that, under the next Home Rule Bill, a clause should be inserted

to retain the Irish representatives at Westminster. In the following summer the money was handed to Mr. Parnell, together with £1,000 from Mr. J. Morrogh, who was then residing at Kimberley in South Africa.

It will be remembered that in the following year, when Alderman Hooper retired from the representation of South-East Cork, Mr. Morrogh was selected by Mr. Parnell to fill the vacancy. This nomination was considered to be an acknowledgment of that gentleman's generosity. In the Parnell crisis Mr. Morrogh threw in his lot with the majority, but a few months back he retired from Parliament, ostensibly on account of his business connection in Africa. He is a director of the De Beers Consolidated mines.

Enemies of "superstition, ignorance and humbug," to quote the words used by the chairman, Mr. Harry Furniss, foregathered on Saturday evening in Room No. 13 of the Holborn Restaurant, to celebrate the New Year's dinner of the London Thirteen Club in a manner calculated to inspire all superstitious folk with hedgehog horror. To begin with, in order to be true to their principles, the members so far forgot aesthetic taste as to appear in "swallowtails" and bright green ties—a combination that should make an orthodox aesthete positively shudder. Then, to reach the dining apartment, they had to pass under a ladder, but before this ominous journey was accomplished, a large mirror resting on an easel was smashed to "smithereens." Thirteen tables, with thirteen guests at each, were laid, and on them were placed such cheerful ornaments as Japanese plaster, skeletons, cross-bones, skulls, knives crossed and coffin-shaped salt-cellars with grave-diggers' shovels and headstones bearing the inscription, "To the memory of many senseless superstitions killed by the London Thirteen Club, 1894." In place of buttonholes the company wore miniature skeletons and peacock's feathers; while, in order to be "thorough," the fraternity had secured the services of a certain number of cross-eyed waiters, who, if they failed to add to the picturesqueness of the scene, certainly contributed to its completeness. It may be mentioned that aved by preliminary rumors, a few gentlemen "cried off" at the last moment, but this was attributed to the persuasion of their wives. The chairman proposed the "Houses of Parliament," and said Mr. Gladstone was by no means superstitious, for the Home Rule Bill was introduced on February 13th, read a first time on a Friday, and was thrown out by the Lords on a Friday. Mr. Oscar Wilde wrote a characteristic letter refusing an invitation. He said: "I love superstitions. They are the colour element of thought and imagination. They are the opponents of common sense. Common sense is the enemy of romance. The arm of your Society seems to be dreadful. Leave us some unreality. Do not make us too offensively sane. I love dining out but with a Society with so wicked an object as yours I cannot dine. I regret it. I am sure you will all be charming, but I could not come, though thirteen is a lucky number."

To show your readers the idea formed by our neighbours across the channel regarding certain English institutions, I translate the following from a French paper: "The English are very fond of the game of billiards, and a letter has been discovered in the British museum which gives the origin of the national sport. It was invented by a London pawnbroker, whose name was William Kew. Kew not only lent money, but he sold cloth, and for the latter purpose had a yard measure with which he used to complete the accounts. One day to distract himself he took the three round balls, which are emblems of the trade, and placing

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W. O. MACDONALD,
ACTUARY.

J. K. MACDONALD,
MANAGING DIRECTOR.

them on his counter began to hit them about with his yard measure. He found it made a pretty game. He got a kind of skill in making one ball glance off the other; and his friends, who saw him thus employed, called the game Ball's yard. It was shortened into billiards. But the yard was the instrument with which the balls were knocked about, and the difficulty arose what to call it. They called it after the name of the pawnbroker—a Kew."

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A. E. PLUMMER, - Manager.



TENDERS.

INDIAN SUPPLIES.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Indian Supplies," will be received at this office up to noon of MONDAY, 19th March, 1894, for the delivery of Indian Supplies, during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1895, at various points in Manitoba and the North-West Territories.

Forms of tender, containing full particulars, may be had by applying to the undersigned, or to the Assistant Indian Commissioner at Regina, or to the Indian Office, Winnipeg. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

This advertisement is not to be inserted by any newspaper without the authority of the Queen's Printer, and no claim for payment by any newspaper not having had such authority will be admitted.

HAYTER REED,
Deputy of the Superintendent-General
of Indian Affairs.

Department of Indian Affairs,
Ottawa, January, 1894.

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NOTICE To Creditors of Patrick Kearney, Wagon Maker, Deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to the Revised Statutes of Ontario 1887, Chapter 110, that all creditors of and other persons having claims against the estate of Patrick Kearney, late of the City of Toronto in the County of York, Wagon Maker, who died on or about the tenth day of September 1893, are hereby required to deliver or send by post prepaid to Foy and Kelly, Number 80 Church Street in the City of Toronto, Solicitors for the Administratrix of the estate of said deceased, on or before the 24th day of February 1894, a statement in writing of their names and addresses and full particulars of their claims and of the securities (if any) held by them.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that immediately after the said 24th day of February 1894, the said Administratrix will distribute the assets of the said deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which notice shall have been given as above required and the said Administratrix shall not be liable for the assets or any part thereof, to any person or persons of whose claim or claims notice shall not have been given as aforesaid at the time of such distribution.

Foy & KELLY,
80 Church street Toronto.
Solicitors for the Administratrix.
Dated at Toronto this 26th
day of January, A. D. 1894.

TORONTO POSTAL GUIDE. During the month of February, 1894, mails close and are due as follows:

	CLOSE	DUE		
	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
G. T. R. East	6.15	7.20	7.15	10.40
O. and Q. Railway	7.45	8.00	7.35	7.40
G. T. R. West	7.30	8.25	12.40pm	8.00
N. and N. W.	7.30	4.20	10.05	8.10
T. G. and B.	7.00	4.30	10.55	8.50
Midland	7.00	3.35	12.30pm	9.80
C. V. R.	7.00	3.00	12.15pm	8.50
	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
G. W. R.	noon	9.00	2.00	2.00
	6.15	4.00	10.30	8.20
		10.00		
U. S. N. Y.	6.15	12.00 n	9.00	5.45
		4.00	10.30	11pm
U.S. West'n States		10.00		
	6.15	12 n.	9.00	8.20
		10.30		

English mails close on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 10 p.m., and on Thursdays at 7.00 p.m. Supplementary mails to Mondays and Thursdays close on Tuesdays and Fridays at 12 noon. The following are the dates of English mails for February: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27.

N.B.—There are branch post-offices in every part of the city. Residents of each district should transact their Savings Bank and money Order business at the local office nearest to their residence, taking care to notify their correspondents to make orders payable at such Branch Postoffice.

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