

REMARKABLE PIANO.

The Only Instance Where the Action Was "On the Hog."

One Bouchet, who compiled a history of Aquitaine, describes a remarkable pianoforte built for Louis XI. by the Abbe de Baigne. The king one day hearing a drove of hogs tuning up preparatory to a general rush for and promiscuous scramble at the slop pail, laughingly ordered the priest to contrive means by which these seemingly discordant sounds might produce harmony.

BRIEFLY MENTIONED.

A woman's brain declines in weight after the age of 30.

While the wedding service is proceeding in Japan, the bride kindles a torch and the bridegroom lights a fire from it and burns the wife's plights.

More than a century ago a meeting house was erected at the head of the Tuckahoe river, near Tuckahoe, N.J., and it was painted for the first time three weeks ago. Red was the color.

In every city or town in the Netherlands you will find a Rosemary street. In olden days only undertakers lived in them, the rosemary being in the language of flowers, specially dedicated to the dead.

An Anglesse, N.J. gunner killed a duck a few days ago and attached to one of the duck's feet was a large clam. The duck had evidently been wading in shallow water and had stepped on a feeding bivalve.

Hunters at South Seaville, N.J., have exhausted all their ingenuity in trying to capture a white crow that for more than a year has been living in the woods adjacent to the town with several hundred of its black companions.

CALENDARS.

A curious thing about the calendar is the fact that no century can begin on Wednesday, Friday or Saturday. The same calendar, too, can be used every 10 years.

A WORD OF WARNING.

Great geniuses, they say, are always absent-minded.

Yes, but don't fool yourself; all absent-minded people are not great geniuses.

Iowa Farms for Sale, \$2 per acre cash, balance crop until paid. J. Mulhall, Sioux City, Ia.

Paper quilts are extensively used abroad by the poorer classes.

La Toscana, 10c. RELIANCE CIGAR FACTORY, Montreal.

The population of the world increases 10 per cent. every ten years.

For Over Fifty Years MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used by mothers for their children's teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Sold by all druggists throughout the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup."

In Germany a clock has been made that is warranted to go for 9,000 years.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All Druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 50c.

Hyenas always fight kneeling, the foreleg being the most vulnerable part of their body.

Many people suffer with catarrh until it becomes chronic, because they do not know how easily it may be cured. Ten days' free trial treatment ought to be convincing. Send fifteen cents to cover cost of mailing outfit. Dr. Ray's Successful Remedy Co., Toronto.

RECRIMINATION.

We had a frightful quarrel; he told me I was no spring chicken. Shameful! What did you say? Well—I told him that he wasn't the only canned mushroom in the market.

A Happy New Year Indeed

BE SURE ABOUT PREPARING YOUR HOUSE FOR THE NEW YEAR. The constant use of ointments, snuffs and washes was a weariness to the flesh. A delightful and sure cure has been found. No need for fetid breath and broken voice. Send for a free sample outfit and be convinced. The name of this sure cure is Catarrhzone. Catarrhzone penetrates to the diseased parts in the form of a pine-scented gas. Write at once to N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

"Example is Better Than Precept."

It is not what we say, but what Hood's Sarsaparilla does, that tells the story. Thousands of testimonials are examples of what Hood's has done for others, and what it will do for you.

Scrofula—"Running scrofula sores made me shunned by neighbors. Medical treatment failed. A relative urged me to try Hood's Sarsaparilla. Did so and in few months the sores completely healed." Mrs. J. M. Hares, Etta, N. Y.

Inflammatory Rheumatism—"Two attacks of the grip left me with inflammatory rheumatism. Am 80 years old, but Hood's Sarsaparilla cured me and I can climb stairs and walk anywhere." J. Lovelace, 375 Fargo Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Never Disappoints

Hood's Pills cure Liver Ills; the non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

ALL FAIR IN LOVE.

Miss Beauti—I wonder if Mr. Nicofello is going to the reception. Mr. Sharpfello (a rival of Mr. Nicofello)—Um—let me see—it's a full dress affair, isn't it? Of course. Yes, of course. How stupid of me! If he goes he'll need his dress suit presumably. Then, Miss Beauti, I feel sure you will meet him there. I saw him come out of a pawnbroker's this morning with a bundle under his arm.

THOMAS PHOSPHATE POWDER

THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN.

Take up the white man's burden—And the noble savage strode To the nearest hut that came in sight, And got him there a load.

Catarrh Cannot be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they can not reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quick medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for leaflet, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

CURIOUS.

Miranda, visiting city friends,—My, here's her visit' card. Miranda's husband—What does it say? Miranda—It says she's at home Thursdays. Wonder where she stops rest of the time.

THE PHOSPHATIC HEART.

Mr. Wallace hit the nail on the head in summing up a lecture on "Manuring" before our Institute, when he said—"So you see that after our careful study of geology and of soil physics; of botany or the science of plants; of the proper feeding of plants and animals; of the history of our systems of farming in general, and the results obtained, and after reviewing the evidence at hand from older countries as well as our own Canada, it is borne in strongly upon us that, excepting in raising hay for sale only, the principal loss our land suffers by cropping and grazing is in humus, nitrogen and phosphates. By the proper use of our farmyard manures and clover we can restore our humus and nitrogen, but the phosphate has gone from us forever in our animals and grains, and can only be returned by purchase in some form, which, we may then call commercial. If we are growing hay for sale only, we must restore the potash it removes sooner or later, and though our lands will certainly stand a considerable drain, it is not profitable to carry it too far. Here is a motto to paste in your hat, in the old one you wear round the farm,—"A good phosphatic heart is the base of all successful agriculture." We expected to hear Mr. Wallace tell us something about Albert's Thomas-Phosphate Powder, but he studiously avoided it and treated the manuring problem candidly and incisively.

NOT THE ONLY ONE. Mr. Whingleby—Oh you needn't feel so uppish. You're not the only girl in town. Miss Flasleigh—No, I'm not the only girl in town who has publicly announced that she wouldn't have you if you were the last man on earth.

No doubt there are other good teas, but for strength, richness and real quality Blue Ribbon stands alone.

INVITATION ACCEPTED.

Mr. Saphead—I've got a fad, too, don't ye know. I collect old and rare violins. Come around and see em. Musician—Do you play? Mr. Saphead—Bless you, no, not a note. Musician (enthusiastically)—I will come.

FEDERAL LIFE GROWS RAPIDLY.

The report of the annual meeting of the Federal Life Assurance Company which will be found elsewhere in this issue, contains a record of remarkable expansion, even in this growing time. The Federal Life secured enlarged powers at the last session of the Dominion Parliament, and is proceeding to spread its operations into new and profitable fields. The report of the directors show that during 1898 the assets of the company were increased by 20 per cent. a very remarkable increase, which, however, was surpassed by the addition of 21.41 per cent. to the reserve fund. The company has also been able to earn high rates of interest on its invested funds, and exceedingly difficult thing in these days, when the vaults of most financial institutions are scarcely able to contain the surplus of hoarded capital.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL

How many persons can you crowd into a car? I asked the conductor. That depends on whether they are married folks or couples thinking about it, he replied.

WPC 064

CALVERT'S Carbolic Disinfectants, Soaps, Ointments, Powders, etc., have been awarded 100 medals and diplomas for superior excellence. Their regular use prevents infectious diseases. Ask your dealer to obtain a supply. Lists mailed free on application. F. C. CALVERT & CO., MANCHESTER, ENGLAND.

Silken Peatry Grit is the best digester in the market LAURENTIAN SAND & GRAVEL CO., Montreal.

Agents Best selling articles on the market. Sells in every store, factory and house. Exclusive territory. ROWELL & BURY, Chicago and Montreal.

The "Balmor", Free Bus Am. Plan. \$1.95 and up.

CUTTING SCHOOL—Tailors and Dressmakers. C. & D. SCHOOL CO., Montreal.

Rheumatism—Cure assured in 24 hours, in a new specific, sent by mail on receipt of \$1. DR. ROUBY, P. O. Box 365, Montreal.

Champion EVAPORATORS FOR MAPLE SYRUP. Catalogue free. G. H. GRIM MFG. CO., Montreal.

Stammerers—Every stammerer can be cured. I will tell you how. I have spent 40 years study on this subject. Come and satisfy yourselves. No risk. W. K. RAY, Specialist, 292 College St., Toronto.

Stammerers—Especially those who have failed to be cured elsewhere, write to Dr. Annot, Berlin, who will convince you he can cure you.

Skin Diseases—All kinds cured or money refunded. Dr. Ramsay's An-Pharmacia, 370 Craig St., Montreal.

NOTICE.—St. Catharines, and St. Lawrence. These mail-order agencies and bookellers supplied at \$1.50 per hundred. Lepprohn & Lepprohn, 1626 Notre Dame St., Montreal.

Shannon CABINET SYSTEM. The only secure filing system. Send for catalogue. All rates in stock, from 1 to 60 drawers. The Office Specialty Mfg. Co., Limited, 122 and 124 Bay St., Toronto. Factory: Newmarket.

New Tires EITHER SINGLE or DOUBLE TUBE \$5 per pr. Send O. O. D. to any address. Will mail section if requested.

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FREE! This lovely Watch, with guard or chain for carrying, is one of our full-sized Ladies' Watches. Sterling Silver Watch for selling \$2.00. Doilies in latest and prettiest design. They sell at sight. Write and we send them postpaid. Sell them, return our money and we promptly forward your watch free. Unsold doilies returnable. LINEN DOILY CO., Dept. 'Z', Toronto.

FREE Gold-Sheep Solitaire. Quite fish-lined case, for selling 1 doz. daily. Retail \$1.00. Wholesale \$1.50. Sell at 10c each. Return \$1.50 and receive ring FREE by return mail. Liberal commission. If not ferred. Unsold goods returnable. MORE SUPPLY CO., Dept. 'Z', Toronto, Ont.

EVERY WISE MOTHER KNOWS THE VALUE OF INDIAN WOMAN'S BALM AS A PARTURIENT MEDICINE.

Satisfying because comprehensive enough to meet every demand and suit every pocket. Try it—

LUDELLA

CEYLON TEA Lead packages. 25, 30, 40, 50 and 60c.

FREE! No Money Required!!

If you will sell \$3.40 worth of our Brightlight Chemical Lamp Wicks, at 5 cents each, we will send you, free of charge, a Nickel-plated, Stem-wind, Iner, Stem-setting, American Watch, gem, warranted reliable time-keeper. These Wicks have heretofore been advertised under the names of White-light, Clear-light, etc., and sold at 10 cents each, but we now offer them at the reduced price, FIVE CENTS EACH. For selling \$3.40 worth we give a beautiful ladies' size watch, give also for selling these Wicks: Accordions, Violins, Autoharp, Mandolina, Guitars, Brooches, Rings, and other valuable presents. We give a handsome 4-Blade Pearl Handle Knife for selling only 60 cents' worth. Send your address and we will forward the wicks for you to sell post paid, when sold send the money and we will send premium. Wicks returnable if not sold.

Address GEM NOVELTY CO., TORONTO.

The Federal Life Assurance Company. SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL STATEMENT.

Table with columns for Premiums, interest and re-insurance, Disbursements, Assets, Liabilities, and Auditor's Report. Includes financial data for the year ending 31st Dec 1898.

SAUSAGE CASINES—New importations from English Sheep and American Hog Casings—made to order at 10c per lb. PARK, BLACKWELL & CO., Toronto.

De Laval Cream Separators. ALPHA—HAND AND POWER. CANADIAN DAIRY SUPPLY CO., Of Montreal and Winnipeg. Sole Agents for Canada.

Dominion Line ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS. St. John, N.B., and Halifax, to Liverpool, calling at Londonderry, Lond. and fast, via New York, Boston, and Halifax. Superior accommodation for First Cabin. See rate of passage—First Cabin, \$55.00; Second Cabin, \$35.00. Second Cabin, \$22.50 and upwards according to steamer and berth. For full information apply to Local Agents, or DAVID TORBURN & CO., Gen'l Agents, 17 St. James St., Montreal.

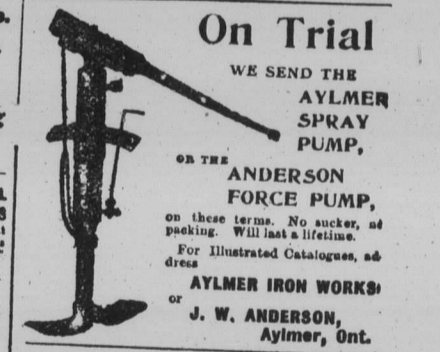
29 OF OUR STUDENTS have recently taken good situations, and four positions remain unfilled. CENTRAL Business College.

STRAFORD, ONT. We teach real business—no imitation or nonsense. In fair competition our graduates are nearly always chosen. Business men appreciate our work. Best Commercial School in Canada. Enter now. Circulars free. W. J. ELLIOTT, Principal.

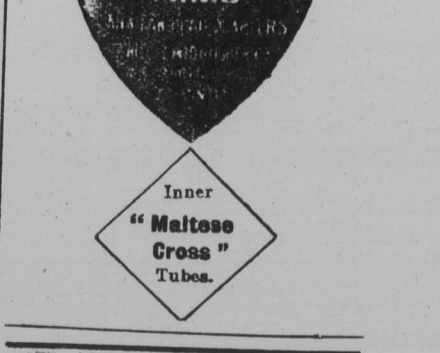
ALLAN LINE ROYAL MAIL ST. LAWRENCE ROUTE, MONTREAL TO LIVERPOOL. SUMMER SAILINGS.

CALIFORNIAN—May 6, June 10, July 13. CASTILIAN—(new), May 20, June 24. SARVIAN—(new), May 20, June 24, July 13. Second Cabin—\$55.00 and upwards. Cabin passage—\$35.00. Rates \$65.00. Steerage—Liverpool, London, Glasgow, L. Londonderry, or Queenstown, \$23.50. For further information apply to H. BOURLIER, 77 Yonge St., Toronto, or H. & A. ALLAN, Montreal.

THE MOST NUTRITIOUS. EPPS'S GRATEFUL-COMFORTING. COCOA. BREAKFAST-SUPPER.



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Du Barry's Revalenta. 50 Years' Invariable Success. 100,000 Annual Cures of Constipation, Coughs, Asthma, Catarrh, Phlegm, Diarrhoea, Nervous Debility, Sleeplessness, Despondency. Du Barry & Co., (Limited), 77 Regent Street, London, W., also in Paris, 14 Rue de Castillon, and at all Grocers, Chemists, and Stores everywhere, in this country, at 25c. per lb. Best savings free. Also Du Barry's Revalenta Granules, in tin, 25c. and 50c. Agents for Canada: The T. Eaton Co., Limited, Toronto.