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RACES THREE WEEKS AWAY

150 HORSES IN TRAINING AROUND WOODBINE PARK.

The Chances in Some of the Big May Events—Seagram's Outlook Is Rosy—Duggan's Foam Does a Good Trial—Cockatoo's Quarter in 28 Seconds—General Sporting Gossip.

Just three weeks from to-day the curtain will be rung up at Woodbine Park on the racing drama of 1895, and the thoroughbreds will once more present themselves to the public. That the coming meeting promises to surpass all previous efforts on the part of the club is certain, both as regards number and the quality of horses that will be present.

There are already now training in Canada for the O.J.C. meeting upwards of 150 horses, which number will be swelled considerably by the Higgins', Shields' and Daly stables, to say nothing of other owners who will make the journey to Toronto to try for Canadian purses. A good idea may be had of the class on the publication of the entries for the stakes that close to-morrow.

While the Queen's Plate may have a few additional entries, they will in no way affect public opinion, which is strongly in favor of the Seagram stable. But the Woodstock representative, Mediator, in the Boyle Stable, promises to make a strong bid for the guineas, and in such good hands will bear watching. The Juvenile Scurry will likely bring together a lot of clever 2-year-olds, especially from the Boyle and Seagram stables, in which there are some very promising youngsters.

The entries in the Red Coat Race will doubtless be composed mostly of local hunters, as the steeplechase meetings around Philadelphia about the same time as that of the O.J.C. will attract the American hunters, and in consequence it is doubtful if any will make the journey to Toronto. The Street Railway Steeplechase should fill well, as there is at present a lot of jumping material, while the Waterloo Handicap, at 1 1-2 miles, will bring together such good horses as Saragossa, Copyright and others. The race, however, is a trifle far, so early in the spring, and in consequence may keep some owners from entering.

The Dominion Handicap appears to be at Mr. Seagram's mercy, having such good ones as Victorious, Joe Miller and Martello to select from, and one or all will no doubt be seen among the nominations. The Woodstock Plate will undoubtedly prove a great attraction should the names of Havoc and Halfling be found among the nominations, though it is doubtful if Mr. Seagram's colt will be seen in public at Woodbine Park, especially in the Woodstock Plate. The Ontario Plate, which includes the list of races to close to-morrow, is practically a repetition of the Queen's Plate, though an eighth of a mile shorter. With the exception of the Red Coat Race, which has been reduced from $1000 to $500, the purses are the same as last year.

The Work of the Horses.

Yesterday was a busy morning at the track, and trainers gave their charges some brisk work. The weather was perfect for training operations, while the track was in good condition. Foam's work was the best of the day, Mr. Duggan's colt covering a mile and an eighth in 2.07 well within himself. He was accompanied by Steppingstone. Red Cap, another representative of the Newmarket establishment, reeled off a mile and a quarter, while the 2-year-olds' Armada and Java breezed three furlongs in 44 seconds. Credit is due Trainer Ray for the way he has Mr. Duggan's horses looking, and it is hoped the tricolors will be seen many times in front during the coming season.

Max, with Jonny Graver in the saddle, led Maid of Ellerslie a good stiff gallop through the field. Joe Martin, who had the mount on the Maid, lost his seat, doing a very graceful acrobatic feat in the neighborhood of the stone wall.

Mr. Beardmore's hunters, Cockatoo and Laddie, were also sent through the field, negotiating the jumps cleverly. Cockatoo afterwards worked a quarter in 28 seconds with considerable weight in the saddle.

The feature of the morning's work was the appearance of the Seagram horses, 10 in number, which included Saragossa, Victorious, Stonemason, Morpheus, Joe Miller, Vicar of Wakefield, Silk Gown, Halfling, Bennifield and Waterflow. They were worked in sets of twos and threes and breezed miles averaging from 1.55 to 1.57. In the afternoon Trainer Walker brought over the 3-year-old, Smocking, accompanied by half a dozen 2-year-olds. Smocking worked three-quarters in the neighborhood of 1.25, while the 2-year-olds did slow work.

Results at St. Asaph.

St. Asaph, April 29.—The association today announced that hereafter purses would be raised in value and that no scratch fee would be charged in races where more than eight entries are made. The steady rain which has been falling since Saturday put the track in bad shape and there were many scratches. The rain was still falling and the weather was raw and cold. The attendance was not up to the average. Fifteen books went on.

First race, 7-8 mile—Watchman, 105, Penn, even, 1; Stanley M., 105, Lynch, 8 to 1, 2; Silent Friend, 105, Welch, 10 to 1, 3. Time 1.33.

Second race, 1-2 mile—Lambert, 105, Penn even, 1; Himvaro, 96, Keefe, 9 to 2, 2; Merry Merrick, 96, Sheedy, 4 to 1, 3. Time .51 3-4.

Third race, one mile—Captain T., 110, Keefe, 5 to 1, 1; Marshall, 110, Doggett, 7 to 2, 2; Golden Gate, 95, Sheedy, 20 to 1, 3. Time 1.44.

Fourth race, 1-2 mile—Appelgate, 117, McCafferty, 4 to 5, 1; Premier, 117, Doggett, 2 to 1, 2; Mormon, 112, Littlefield, 10 to 1, 3. Time .50 1-4.

Fifth race, 3-4 mile—West Park, 108, Welch, 2 to 1, 1; Lady Adams, 103, Keefe, 20 to 1, 2; Little Tom, 112, Doggett, 9 to 2, 3. Time 1.19.

Sixth race, 5 1-2 furlongs—Hoey, 114, Midgley, 9 to 5, 1; Factotum, 101, Sheedy, 11 to 5, 2; Sandowne, 110, Doggett, 8 to 5, 3. Time 1.10.

The Winners Yesterday.

Chicago: Madge Doree, 6 to 5; Lester, 8 to 5; Tit for Tat, 9 to 5; Jim Head, 9 to 1; Kimberly, 7 to 2.

Lexington: Sligo, 2 to 1; Whyota, 5 to 2; Stilacio, 15 to 1; Semper Ego, 1 to 3; Hallie Gay, 2 to 1.

ONTARIO CRICKET ASSOCIATION.

Important Business Transacted at the Annual Meeting—International Matches Galore.

The annual general meeting of the Ontario Cricket Association was held in the Walker House last evening. There were present Messrs. J. M. Macdonald, Rosedale, in the chair; J. T. Clark, Parkdale; D'Arcy Martin, Hamilton; D. Rogers, D. Campbell, Trinity; J. E. Hall, Toronto; K. H. Cameron, hon. secretary-treasurer; A. F. Martin, hon. assistant-secretary.

The general reports told of the good records made in last season's matches and that there was a balance in hand of $80.

Besides the annual fixture with Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania is anxious to place a team in the field against Ontario. They will be accommodated. The U.C.C., past and present, v. Ontario match will be revived.

In reference to the international intercollegiate match, Messrs. D. Campbell, Trinity, and J. Jennings, Varsity, wrote requesting that the Ontario Association select the Canadian University eleven. The association will make the selection, providing a list of available men is furnished. The match will be played this year at Philadelphia, July 1 and 2.

The Ontario and Philadelphia match will be played at Philadelphia July 4 and 5, to be completed on Saturday, the 6th, if necessary. If this match is finished on Friday Ontario's game with U. of P. will begin on Saturday. Secretary Cameron was instructed to arrange this fixture annually, to be played about the middle of July. The Ontario match East v. West will be played Aug. 9 and 10, in Toronto. The secretary was recommended to call the meeting annually before March 15.

The next important step for the Ontario Association is the selection of the provincial team to visit the City of Brotherly Love. The committee that makes the choice is made up of one representative from each club—that is, a member of the association, with the association's officers, which were elected last night as follows:

Hon. president, Hon. J. Beverley Robinson; president, William Lount, Q.C.; vice-presidents, Dr. Beemer, Mimico; W. B. Wells, Chatham; A. Gillespie, Hamilton; Mr. Rigby, dean of Trinity College; hon. secretary, K. H. Cameron, Toronto; hon. assistant secretary, A. F. L. Martin, Toronto; Canadian Association committee representatives, D. W. Saunders, Toronto; A. Gillespie, Hamilton; C. R. Atkinson, Chatham.

Model School Lacrosse.

The Model School Lacrosse Club have organized for the season, with these officers: Hon. pres., Mr. A. McIntosh; pres., Mr. Murray; capt., C. Morison; sec.-treas., F. Morrison; committee, R. Gray, A. May, F. Sheridan.

About the Local Football Teams.

If the match on Saturday afternoon between the Hurons and Riversides is indicative of what the play is going to be next Saturday, when the first of the championship matches begin, all lovers of football may look forward with expectation to a very scientific and well-contested game of football. The Toronto Lacrosse Grounds, Rosedale, have been secured to play the matches, so as to give the public a better opportunity of viewing the game, and this ought to secure a large attendance. The Scots' defence will have to be in good shape to stand the most decided attacks of the Riversides' forward line. They are practising hard every day, and will be in good trim when the time comes for them to meet their opponents. The Hurons have added several crack players to their team. Their defence could not be beaten, and if their forward line practice hard enough there is no reason why they should not figure well when they meet the Gore Vales, the champions of last fall, who are lying low, and it is very difficult to say what team they will place upon the field.

Baseball Brevities.

The Sports would like to arrange a game for next Saturday with any team in the city, average age 17. Address F. Bird, 60 Duke-street.

The Ivy Leafs would like to join a juvenile league, average 15 years. Address William Mulvaney, 91 Richmond-street east.

The King Manufacturing Company Baseball Team of the Commercial League will open the season Saturday, May 4, by a game with the Ontarios, champions of the Intermediate League, when they will appear in their new uniform, consisting of white sweaters and white knickers, black stockings and white caps, with black trimmings.

The Pastimes would like to arrange a game with any club out the city for May 24, average age 15. Hamilton, Barrie or Orillia preferred. Address C. McHenry, 198 Queen west.

At a largely attended meeting held on Saturday evening, the H. nine of the South Parkdale was re-organized, with the following officers: Pres., S. Leslie; 1st vice-pres., P. H. Ritchie; 2nd vice-pres., R. McDonald; capt., Jack McDonald; sec., J. Paine, 1484 King west; committee, M. Vanderwater, H. Morden, W. J. Carter.

The Vancouver Baseball Club is now on such a basis that everything augurs well for a successful season. In other provincial coast cities teams are being formed, so that without a doubt there will be a league established and championship matches played.—Vancouver, B.C., World.

A new baseball club has been organized at Wallaceburg, with the following officers: Pres., E. D. Young; vice-pres., J. Martell; manager, T. F. Hinnegan; capt., Harry Martin; sec., D. Rochon; treas., F. Dulong; official scorer, A. Chubb; ex. committee, A. Rae, J. Martell, T. F. Hinnegan. About 25 members were enrolled and the club anticipates a lively season.

The well-known, skilful Dr. Otto S. Binswanger of Portland, Oregon, reports: "Dr. Price's Baking Powder contains neither ammonia nor alum, but is a pure cream of tartar powder."

Athletic and General Notes.

The hounds will meet at Heydon's Hotel, Carlton, to-day at 3.30 sharp.

An Orillia despatch says that Jake Gaudaur says he will accept the challenge of Rogers, the Saratoga oarsman, and would like to row him in Belleville in July.

The Hurons will have a team practice to-night at 6.30, on the old cricket grounds, Bloor-street, in anticipation of their match with the Gore Vales next Saturday at Rosedale.

The following are the 10 highest scores made during the past week on the Morris Tube Range, in the Monarch competition at the Q.O.R. sgt. mess rooms. Possible score 75 points: Staff Sergt. G. Donnelly, 70; Sergt. T. Westman, 66; Sergt. T. Westman, 65; Corp. J. P. White, 64; Sergt. W. Meadows, 63; Pte. E. McIntyre, 62; Sergt. V. Meadows, 62; Col. Sergt. J. Langton, 61; Sergt. T. Atkins, 61; Pte. W. R. Gibson, 58.

The members of the Toronto Rowing Club drink Sprudel regularly while in training. They say it assists them wonderfully in getting into condition, and they believe it to be the best mineral water sold on this continent.

NO WHITEWASH FOR TORONTO

THEY MADE A SOLITARY RUN AT SPRINGFIELD.

The New Englanders Score 13 With Crane in the Box—Only Five of Maddocks' Men Reached First Base, One Scored, One Was Fielded Out and Three Were Left.

Springfield, Mass., April 29.—Springfield opened the Eastern League season to-day by defeating Toronto. The park was in fine condition and 2000 people witnessed the game. Callahan, Springfield's new pitcher, did great work in the box, holding Toronto down to four hits, and pitching all round the veteran Crane. He also made a double and a home run. Shannon made the star play of the game by a wonderful dive after a ground ball in the last inning. The Torontos were easy marks. Their failure to solve Callahan's curves, while Crane proved no mystery for the home team, settled the game, but the Torontos fielded rather unsteadily, Smoth's work at third and Lutenberg's at first being amateurish. Score:

SPRINGFIELD.	AB	R	H	O	A	E
Shannon, ss	5	1	1	1	6	0
Donnelly, 2b	6	1	3	2	0	0
Lynch, lf	4	2	1	4	0	0
Schaffler, rf	5	2	2	1	0	0
Gilbert, 1b	6	2	3	9	0	1
Garry, cf	5	2	0	3	0	0
Gunson, c	4	1	1	4	1	0
McDonald, 3b	3	1	0	3	3	0
Callahan, p	5	1	2	0	3	0
Totals	43	13	13	27	13	1

TORONTO.	AB	R	H	O	A	E
Meara, lf	3	1	0	1	0	0
Lutenberg, 1b	4	0	1	9	0	2
Smith, 3b	4	0	0	0	4	2
Lake, c	4	0	1	9	1	0
Demont, ss	4	0	0	2	5	1
Casey, rf	3	0	1	3	0	0
Sippi, 2b	3	0	0	3	5	0
Congalton, cf	3	0	0	0	0	0
Crane, p	3	0	1	0	1	0
Totals	31	1	4	27	16	5

Springfield	002041150—13
Toronto	001000000—1

Earned runs—Springfield 3, Toronto 1. Sacrifice hits—Schaffler. Stolen bases—Shannon 2, Lynch 2, Scheffler, Gunson and McDonald. Two-base hits—Donnelly, Callahan, Lutenberg. Three-base hits—Gunson. Home run—Callahan. First base on balls—Off Callahan 1, off Crane 4. First base on errors—Springfield 4, Toronto 1. Left on bases—Springfield 9, Toronto 3. Struck out—By Callahan 2, by Crane 3. Hit by pitcher—Lynch, McDonald. Wild pitch—Crane. Time of game—1.50. Umpires—Snyder and Swartwood.

The Commercial League.

The Commercial League met last evening, President A. McDonald in the chair. Clubs represented were: Kemp Manufacturing Company, A. McDonald, W. J. Wheeler; Hunter, Rose & Co., J. Young, J. Goodwin, American Watch Case Company, W. Sine, G. W. Sharp, Heintzman & Co., C. Woodburn, S. Moore. They adopted their code of rules presented by the Executive Committee and the following schedule:

May 11—Kemp & Co. vs. Hunter, Rose. American Watch Case Co. vs. Heintzman.
May 18—Hunter, Rose vs. American W. C. Co., Kemp & Co. vs. Heintzman.
June 1—Hunter, Rose vs. Heintzman, Kemp & Co. vs. American W. C. Co.
June 8—Hunter, Rose vs. Kemp & Co., Heintzman vs. American W. C. Co.
June 15—American W. C. Co. vs. Hunter, Rose.
July 6—American W. C. Co. vs. Kemp & Co., Heintzman vs. Hunter, Rose.
July 20—Kemp & Co. vs. Hunter, Rose, American W. C. Co. vs. Heintzman.
July 27—Kemp & Co. vs. American W. C. Co.
August 3—Hunter, Rose vs. Heintzman.
August 10—Kemp vs. Heintzman, Hunter, Rose vs. American W. C. Co.
August 17—Hunter, Rose vs. Kemp, Heintzman vs. American W. C. Co.
August 24—American W. C. Co. vs. Kemp, Heintzman vs. Hunter, Rose.
August 31—American W. C. Co. vs. Hunter, Rose, Heintzman vs. Kemp & Co.

Manager Barnett of the American Watch Case Company has arranged a practice game for next Saturday between his regulars and colts.

The Hunter, Rose & Co. team will play a practice game with the Barber & Ellis team at Island Park.

The Kemp Manufacturing Company team will play the Ontarios a practice game on the Don flats next Saturday.

The Heintzman team will play a strong local team of West Toronto Junction at the latter place next Saturday.

Applications will be received from umpires—and must be in on or before May 6—by the secretary. Address Sam Moore, 122 Elizabeth-street.

Varsity Scored 50 Runs.

Trinity baseballists were outclassed in their game yesterday afternoon on the Lawn with Varsity. Douglass showed that he could pitch good ball at times, and struck out seven men, but his fielders kept him at it, and as a result the Provincial University batsmen pounded him unmercifully, the Capitoline club having 4 homers alone. Besides, Hudspeth and Somers knocked out four base hits and there were many three baggers and two bagers.

Varsity's total bases aggregated 58, and with Trinity's plethora of errors netted half a century of runs. McMillan was Varsity's bright particular star and did not allow one earned run. He retired in the 7th, after being struck by a batted ball. The score:

VARSITY.	R.	H.	E.	TRINITY.	R.	H.	E.
A. Campbell, lf	9	5	0	Milligan, 1b	0	1	2
Garrett, 2b	7	3	2	Bain, ss	1	1	3
Barron, 3b & p	6	3	1	Chadwick, c	1	1	2
G. Campbell, rf	5	4	1	Rogers, rf	2	2	1
Hudspeth, cf	4	2	0	Wadsworth, 3b	0	0	3
Hewish, ss	4	4	0	Beecher, cf	1	1	2
Somers, 1b	5	5	0	Broughall, lf	1	2	3
McMillan, p	3	2	1	Douglass, p	2	2	0
Woodworth, 3b	2	2	0	Doherty, 2b	1	0	3
Gibson, c	6	3	1				
Total	50	33	6	Total	9	10	19

Varsity	2	0	2	9	3	6	6	16	—50
Trinity	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	1	3—9

Home runs—A. Campbell 2, G. Campbell 2, Hudspeth 1, Somers 1. Three-base hits—Somers and Campbell. Two-base hits—A. Campbell, Hewish, Gibson, Rogers. Struck out—By McMillan 7, by Barron 2, by Douglas 7. Umpire—F. Thompson.

Other Eastern League Games.

At Providence:

Providence	010202300—8 10 4
Buffalo	201001000—4 8 1

Rudderham, McAuley; Vickery, Urquhart. Umpire Hurst.

At Wilkesbarre:

Wilkesbarre	011001200—5 15 2
Rochester	000010002—3 10 0

Campfield, Diggins; Harper, Wentel. Umpire Gaffney.

At Scranton:

Syracuse	001003000000—4 10 3
Scranton	121000000000—4 7 3

Barnett, Hess; Brown, Rogers. Called on account of rain in the end of 12th. Umpire Doescher.

What will make the best cake for the Harvest Home Festival? Dr. Price's Baking Powder.

National League Results.

At New York, Baltimore and Washington, rain.

At Cincinnati:

Chicago	000000000—0 6 4
Cincinnati	00002100x—3 4 1

Griffith, Moran; Dwyer, Merritt. Umpire Emslie.

At Louisville:

Louisville	220000040— 8 14 3
Cleveland	32043043x—19 19 5

McDermott, Knell, Cote, Zahnor, Wadsworth; Cuppy, O'Connor. Umpire McDonald.

At St. Louis:

St. Louis	021002301—9 14 2
Pittsburg	000000032—5 9 3

Breitenstein, Peitz; Hanley, Sugden, Mack. Umpire Betts.

Duchess of Marlborough to Marry Again

London, April 29.—The marriage of the Dowager Duchess of Marlborough to Lord William Beresford will take place in St. George's Church, Hanover-square, at 1 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

110 BODIES RECOVERED.

1040 Rendered Homeless by the Bursting Epinal Reservoir.

Paris, April 29.—M. Legnes, Minister of the Interior, who has gone to the scene of the disaster at Bouzey, near Epinal, has distributed pecuniary and other relief to 1400 victims of the flood caused by the bursting of the dam.

La Liberte has a despatch from Epinal stating that 110 dead bodies have been recovered, and the military who were at work upon the scene of the flood are busy digging trenches for the purpose of burying the carcasses of the thousands of cattle that were drowned. It is asserted that the heavy frosts which prevailed in that section the latter part of the winter and early spring were the primary cause of the disaster, through throwing the masonry of the dam out of plumb.

Murdered for a Mule.

Bowling Green, Ky., April 29.—Columbus Phelps shot and killed his half-brother, Henry Phelps, this morning on account of a quarrel over a mule.

IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

Advices via New York Still Tell of the Anti-Confederation Feeling.

St. John's, Nfld., April 29.—The sealfishing season just ended has been one of the most successful on record. Two-thirds of the steamers engaged in it did remarkable well, while the remainder made enough to pay expenses. The value of the catch is estimated to be about $500,000. This will prove wonderfully beneficial in thew way of bringing about the recovery of the colony from the recent commercial disasters.

The movement against a union with Canada is spreading rapidly. Petitions opposing confederation are receiving a large number of signatures throughout the colony. The confederation opponents are organizing to contest the question in all constituencies in the coming general election. The disruption of the Government party is probable, as all but the Cabinet ministers oppose federation.

A Strathroy Blaze.

Strathroy, Ont., April 29.—Fire in the residence of Mrs. Alexander Johnston in Kittredge-avenue totally destroyed the contents. Insured in the Alliance for $4200.

Duke of Hamilton Ill.

Barcelona, April 29.—A local daily says that the Duke of Hamilton has been ill for some time aboard his yacht Thistle, now in the Mediterranean, and in the last few days has grown worse.

Viscount Peel.

London, April 29.—Ex-Speaker Arthur Wellesley Peel, who was elevated to the peerage a few days ago, has chosen Viscount Peel as his title.

FARM FACTS IN VARIETY.

Crimson Clover—Celery Growing—Potato Culture.

Those who have crops of crimson (scarlet) clover to plow under will find that the clover will make very rapid growth during the next three weeks and need not be plowed until May 15, if it is desired to grow another green crop right after it. In such case the Southern cow pea will be found excellent, and the vines should be plowed under just as the seed pods are beginning to form. When plowing under green crops apply about twenty bushels of lime or wood ashes per acre.

Any person who grows celery can easily produce large and white stalks, but the main point is to have them crisp. Good celery should break into two or three pieces when bent, and should be very brittle. The way to secure the brittleness is to begin blanching the stalks from the start, and also grow them rapidly. If the blanching is done later in the season, as is usually the case, the stalks will be white and attractive, but will not be as brittle as when the blanching is done gradually during the whole season.

Fence posts may be made to last longer by banking up around them occasionally, so as to allow the water to flow away from them. Allowing the earth to sink in around the posts is to invite decay of that portion under ground, which will be constantly saturated with the water which flows down to the posts instead of away from them.

Do not hatch the young turkeys too soon, or there may be a heavy loss among them, unless you are well prepared to care for them. They quickly succumb to dampness, and the large lice, which prey on the tops of their heads, destroy them also when the turkeys are very young.

When plowing under a green crop apply lime and then run the roller over the land if some other crop is to immediately follow the one turned under.

Farmers who procure pure breeds of fowls cannot resist the temptation to cross the breeds. This system always leads to deterioration of stock. When one begins to cross several breeds, either of animals or poultry, the result in a few years is a lot of mongrels. It is well to grade up the common stock, but pure breeds should never be crossed. All the best crosses were made when the breed was produced.

Beef cattle can be made to pay on some farms even when they give no profit on others. If by keeping of any kind of stock the farmer can succeed in utilizing portions of his foods which are unsalable he will gain that which otherwise would be lost. The profit on a farm often comes from the saving of substances through the medium of other channels. A pound of beef sold may represent more than the original value of the foods which produced it, and portions of the foods may be of straw, corn fodder and other bulky materials, which are not readily sold.

A student named Ferguson, who lives in Gerrard-place, was arrested by Detective Harrison yesterday on a charge of stealing some bottles of chemicals from the Normal School. The alleged theft took place about a year ago, when 16 cases of bottles, containing liquids, were received by the school, and on examination it was found that one bottle had been taken from each case.

It Is Not What We Say But What Hood's Sarsaparilla Does

That Tells the Story. Its record is unequalled in the history of medicine. Even when other preparations fail,

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable. 25c.

THE GARDEN OF AFRICA.

THE STORY OF THE WONDERFUL GROWTH OF NYASSALAND.

Its Remarkable Development Within a Few Years Described—A Wilderness Being Turned Into a Garden.

The most wonderful record of progress that has come out of tropical Africa is the story of Nyassaland. No one would have believed twenty years ago that a garden spot would be found there where white men could live within the tropics in perfect health and prosperity. No one would have creamed that to-day native telegraphers in the lake regions would be sending messages to the sea and to Europe that upon the mountain sides native woodsmen would be cutting pine trees and sawmill hands, turning the logs into lumber and that a half million coffee trees would be flourishing. Many of them are now bearing their first crops on the plantation of the white farmers. The wilderness where Arabs followed the slave chase is being turned into a garden: and the secret of this remarkable transformation is that the uplands of Lake Nyassa are high above the ocean level. Nyassaland may be called one of the little islands that are lifted high above the sea of miasma which overspreads nearly the whole of tropical Africa. So among these elevated valleys and mountains south of Lake Nyassa the white man is turning the riches of nature to good account, and is having a potent and beneficial influence upon the natives who thirty years ago had never seen a white man. Mr. H. H. Johnston, Her Majesty's Commissioner in British Central Africa, has just told the story of this development to the Royal Geographical Society, and here are some of the interesting facts he gave. The official name of this region is the British Central Africa Protectorate. It was only four years ago that European planters began to hear that there was a chance to make money in this new domain by raising coffee. At that time the total white population was only 57. To-day it is nearly 400. The trade of the country in the past year has exceeded a half million dollars. Four years ago there were on Lake Nyassa and the rivers only eight British steamers, while to-day seventeen steamers, and 120 barges or sailing vessels are plying these waters. Four years ago Europeans were cultivating about 1,000 acres, while the area under crops has now been increased to more than 8,000 acres. Over 5,000,000 coffee plants are now growing, and when they all come into bearing, as they will before long, there will be ample freight for the railroad which is to be built around the sixty miles of rapids in the Shire River. When this road is completed freight may be taken by steam from the north end of Lake Nyassa to the Zambesi and the ocean vessels which will await it in the Chinde branch of the Delta. Agricultural land four years ago was selling for from one cent to six cents an acre. To-day unimproved land ranges in price from 25 cents to $1.40 an acre, and in a number of the seven or eight European settlements lots are sold at from $500 to $1,000 apiece. About four-fifths of the land surface is from 3,000 to 5,000 feet above the sea. The immediate result of this elevation is a much cooler climate than is found in most parts of central Africa. It is a well watered country, with many perennial streams, and the water in almost all places is wholesome to drink. Those who have read Livingstone's descriptions of this wilderness when he first made it known to the world will be struck by the amazing contrast which Blantyre and the other European settlements present to-day. In these towns are clean, broad, level roads, bordered by handsome avenues trees and comely red brick houses with rose-covered verandas peeping out behind clumps of ornamental shrubs. The natives who pass along are clothed in white calico. A bell rings to call the children to school. The planter gallops past on horseback, or a missionary trots in on a white donkey from a visit to an outlying station. Long rows of native carriers pass in Indian file, carrying loads of European goods, or a smart-looking policeman in black fez, black jacket and trousers marches off on some errand. Native bricklayers and carpenters are building houses in the European style. Through the open door of the printing office natives may be seen setting type for the little newspaper that appears every week. The visitors will see a postoffice, a court of justice and perhaps a prison, whose occupants, however, during the working hours are out repairing the roads under charge of a black policeman. On the outskirts of the towns are brickyards, where the natives turn out thousands of bricks as well made as those used in our own building operations. The most interesting feature in the neighborhood of these settlements, however, is the coffee plantations, which are the chief cause and support of the prosperity of Nyassaland. The first and biggest planter, Mr. Buchanan, raised last season a crop that was valued at $35,000. Sixteen years ago a small coffee plant was sent from the Edinburgh Botanical Gardens to Blantyre, and from this plant the greater part of the 5,000,000 coffee trees now growing are descended. The mother tree is still alive in the mission grounds at Blantyre. The climate and soil of Nyassaland seem to suit the coffee tree to perfection, and the crops are unusually large. One strong inducement to plant coffee here is the abundance and cheapness of native labor. The planters are now able to secure an enormous supply of labor from tribes that are scattered far and wide around. Natives travel on foot several hundred miles to get work on the European plantations. They know they will be well treated, well paid, and that they may return in safety to their homes with the wages they have earned, because the Government has put an end to the murderous business of the slave catcher who used to lie in wait for unwary natives. The increase in the native population of the protectorate has been remarkable. In the southern part of the district 10,000 people are now living, where there were only about 1,000 in 1891. In the northern half the native population has almost doubled by immigration in four years. It is believed that before long this region will become one of the most densely peopled portions of the continent, and with plenty of black men to till the soil, the white settlers will be able to produce in enormous quantities all the most valuable crops of the temperate and tropical regions. They are already raising nearly enough wheat for their own needs.

LIVING WITH SNAKES.

Sketch of Stradling, the Ophiomanist and His Son.

So long as human nature retains its instinctive dislike to anything that creeps or crawls, says London Sketch, the practice of keeping snakes is not likely to extend far beyond its present limits. Most people, probably, would find it exceedingly difficulty to name anyone addicted to this propensity. Dr. Arthur Stradling, the subject of this sketch, declares it to be, in his case, hereditary, his father was fond of snakes and his son, 9 years of age, is devoted to them and experiences absolutely no fear in their presence. How far the child, who figures in the illustration, will develop his taste remains to be seen; of the father it may be said that he has devoted the leisure—enforced leisure, it may have been, some of it, for the sake of the cause—of a lifetime to the study of snakes. In pursuit of his study, which he himself calls "ophiomania," he has visited every snake-infested country of the globe—an undertaking accomplished by no other person, probably, with a similar object. Having in the tropics lived in constant and close companionship with serpents, it is not unnatural that at Watford he should be still surrounded by them.

"You surmise that the place is always heated," says the doctor. "Gas is burning day and night. I use naked unventilated gas for warmth, and, as you can see, my reptiles are as healthy as can be. Indeed, I pride myself upon the fact that I rear and keep many delicate species which invariably die in zoological gardens and other menageries. That lizard without legs I have had for 13 years. You say you fancied you heard the gas escaping? Oh, no; that was one of the snakes hissing. He is in a bad temper at being disturbed. Just now I have a particularly good collection of boa-constrictors, but rattlesnakes are my 'first love.' I am just now beginning to adopt my method of cramming universally. Anything up to 12 or 14 feet I can manage single-handled, but in dealing with stock above that length I invoke the assistance of my head keeper, my little boy. A bag is of some service to restrain the movements of the body and render it amenable to control—I once got two ribs broken while manipulating a West African pythoness of 16 feet."

LONGEST IN THE WORLD.

A Lake Ferry on Which the Boats Will Run for Two Hundred and Sixty Miles.

Contracts have been let for the first two boats of the longest car ferry service in the world. The boats will ply between Peshtigo, Wis., and South Chicago. This route is 260 miles long and, in brief, connects the railroads of the northwest with those east of Chicago.

The specifications of the ferry boats call for larger ones even than those now in use on the Ann Arbor ferry line. They will carry 28 loaded cars. Equipped with improved construction and machinery for crushing ice floes, the boats are built to make a round trip every three days in the year.

Traffic contracts have already been made with northwestern and eastern lines, and the ferry route will start with a paying business. As soon as the two boats are in service contracts will be let for additional boats, in order to make delivery of 28 cars every day in the year. Double daily service can easily be had and, of course, will be put on if the traffic warrants it.—Buffalo Courier.

Isaac Pitman Dead.

Isaac H. Pitman died on Saturday, April 20, at his home in Bath, Eng., aged 82 years, of general debility due to old age. This wonderful man was born at Trowbridge, Wilts, Eng., on Jan. 4, 1813, and was educated at the grammar school of that town. He then clerked for a cloth manufacturer, was trained in the normal college of the British and Foreign School Society, London, and appointed master of the British School, Barton-on-Humber, 1832. He established the British School at Wottom-under-Edge in 1836, and took up his residence at Bath in 1839. In 1837 his first treatise on stenography appeared. He was the original inventor of the shorthand system now used in all parts of the world, and had devoted his entire life to the art. At his institution at Bath he taught the art and printed books in shorthand. Benn Pitman, of the Art Academy of Cincinnati and president of the Cincinnati School of Phonography, is his younger brother, and was the father of the system in America, all the brothers growing famous and rich through the discovery of Isaac.

TATTOOED CLOTHES.

The Samoans Are Very Clever People and Like Their Summer Suits.

Miss Marie Fraser, after a visit to Samoa, has written a book on the islands, in which appears the following naive little essay on the philosophy of clothes:

"Though the tattooing in Samoa may vary a little in design, the decoration is always in the shape of knee breeches, extending from the waist—where strings tied in knots and ornamental fastenings are tattooed on the skin, so thorough is the artist in his work—to below the knee. The pattern is very elaborate, with stripes of natural skin intersecting. It is certainly a great improvement to their appearance, for in wet or stormy weather they economically leave their best lava-lavas at home and wear only a banana leaf or a girdle of leaves; and should an islander be caught in a heavy shower of rain while wearing only a garment of tapa the tattooing stands him in good stead, for bark cloth does not survive wet and rapidly dissolves into rags. No matter how scantily they may be clad, the tattooing makes them look thoroughly clothed and trim in their appearance. After leaving the Navigators and visiting other islands, where the art is only used in the most inartistic and disfiguring manner, we missed the clean-looking tattooed natives of Samoa in their decorous knee breeches."

A Model Friend.

What true friendship consists in, remarks Youth's Companion, depends on the temperament of the man who has a friend. It is related that at the funeral of Mr. X., who died extremely poor, the usually cold-blooded 'Squire Tightfist was much affected.

"You thought a great deal of him, I suppose?" some one asked him.

"Thought a great deal of him? I should think I did. There was a true friend! He never asked me to lend him a cent, though I knew well enough he was starving to death!"

An Insinuation.

"The price of beef is going up fearfully," said the restaurant keeper. "You have no idea of the price charged now for choice cuts."

"Humph!" said the patron grumpily, as he struggled with a refractory steak. "I don' see how that is going to effect you."—Chicago Record.

A Fatal Article.

"That was a good article you had in the paper this morning, Mr. Sikes, giving the details of the method by which an expert burglar opens a combination lock without having to blow the safe to pieces," said the editor. "I have instructed the cashier to give you two guineas extra for it. Sorry to part with you, Mr. Sikes, but we shall not need your service any longer."

"Wh-what!" gasped the reporter. "You give me two guineas extra for that article, and then discharge me?"

"Yes, sir; I discharge you for knowing how to write it."—Tit-Bits.

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