LIGHT COLORS IN THE Stonewall Jackson RIBBON TRADE MARK Are Exceptionally Mild

Enormously The Largest Sale Of Any CIGAR In Canada.

And equally AS FINE in quality as the Noted Dark Colors of this Famous Brand.

IS THIS ONLY A BLUFF?

Continued from page 1.

supervision of Burley Smith, at work on Bald Indian Bay, outside of Sultana Island. The drill has struck the Sultana lead rich in 40 feet of water. A steel tube will be sunk and mining operations commenced at once.

The Order of Railway Conductors is to be invited to meet here in 1898.

Mr. E. J. Rainboth, P. L. S., leaves here to-morrow with a staff of surveyors to survey an area of timber limits in the Nipissing district for the Ontario Government.

Trooper Christian of the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, who was accidentally shot at the drill hall last week, was buried to-day with military honors.

The Hawkesbury Lumber Company has purchased from Mr. William Mackay his Upper Dumoine limits in the Province of Quebec, which contain 124 square miles of pine lands. The price paid was in the vicinity of $124,000.

The Dominion Arts Association of London is seeking incorporation.

The American Bank Note Company of New York will apply next session for an act permitting them to do a lithographing, printing and engraving business in Canada.

Another application will be made next session for a railway from the head of Lynn Canal, British Columbia, to Fort Selkirk.

F. C. Wade, barrister, of Winnipeg has been appointed to investigate the management of Stony Mountain Penitentiary, Manitoba.

W. J. Bowser, Independent Conservative candidate in Burrard, has been commissioned to investigate alleged cases of partisanship by postal officials in British Columbia at the general election.

Billy Bennett's return as member for East Simcoe was gazetted yesterday.

Hon. William Paterson's business at Brantford will hereafter be handled by "The William Paterson & Son Company (Limited)," capital $125,000.

Sir Richard Cartwright is not expected to return to Ottawa for about ten days. He is undergoing a course of treatment for rheumatism at Avon Springs, N. Y.

There was an alarm of fire from Government House to-night. The chimney of one of the stables caught fire, but little damage resulted.

A VERY GRAVE CHARGE.

Hon. John Dryden Said to Have Deliberately Sold an Office and Used the Money for Corruption.

Whitby, Ont., Feb. 27.—A well-attended meeting of the Liberal Conservative Association of South Ontario in the Council Chamber here this afternoon re-elected the old officers, and was addressed by William Smith, ex-M.P., Major Hughes, M.P., Dr. Willoughby, M.L.A., and a number of local speakers. Referring to the causes which led to his defeat last June Smith said the vacancy in the Registry office had been the chiefest. This office, after Dr. Rae's death, just prior to the Dominion election was deliberately sold by the Hon. John Dryden to the highest bidder, and the money paid over and used to defeat the Conservative candidate. Had the protest against Mr. Burnett's election been tried this would have been shown to be what was done. Were a commission issued in the Local House to enquire into this disgraceful affair he would prove his statement to be true. Mr. Smith's remarks created quite a sensation, there being a number of Reformers present. Major Hughes made a stirring appeal for a spirited fight in the coming Ontario elections. Dr. Willoughby spoke at length upon prominent topics, making a strong attack on the Ontario Agricultural College, based upon the experience of those from his own riding who had attended there.

The firm of Mulvey & McBrady, barristers, etc., has been dissolved. Mr. L. V. McBrady will continue the practice of his profession in the offices occupied by the late firm.

ADAMS ADZ

Blankety Blank - - !

It isn't the open winter that annoys us, but it is our lack of foresight in prognosticating the weather. We bought blankets for a Siberian climate.

BLANKETS

piled on shelves, stowed away in boxes and in bales in the basement. What's to be done? If we've got one pair, we've got five hundred.

Are you speculative? Will you buy blankets if we throw off all of the profits and some of the cost?

Will you buy a 50x70 good three-quarter size wool blanket for $1.39 per pair?

Or a 52x72 double blanket for $1.75 per pair?

Or, better yet, a 68x78 large blanket for $2.10 per pair?

NOW WILL YOU COME?

THE ADAMS FURNITURE CO (LIMITED) 179 YONGE ST. C. S. CORYELL, MGR

DRAMA AND MUSIC

"BRIAN BORU."

The sale of seats begins this morning for the Whitney Opera Company, which comes to the Grand next Thursday for three nights and a matinee. Mr. Whitney's organization is to present the latest operatic success, "Brian Boru." The opera is, as its name would indicate, Irish in character, theme, color and atmosphere, but not by any means, it is said, of the conventional type. The knee breeches, shamrock, blackthorn stick and short-skirted soubrette are conspicuous by their absence. It is said that "Brian Boru" is historically, musically and dramatically so far above the average light opera that it does not belong to, and cannot be correctly classed as comic opera. The scenes, it is said, illustrate one of the most beautiful valleys in the hills of Wicklow, the audience chamber and great hall in Dublin Castle, the camp of Brian and his followers, and a mediæval street and square with a view of Dublin Bay in the distance. The company numbers over 70 and includes some of the cleverest artists on the lyric stage.

A CLEVER ACTRESS.

McKee Rankin, the popular and versatile Canadian actor, who opens at the Toronto Opera House, to-night, in "True to Life," has a leading lady, Miss Nance O'Neil, who is said to be a "wonder." Of her in New York critic writes: "There is no mistake about the mental agony of this young lady when she gets to the centre of the stage and falls into her stride, as it were. She has a pretty, refined face and a lithe figure. Her voice is sympathetic, and she has learned how to use it. All she requires is a wrong—but the dramatic provides for her—and then she can launch forth tearful invective and strenuous supplications with a fervor that carries her audience with her to the last man. It may seem an easy thing to cry and denounce and beseech, but the ruggedness with which an ill-equipped actress will try to give the audience is never so noticeable as when one has lately seen a woman of temperament and force do it. I do not want to be a bad actress for a week, because I am sure to think that she is worse than she really is, with the recollection of this clever girl in 'True to Life' fresh in my mind." During the week the usual Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday "bargain matinees" will be given.

THE COMING SHOW.

The management of the Auditorium Music Hall announce an excellent entertainment for this week. Among the artists that will appear are Arthur Yule (tenor), Adele Reno (contralto) and William Gilpen (baritone), known as the Cosmopolitan Trio, whose sweet singing and laughable comedy always proves a leading feature wherever they appear. The clever team Martin and Durand, the Brahams, sketch artists, Lee Ingham, equilibrist; McCarty and Reina, colored personators, with others will take part in each performance. Two performances will be given daily, at 2.30 and 8.15 p.m., at the usual popular prices in vogue at this house.

THE BIG BLACK BOOM.

To-night the merry burnt-corkers will entertain one of the most fashionable audiences which ever gathered in the pretty Princess Theatre. All arrangements are completed for the Young Liberals' minstrel performance. The rich and elegant costumes have arrived from New York. Most of the boxes have been taken by leading society people, and the best seats are selling rapidly. Among those who will take part are the well-known comedians Jack Kennedy, Tom Cameron, James Fairbanks, Will Macdonald, Tom Slattery, Jake Armstrong, M. Fletcher and Fred Sterling. Among the sweet-voiced singers will be Laurie Enright, H. Patrick, Hyphen Johnson, Alf E. Ecclestone and Joseph W. Baker. The specialty performers will be Tom Slattery, the monologist; Frank Foster, juggler and slack wire artist; Master Willie Cherry, the trick bicyclist; Sterling and Pat Fairbanks, knockabout comedians, and twenty banjoists, mandolin players and dancers. Carriages can be ordered for 10.30.

MASSEY HALL MARCH 4.

The concert announced for the benefit of the employes of the Comet Cycle Company takes place in Massey Hall on Thursday evening, March 4. The regular program is a long one by a large number of Toronto's most noted artists. There will also be a competition for an wheel for the popular captain of any of our local bicycle clubs. This feature is creating immense excitement among the wheel men, the contestants are working like beavers and the Royal Canadians are also said to have their coats off, while the Pud Woods say they will win if it can be won in a walk. A ballot box will be deposited at the door for the reception of the votes and at 8.45 sharp it will be removed by the committee. After the counting of the votes the result will be announced from the stage and the wheel will be presented to the successful competitor by ex-Ald. George McMurrich. There has been an immense sale of tickets, but there are a number of good seats still left. The box plan is open every day at the hall. Tickets may be procured at the company's office, 17 Temperance-street, or of any of the employes. Reserved seats only 15 cents.

COUNTY AND SUBURBAN NEWS.

Satisfactory State of North Toronto Finances —York Mills Bridge—News From a Wide Field.

The auditors' report as presented to the North Toronto Finance Committee should be a source of congratulation to the ratepayers of that town. The incorporation was accomplished during the boom days of some six years ago, and but for the wise discretion and influence of ex-Mayor Fisher and present Mayor Davis would no doubt have fallen into the lavish expenditures adopted by other municipalities. The excess of assets over liabilities is more than $20,000, and the financial arrangements have been well carried out that not one dollar of interest or sinking fund was left unprovided for at the end of the financial year. The confidence in the town's affairs is shown by the smallness of arrears of taxes at the last return of the rolls, although no tax sale has taken place since it has been separate municipality.

The decision, if final, of the county to rebuild the York Mills bridge on the old site is to be regretted for many reasons. The Don at York Mills has been a troublesome and expensive stream during the past and the proposition to build the new bridge farther north than the present one would obviate many expenses by straightening the stream and allowing the spring freshets a clear, straight course. It is questionable whether York Township should not be more deeply interested than the county in the new site, as by it the washing away of the road at about the proposed bridge site and cost of repairing and rebuilding their own bridge leading west from Yonge-street will mean a large addition to the account of roads and bridges during the coming spring. It is certainly a question that the county and township should join hands in and work out to a satisfactory issue.

A question of a good deal of importance to North Toronto is that of retaining York Township Council as tenants at the hall. It has been suggested that the township offices could be more efficiently operated in the city, and although many reasons can be assigned in favor of that project, it is questionable whether the town does not offer equal facilities, when such additions are made to the hall as will form proper accommodation for its officials. The location is certainly very central to all parts of the township, and the increased trolley car accommodation of recent years places it within easy reach of any district. The necessity of the clerk and treasurer's proximity to the county offices is not so essential now that the township has control of its own arrears of taxes, and the collection of taxes could as easily be accomplished at Edgeley as at Mecy office. Added to these facts, it would be in the town's interest to give a much longer rental than it would be possible for the township to secure for city accommodation.

Much sympathy is expressed for Mr. William Brown, assessor of North Toronto, on the death of his wife. She had resided in the Township of York for 50 years and had been married to Mr. Brown 53 years. She had a family of 11 children, five being sons. Mrs. Brown was a very charitable lady, well known throughout a wide district and very highly respected.

East Toronto.

Mr. P. P. Lynch has gone to Lindsay to attend the funeral of his brother, Dr. Lynch.

A petition is being circulated among the ratepayers of York Township for the purpose of opposing the transfer of liquor license in the case of the Bell House.

The Darling property is being improved. The building will make a first-class store when finished. It is understood that it will be occupied by a hardware man.

Mr. Broughton has undertaken the work of tuition in connection with the air brake class in the Y.M.C.A. Building.

At the next meeting of the School Board, Monday next, many important matters will be dealt with.

The taxation rate is lower in East Toronto than in any other Toronto suburb. It is seven mills on the dollar less than that of Toronto Junction. The Council may, therefore, easily introduce the gas lighting without burdening the town.

On Friday evening a trainmen's mutual improvement society will be organized in the Y.M.C.A. Building.

On Saturday an election took place in Norway to fill the vacancy on the School Board caused by the resignation of Mr. Mills. There were two candidates for the office. The poll stood: Mr. Fox 50, and Mr. Thompson 21.

The regular meeting of East Toronto Liberal-Conservative Club takes place in Carnahan's Hall this evening. Mr. W. F. Maclean, M.P., of East York, will be present and address the meeting. The program will be varied by music and elocutionary selections.

Markham Conservatives Meet.

The annual meeting of the Markham Liberal-Conservative Association was held in the Franklin House, Markham, on Saturday at 2 p.m., for the election of officers for 1897. Mr. William Padget, who has filled the president's chair during the past three years with credit to himself and the entire satisfaction of the association, wished to be relieved, following officers were elected for the present year: William Stiver, president; John Turner, vice-president; Alex Hunt, secretary-treasurer. The following were elected chairmen of the sub-divisions: No. 1, Steward Wilcox; 2, Fred Malach; 3, William Padget, jr.; 4, Thomas Frisby, jr.; 5, Adam Hood; 6, Alex Pingle; 7, Harcourt Duncan; 8, George Morrison; 9, William Burton; 10, George Milne.

Col. Button, one of the oldest residents, also one of the staunchest of Conservatives and a personal friend of the late Sir John A. Macdonald, was present, and the association, wishing to show that they did not forget his long services, elected him an honorary member for life. It is pleasing to see that the association have recognized past services in the offices elected, especially so by the election of the president. Mr. Stiver, who has been one of the most indefatigable workers for the party during the past thirty years, and under his leadership the Conservatives of Markham will make a good fight when the day of battle comes, whether it be late or early.

Markham Notes

The Ladies' Aid Association, in connection with Grace Church, Markham Village, will hold their last social until after Lent at the residence of Harcourt E. Duncan on Tuesday evening next.

W. H. Hall, ex-County Councillor, has been laid up for several days with la grippe.

Personals.

A. Andrew, Montreal, is at the Rossin.

W. J. McKee, Windsor, is at the Queen's.

M. Connolly, Kingston, is at the Queen's.

W. A. Casson, Belleville, is at the Walker.

E. B. Crampton, Brantford, is at the Walker.

A. C. Stephenson, Chatham, is at the Walker.

J. R. Strome, Brandon, Man., is at the Rossin.

Fred James, Birmingham, Eng., is at the Rossin.

Charles Cameron, Collingwood, is at the Walker.

J. F. Robinson, Cannington, is at the Walker.

M. Deletang, Paris, France, is at the Queen's.

W. Sutherland, Rossland, B.C., is at the Queen's.

H. A. Lozier, Cleveland, is at the Queen's.

Rev. and Mrs. Ballard, Guelph, are at the Walker.

Miss Fanny Davidson of St. Paul is at the Grand Union.

J. F. Wardner and F. Lewis Clark, Rossland, are at the Queen's.

J. T. Gordon and A. D. Shaw, Buffalo, N. Y., are registered at the Rossin.

Mr. F. Malchi, proprietor of the "True to Life" company, is at the Grand Union.

Mr. McKee Rankin and Miss O'Neil of the "True to Life" company are at the Grand Union.

Mr. George Piddington, manufacturing jeweler, Elm-street, is suffering from a severe attack of bronchitis.

Mrs. Irn Standish is giving a "thimble tea" to a number of friends at her home, 106 St. Vincent-street, on Tuesday afternoon, March 2.

Mr. Harold Baker of the Toronto Type Foundry, is returning to England in a couple of weeks. Mr. Baker has been in Canada only two years, but his genial manner has made him a host of friends, who will regret to hear of his departure. He has accepted a good position in Wolverhampton.

The monthly meeting of the Catholic Truth Society of the Cathedral Parish, on Tuesday evening in St. Vincent's Hall, will take the form of an open meeting, at which, amongst other features, will be an address by the director.

GREAT BRITAIN AND RUSSIA.

Serious Irritation Between the Old Antagonists.

GRÆCO-CRETAN SITUATION

Appears to be Less Hopeful of Settlement Than Was Thought.

The British Cabinet Hastily Summoned on Saturday—Russia Adopts a Tone That is Considered to Be Nothing Short of Threatening—Greece Shows a Disposition Not to Submit—Poet Watson's Savage Lines—Russian War Preparations—Evidently the Muscovite Contemplates a Move Before Long.

New York, Feb. 28.—Mr. H. R. Chamberlain cables from London to The Sun: The Graeco-Cretan situation is, in its larger aspect, less hopeful. The announcement of an agreement of the powers for its final settlement was, to say the least, premature. There exists at the present moment serious irritation between Russia and Great Britain, which has provoked the former power to adopt an attitude that can hardly be described by a milder term than threatening. I do not pretend to know the exact cause of the trouble. It was discussed at a hastily summoned meeting of the British Cabinet this afternoon, with what result it is, of course, impossible to say. Singular semi-official communications from St. Petersburg are published today, in which it is set forth: "In the event of Greece, with blind misapprehension of her own advantage, offering further opposition to the well-meant advice of Russia and of the powers in alliance with her, or creating difficulties, or in the event of her allowing herself to be encouraged in her present attitude by self-seeking friends, perhaps on the false supposition of a lack of unanimity among the great powers, because one or another power did not support at the outset the protest of Russia, which is in perfect agreement with Germany and France, Russia, in such an emergency, is determined upon her course of action, conscious of her unity with France and of her absolute agreement with Germany and also Austria.

"Even if isolated powers should not associate themselves in the steps she is resolved to take, Russia will be in a position, at any rate, not to allow the peace of Europe to be endangered by events in Crete."

ENGLAND IS MEANT.

This is a tone which Russia has not adopted toward any power within living memory. England, of course, is the country meant, and the words employed suggest some exceedingly grave suspicions. It may be, however, that this language was used in the interval between the reception of Lord Salisbury's note, saying in effect that England would do nothing in regard to Greece until the fate of Crete is decided and before England had notified her acceptance of Russia's proposal for solving the difficulty.

That proposal, although agreed to in principle by the six powers, will not be enforced in the form interpreted by Lord Salisbury in the House of Lords on Thursday. Neither England nor Italy nor France will fire a gun to drive the Greeks from Crete in order that the island may be delivered to Turkish troops for "police" purposes. Public opinion in all three countries would put an absolute veto upon that proposition.

GREECE IS STILL ANGRY.

Every despatch received from Greece and Crete makes it perfectly clear that such an arrangement will never be submitted to. In fact, the reply of Greece to Lord Salisbury's discouraging speech on Thursday night has been a summons to two more divisions of reserves to mobilize. Nothing less than absolute autonomy for Crete will be accepted by public opinion in this country, and Lord Salisbury is fully aware of the fact by this time.

Public anger is slow to kindle in England. Cause and effect in this, as in all things else, are separated by a wider interval than in almost any other country. But public opinion is not to be trifled with. It did not need another Watson's lyric to rouse and inflame it. Watson's lines are sufficiently savage. This is one of his verses addressed to Greece:

Who are these would bind thy hands?
Knaves and dastards, none beside.
All the just in all the lands
Hail thee blest and sanctified.
Curst who would thy triumph mar,
Be he Kaiser, be he Czar.

THE TURKISH TROOPS.

An Englishman who passed through Salonica at the beginning of this week writes that nobody, seeing the Turkish recruits arriving there, would suppose they would be able to make much of a fight against the well-fed and well-clothed Greek soldiers. The newly-mobilized Redifs in particular, who have been called from their homes and families for the third time within twelve months, are ragged, hungry-looking and depressed. Many of them have served since the beginning of last year in Armenia and Crete, but they have not received a single piastre of the pay due them, and are not likely to get anything but hard knocks in the coming campaign. If, indeed, there is to be war, the Porte has announced, blithely, its intention to put 110,000 men on the Thessalian frontier, but so far has been able to obtain funds to equip and transport only about 15,000 men for that purpose. The Porte has no money, but he would be oblivious to history who should lightly assume that this fact indicates that Turkey is not in a position to wage war.

The troops who lately passed through Salonica were without ambulance equipment or surgical appliances of any kind, but their arms were evidently all right, and their ammunition trains appeared to be ample. Their artillery, too, was in good condition and their batteries were well horsed.

RUSSIA'S PREPARATIONS.

Talk of an Advance Into Turkey at Easter if Not Before.

New York, Feb. 28.—Mr. Harold Frederic cables from London to The Times: The Russian war preparations in the south are now so open and extensive, with whole corps mobilized and Grand Dukes hurrying to their military posts, that it is impossible not to believe that there will be a Russian advance into Turkey at Easter or before.

This accentuates the mystery of Russia's present posture in the "concert" and strengthens the impression that there is something underneath the published accounts of negotiations about which we know nothing. The natural idea is that an outbreak of hostilities on the Macedonian frontier is known by experts to be more imminent than the public supposes, but I heard tonight from members of the Armenian Committee that new massacres in Asia Minor are more likely to be the pretext Russia is waiting for before she moves.

The Turk Means Mischief.

London, Feb. 28.—The Daily News to-morrow will publish a despatch from Constantinople saying that many officials there declare that Turkey will never give her consent to the scheme of the powers to establish an autonomous government in Crete. Well-informed persons believe, basing their belief on the military and naval preparations, that Turkey is making that the Porte intends to resist coercion should the powers attempt to apply it. The same paper's Paris correspondent telegraphs that the French Government has certainly received information that Abdul Hamid means to take advantage of the present imbroglio to commit mischief. The correspondent quotes from an article in The Temps, which he believes to have been inspired, in support of his statement.

MOSLEMS DEFEATED.

Sharp Fight at Canea in Which Christians Had the Best of It.

Canea, Feb. 27.—A sharp fight took place yesterday between Moslems and Christians near Retimo. The Moslems were repulsed with small loss.

Another Report.

London, Feb. 27.—The Sunday Sun has a despatch from Athens saying that one hundred Moslems were killed in a battle that occurred yesterday near Retimo. The despatch adds that the Moslems retreated, leaving the Christians masters of the field.

Alarming Rumors.

London, Feb. 27.—The Observer will to-morrow publish a despatch from Paris saying that alarming rumors are in circulation, and if the rumors are true they show the situation is extremely grave. Two of the rumors receive credence. One of them concerns Russia's attitude toward the policy of Greece, an attitude which, apparently, nothing will mitigate. The other is to the effect that the Dragoman attached to the Russian Embassy at Constantinople has notified the Porte that Russia will occupy Armenia if hostilities break out.

King George Warned.

Athens, Feb. 27.—In view of the fact that the Chamber has not been in session for some days, the leaders of the Opposition met to-day and signed a protest, which has been presented to the King. The protest declares that the Crown is entitled to act alone in such a case as the present, and if it does not act the Opposition cannot be answerable for the situation.

Dread of Reprisals.

Canea, Feb. 27.—Colonel Vassos, the commander of the Greek army of occupation, has refused to use his influence with the insurgents at Selino to obtain the release of the Moslems who are besieged there. The result is awaited with anxiety, as the continued confinement of the Moslems is causing dread of reprisals.

Want Union With Greece.

Athens, Feb. 28.—A number of Cretan deputies, headed by the Bishop of Retimo, visited the King, George to-day and presented to him a memorial, which in effect declared that the establishment of an autonomous Government in Crete would not result in the pacification of the island. Such a form of Government would only prepare the way to a fresh revolution and further endanger the peace of Europe. The Cretans, therefore, had firmly decided not to accept any form but that of union with Greece, which the memorialists added even the Mussulmans were beginning to agree was the only practical solution of the question.

A BIG KING STREET FIRE

Messrs. W. A. Murray & Co.'s Fine Store Damaged to the Extent of $100,000. [Saturday Morning.]

An electric wire is supposed to have been the cause of a fire which did $100,000 worth of damage to the stock and premises of W. A. Murray & Co., 17 to 27 King-street east, Saturday morning. A few minutes after 3 o'clock John Clarke, a porter in the employ of the firm, discovered a fire in the northwest corner of the basement. He and William Henderson, another employe, tried to overcome the blaze with buckets of water. While this was going on P.C. Findlay saw smoke coming through the grating. He rang the alarm from the box at King and Yonge-streets. The fire-fighters were greatly hampered by the dense volumes of smoke. When they entered the building they were driven back almost suffocated. Most of the damage to the valuable stock was caused by water and smoke. The fire was confined to the basement and first floor, and lasted about an hour and a half. The men's furnishing department, near the westerly front windows, is badly damaged, and a large quantity of laces, ribbons and fancy wares were ruined.

THE INSURANCE.

The stock and building were insured as follows: On stock, $378,500; building, $26,000; fixtures, $7000; divided among the following companies:

In Canadian and English companies: Caledonian, $10,000; Alliance, $1,000; Guardian, $2500; Commercial Union, $5000; Keystone, $5000; Royal, $10,000; Mercantile, $5000; British American, $7500; Quebec, $5000; Phoenix of Brooklyn, $2500; North British & Mercantile, $15,000; Lancashire, $15,000; Hartford, $15,000; Queen's, $10,000; Northern, $10,000; Liverpool, London & Globe, $7500; Sun, $15,000; Western, $3000; Aetna, $10,000; Scottish Union & National, $10,000; Norwich Union, $10,000; London Assurance, $7500; London & Lancashire, $10,000; London Mutual, $5000; Manchester, $10,000; Economical Mutual, $5000; Insurance Company of North America, $5000; Connecticut, $5000.

In United States companies.—Associated Manufacturers' Mutual, $2500; Aqueduct Mutual, $15,000; Franklin Mutual, $2500; Citizens of Evansville, $1000; United Fire, $2500; Indiana Underwriters, $1500; Long Island Mutual, $2500; Union Mutual of New Jersey, $2500; Mutual Lloyds, $2500; Mercantile Lloyds, $5000; New Jersey State Fire Association, $10,000; Columbia Fire Lloyds, $5000; Merchants Lloyds, $10,000; Tradesmen's Lloyds, $2500; New York Fire, $2500; United Cities Lloyds, $7500; Manufacturers' Lloyds, $7500; Hudson Fire Lloyds, $2500; Manufacturers & Merchants Lloyd's, $5500; New York & Brooklyn Lloyds, $5000; Traders' Fire Lloyds' $5000; Electric City Lloyds, $2500; Atlantic Fire and Marine Underwriters' Association, $2500; Globe Fire Company, $5000; Atlas Mutual, $10,000; Protective Fire Association, $10,000; Knickerbocker Lloyds, $2500; International Lloyds, $5000; Mutual Lloyds, $7500; Protection & Manhattan, $2500.

The building, owned by the firm, is insured in the Western alone for $26,000. The fixtures are insured in the London, Liverpool & Globe for $3000, and in the Union Assurance Company for $4000.

The estimated loss on the stock is 20 to 25 per cent. of the insurance and on the building $5000 or $6000, a total of over $100,000.

Large crowds of people gathered in King-street on their way to work. The street car service was disorganized for a time. Percy Hill, a cutter, was unable to get out of the building by the stairs owing to the dense volumes of smoke. He was rescued by the firemen from a window.

Mr. W. T. Murray left for Montreal Friday evening. He was wired to, and left immediately for Toronto.

The Lenten noon-day services will be held in St. James' Cathedral, commencing on Wednesday.

Surrogate proceedings took place on Saturday in these estates: Henry Hopper, $2680; Manly C. Boblin, $1000.

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

An Improvement in the Monetary Outlook.

ADVANCE IN SECURITIES.

Increase in the Cash Holdings of the Bank of England.

The Discounts of Canadian Banks Largely Reduced in January—Canadian Pacific and Postal Higher, While Cable Is Lower—Good Earnings of the Latter Company—Features of General Trade—Decrease in the Exports of Wheat.

The financial atmosphere is brighter than a year ago. European political news is more pacific and the outbreak between the United States and Spain is about as far removed as ever. The market for securities has become more active on Wall-street, and British operators have bought a good many Americans within the past few days. The sentiment is reflected by the advance of over one per cent. in British consols during the week. The Bank of England's stock of gold increased $2,725,000, but the directors thought it best not to reduce the rate of discount, which is three per cent., while the open market rate continues at two per cent. In New York the supply of loanable funds is large, with rates on call ruling at 1 1-2 to 1 3-4 per cent. The banks belonging to the clearing house now have $57,600,000 in cash above the 25 per cent., as required by law. A year ago they had only $24,422,000, and two years ago $28,054,000. Money on call can be had here at 4 1-2, while in Montreal the quoted rate is 4 per cent. The discount rate continues at 6 per cent.

CURRENT LOANS REDUCED.

The demand deposits of Canadian banks during January decreased $3,505,000, much of which went to the reducing of the current loans, which item shows a decline of $2,088,000. The liquidation, as shown by a decrease in overdue debts, is a good feature, and denotes strength. Current discounts, however, are still about $4,000,000 in excess of those a year ago. The banks have invested $143,000 more in railway securities, bringing this item up to $12,000,000, or quite half of the investments which the banks have in all securities of this class.

The note circulation attracts the most attention in the bank statement, indicating, as it does, the condition of trade to no small degree. The January statement shows that the circulation declined $2,887,000 during the month, but it remains in excess of the outstanding circulation in 1896 by $800,000, and that in 1895 by $1,300,000, the time of decline being a few months in these years. This would apparently indicate that the volume of business has been in excess of the previous years, which were notably dull. The decline was due to a general improvement of trade or only to the activity which at present pervades the mining camps and mining speculation it is not easy to say.

In January, 1896, the loans in the United States were almost $3,000,000 more than they are to-day. The loans on call in Canada show a decline of about $200,000.

CANADIAN SECURITIES.

There is a moderate advance in the price of Canadian Pacific, investors being encouraged by the increased earnings of the road the past two weeks. It closed yesterday in London at 56 3-8, as against 55 5-8 a week ago. A decline of 1 per cent. is noted in Cable, but it seems steady, around 165. The net earnings for 1896 are over 11 3-4 per cent. Receipts from traffic earnings and interest on investments for the year amounted to $3,411,235, being an increase over the previous year of $9517. The expenses amounted to $842,690, leaving a balance of $1,176,565, out of which the company paid $800,000 in dividends and carried to reserve account $376,565. There was an increase in expenses over the previous year of $48,349, the major portion of which was due to cable repairs. Postal is slightly firmer than a week ago, the quotation being 97 3-4, as against 97. Street Railway stocks quiet. Montreal is 1 to 1 1-2 higher and Toronto unchanged. Montreal Gas is 2 per cent. higher. A good deal of interest is being taken in the forthcoming Gas statement. It is generally believed that the company will show about 12 per cent. earned for the year. Last year the company earned about 10 1-2 per cent.

FEATURES IN TRADE.

In general trade the week has developed little of importance. The dry goods business has been quiet. Woollens are somewhat depressed, but there is a little better demand for spring goods for forward delivery. An active trade is reported in sugars at firmer prices. Cut nails are lower, the reduction being made to meet the low prices at which American nails can be bought in. Canada plates are firmer. Business in general hardware is slow, and a good deal of interest is being betrayed in the proposed tariff revision. The leather market is firmer, but with a further advance in hides. Prices of the former are relatively low. Payments are only middling. Failures have decreased, but the number is yet far too large.

DECREASE IN EXPORTS.

The wheat situation is perplexing. The statistical position is satisfactory, the amount on passage to Europe and in Canada and the United States 22,500,000 bushels less than last year, but prices are lower than a week ago. The export demand has fallen off to some extent, in consequence no doubt of the increase in stocks in Europe. The exports of wheat from America last week were down to 1,372,216 bushels as compared with 2,120,000 bushels the previous week, 2,026,000 bushels in the last week of February, 1896; 2,689,000 bushels in 1895; 2,972,000 bushels in 1894; and 3,251,000 bushels in 1893.

In Chicago May closed on Saturday at 74 1-2c., as against 76 5-8c. a week ago, and at 72 3-8c. as against 73 1-8c. a week ago. The prices for these months are coming closer together. For several days past the buying of the July option was much better than for the May. The reports of damage to winter wheat crops are increasing, and for this reason operators prefer selling May and buying July and September options. Liverpool closing cables were only 1-4d. above the lowest of the week and year.

According to The Winnipeg Commercial, the wheat situation there is very quiet. There is scarcely any movement in country markets. For the week ending February 13 the receipts of wheat at Fort William aggregated 65,414 bushels, shipments were 9922 bushels, leaving 2,757,122 bushels in store, as against 3,814,530 bushels in store a year ago. Prices in Manitoba country markets, are about 2 to 3c. lower, at 57c. to 58c. per bushel for No. 1 hard, at 18 cent freight rate points. In the Winnipeg market, the lowest range of wheat has been about 73 1-2c. to 74c. for No. 1 hard afloat Fort William.

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Blood is essential to perfect health. This is a scientific fact. Every organ, nerve and muscle must be fed and nourished. It is the function of the blood to furnish this nourishment, and the quality of nourishment these organs receive depends on the quality of the blood. If the blood is

Rich

Pure and full of vitality it will properly feed and support the whole mechanism of the body. If it is poor and thin disease and suffering will be inevitable. The great success of Hood's Sarsaparilla in curing stubborn cases of scrofula, eczema, rheumatism, neuralgia and many other similar troubles, is based upon its power to enrich and purify the

Blood

This is also the reason for the great popularity of Hood's Sarsaparilla as a building up medicine. By making pure, rich blood, it gives vigor and vitality even in trying seasons, when, owing to impoverished blood, thousands are complaining of weakness and weariness, lack of energy and ambition, and that tired feeling.

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HOW TO GROW GRACEFUL.

The Desideratum Acquired With Persistent Effort.

The girl who desires to be graceful must exercise. Just as the blacksmith bends iron or wheel, and when skating comes but at rare intervals, it is a pretty good plan for her to take regular physical exercise a little while each day. The youngest looking, prettiest, brightest and sweetest grandmother that I ever knew in my life tells me that she never goes to her breakfast without half an hour's physical exercise. If you could only see her—slender, bright-eyed, with clear, unlined complexion and abundant vitality in every movement—I think you would feel like immediately going and doing likewise. Oh, yes, there is a lot of good in "home gymnastics," and there are very good, simple exercises for the general development of the limbs:

1. Describe a circular movement with each arm 20 times in succession. Extend the time forward, outward and upward 30 times in succession, taking eight or ten deep inspirations between each series.

2. Execute a circular movement from the waist, swaying the upper part of the body slowly round, the hands resting on the hips, 30 times.

3. Extend the leg as nearly at right angles with the body as possible 12 times each side, taking eight or ten deep inspirations between each series.

4. Extend the right foot 20 times each side; perform the gesture of reaping or sawing 30 times; bend each knee rapidly 30 times; take eight or ten deep inspirations.

5. Raise the arm swiftly and rapidly, as in the action of throwing a lance, 12 times in succession; throw out both arms simultaneously 20 or 30 times; take eight or ten deep inspirations.

6. Trot on one spot, resting the hands on the hips, and lifting the feet briskly 100 to 300 times. Take eight or ten deep inspirations.

7. Jump with the hands on the hips and the head and body erect, 50 to 100 times. Take eight or ten deep inspirations. If necessary, a brief rest should be taken after each exercise.

HAPPENINGS OF A DAY.

Items of Passing Interest Gathered in and Around this Busy City.

Don't be deceived—"L. & S." brand of hams, bacon and lard is delicious, healthful and appetizing.

"Money" was the subject discussed by the Woman's Enfranchisement Society in Forum Hall on Saturday afternoon. Dr. Emily Stowe was the essayist.

Rev. Oswald Rigby, Dean of Trinity University, on Saturday afternoon delivered the first of the spring series of lectures on the "Universities of Oxford and Cambridge."

The executors of the will of the late Mr. Hart A. Massey announce the payment of bequests to the amount of $116,277 to 22 institutions, religious, educational or charitable.

Zetland Lodge of Free Masons held a delightful at home on Friday night. Amongst those who took part in the program were Mr William Robinson, Messrs Rich and Ramsay, Miss Bibby (Dundas), Mr Carnahan (East Toronto), Mr J G Laidlaw (Hamilton), Mr Harry Blackie, Miss Shafer, Miss Ivy Kerr. Dancing was continued till 3 o'clock. The arrangements were highly creditable to Mr. J. H. Macabe, W.M.

Unionville Band Concert.

The concert given in Victoria Hall Friday evening, under the auspices of the band, was a decided success, the hall being well filled. The program consisted of solos, duets, quartets and quintets, both vocal and instrumental. The quartet (Bugie Call) rendered by Miss R. Size, Miss E. Eckardt, Rev. J. F. Brush and Mr. F. E. Myers, brought forth great applause, also a solo by Miss B. Neville entitled "Mamma." Great credit is due the Rev. J. F. Brush, the leader of this organization, for the manner in which they acquitted themselves, taking into consideration the short time they have been organized. Our genial townsman, Mr. James Eckardt, occupied the chair. Miss L. Devlin presided at the piano. We quite agree with the remark the chairman made at the close, if the band would only repeat this same program the hall would not be able to hold the crowd.

LOUGHEAD IS IN IT.

Santa Rosa, Cal., Feb. 28.—The bike races here yesterday, under the auspices of the Olympic Circuit, were well-attended. Following are results:

One-third mile, scratch, professional—Otto Zeigler, San Jose, 1; Allen Jones, Olympia, 2; F. J. Loughead, Canada, 3. Time 44 4-5.

One mile, scratch, professional—F. J. Loughead, 1; F. A. McFarland, 2; Allen Jones, 3. Time 2.18 1-5.

Five mile, scratch, professional—F. A. McFarland, 1; L. Stevens, 2; W.E. Becker, 3.

BRITANNIA BEAT AILSA.

Toulon,