THE AFGHAN SQUABBLE.

Sir Peter Lumsden's Report of the Penjdeh Incident Received.

WHAT TURKEY IS DOING.

Gladstone to Ask a Vote of Credit and Make a Statement.

A last (Friday) night's London cable says: The Russian Imperial Council in session at St. Petersburg to-day raised its first public signal of financial distress by deciding to tax coupons on Government bonds. The levy is not to include Russian bonds held abroad, nor railway bonds guaranteed by the Russian Government. Their exemption, however, will not avert the disastrous effect which this extraordinary measure is bound to have on Russian credit. The argument is that if Russia is compelled to partially repudiate her interest obligations at home, to prepare for war, she may have to extend the repudiation abroad when war actually comes. A general and heavy decline in Russian securities is expected to-morrow morning on the London Stock Exchange and the continental bourses.

In the House of Commons this afternoon Mr. Gladstone stated the Government had to-day received from Sir Peter Lumsden a reply to their request for an independent report upon the Penjdeh incident. In this it is stated that General Komaroff was aware at as early a date as 28th of March of the understanding agreed upon on March 17th between Russia and England. According to the terms of this understanding, England was to deter the Afghans, and the Czar was to deter his troops from advancing beyond the position they then respectively occupied, until some subsequent agreement about the demarcation of the Afghan frontier could be reached between the two Governments. The battle on the Kushk was fought, therefore, several days after General Komaroff had been made aware of the agreement not to advance. Captain Yates, the British officer who witnessed the battle, was assured by the Russian officer who commanded in the fight that he knew nothing of the understanding of the 17th of March. General Lumsden's present report appears to warrant the inference that whatever Gen. Komaroff knew officially about the St. Petersburg arrangement with London, he kept it to himself. Mr. Gladstone being asked if the Government had protested against the recent occupation of Penjdeh by General Komaroff and his establishment of Russian administration there, answered that the Government had not yet made either occurrence the subject of official communication with Russia. The Government was awaiting further information concerning these events.

It is stated that Turkey has positively assured Russia that in the event of war no English ironclad will be allowed to enter the Black Sea. Turkey also declared she could make the Dardanelles impassable in a few hours if necessary. The papers at St. Petersburg are chuckling over the fact that two hundred English steamers are at present in the Black Sea and Sea of Azov. The Turks are rapidly building forts at Batoum.

A TRIPLE CREMATION

Of Three Children in a Burning Building.

A last (Friday) night's Quebec despatch says: Shortly before 11 o'clock this morning a fire broke out in a large wooden building near the foot of Davidson's Hill at Levis. The whole structure was quickly wrapped in flames and completely destroyed. The structure, which was let in tenements, was a double one of three stories, built of deals and faced with brick. The first flat was unoccupied. On the second flat resided Onezime Gravel, laborer, and Iser Gay; on the third flat Timothy Lizotte, Louis Conture and Edward Lafleur. The fire seems to have originated in the apartments of Gravel, and two of his children and a daughter of Lizotte were burned to death. Mrs. Gravel states that she left her two children and the girl Lizotte at play in the kitchen. She was absent about ten minutes, and was horrified on returning to find the premises on fire. She made a rush for her rooms, but was unable to enter, as the place was completely enveloped in flames. In her efforts to get in the poor woman was herself badly burned. The victims are Joseph Gravel, 5½ years old; Adelard Gravel, aged 3 years, and a 5-year-old daughter of Timothy Lizotte.

GHOSTLY EXPLOSIONS.

New York Apartment House Tenants Panic-Stricken by a Series of Mysterious Explosions.

A New York despatch says: The mysterious explosions which a month ago startled the tenants of the Stoney apartment house in the upper part of the city recurred with increased force on Saturday night, and have since continued daily. Yesterday morning a terrific explosion occurred, displacing furniture, cracking the walls, and creating a semi-panic among the occupants. The tenants say the explosions are similar to the discharge of cannon, and seem to come from the centre of the building. The owners of the property have instituted all manner of investigations to ascertain the cause of the disturbance without success. Many theories are advanced, and the explosions have been variously attributed to dynamite, settling of the building, blasting in the vicinity, and steam in the pipes. But none of the causes mentioned when thoroughly examined were sufficient to convince the most credulous that they produced the reports. Experts are completely nonplussed, and the tenants are seeking other quarters.

The Marching Experiences.

The correspondent of the St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, who is with General Middleton's force, says: There is nothing picturesque about this campaign. The men string out along the winding roads, preceded by the guns and followed by the long lines of transport waggons. Camp is pitched with difficulty and the cooking is execrable—two facts inseparable from campaigns of "tenderfeet." A system of mail service by couriers is to be established as soon as practicable, and at every camp the field operator taps the government telegraph line and arranges his office in the Daugherty ambulance which has been turned over to the two correspondents as means of progress. As to health, there is no reason for complaint, though a more completely sun and wind-burned set of humanity would be hard to imagine. Assiniboia seems as bad as Abyssinia in this respect, and as very few brought Glengarries and straw hats both, we have to depend upon the warmer sort of head gear for protection against the cold, and upon goggles and green veils against the glare of the coldest sun which ever shone.

The crematory erected at St. John's, Woking, Surrey, was last week made use of for the first time, the body reduced to ashes being that of Mrs. Pickersgill, of Clarence Gate, London. It had been previously subjected to an autopsy. The deceased was well known in literary and scientific circles, and expressly stipulated in her will that her body should be cremated. With a view to this she had previously become a subscriber to the Cremation Society of England. The cremation, which lasted one hour, is said to have been eminently successful from every point of view.

A HUSBAND'S MURDEROUS ATTACK

On his Eloped Wife and her Paramour—His Attempt at Suicide.

A last Saturday night's Newburg, N.Y., despatch says: A week ago James Barclay, aged 23, eloped with the wife of Joseph Myers, of Montgomery, this county. The parties came here and commenced housekeeping. This evening Barclay, on returning home, found Myers stabbing the woman with a large jack-knife. She was covered with blood from a gash in her neck six inches long and another under the left ear. Seeing Barclay, Myers turned and attacked him, inflicting two terrible gashes, one in the throat and the other under the ear. Supposing he had finished his deadly work, Myers drew the knife across his own throat, cutting it from ear to ear, and then threw the knife out of the window. When the neighbors arrived a terrible sight presented itself, the three bodies being covered with blood. Barclay, who is the least injured of the three, was taken to a neighboring drug store, where his wounds were dressed. Physicians were called to attend Myers and his wife, whose injuries will likely prove fatal.

TOO MUCH BASEBALL.

A Mother Who Neglects Her Family to Attend Baseball Matches.

A Pittsburg, Pa., telegram says: The commissioner appointed to take testimony in the divorce proceedings of Thomas Carlin against his wife, Mary Carlin, has completed the taking of testimony in the case and will file his report in a few days. The affidavit of the libellant charges, among other things, desertion and neglect of household duties. The parties live in Alleghany. The defendant did not appear at the hearings and the principal witness examined was the husband. He alleged that his wife, during the spring and summer of last year, was a frequent visitor at the baseball games played by the Alleghany Club. When she was not able to get in she used to go to the residence of a family near by the park and anxiously wait to hear the result of the innings.

"I remonstrated with her," he said, "and told her that she was allowing her children to go to the dogs by her neglect. Supper was never ready when I got home in the evening. The children were dirty and crying for their 'mamma.' She would often bet small sums on the Alleghenies winning, and as that finally became a rarity it also became rather expensive. When I complained about her conduct she told me to hire help, as she had no time to attend to her household duties. It finally became so bad that I had to leave her, and the last I heard of her she was talking about joining a female baseball club."

Both parties to the suit are young, and the wife is rather prepossessing. The husband is at present taking care of their children. Other witnesses examined corroborated the testimony given above as to the wife's fondness for baseball. One witness said:

"I have seen a good many men wild over baseball, but Mrs. Carlin beats them all. She had a sort of mania for it."

THE COMING CATTLE QUEEN.

A Dashing Celebrity with Her Large Flock in the Far West.

A Chicago despatch says: Among the drovers who alighted from a cattle train caboose at the stockyards to-night was a tall, majestic-looking woman of about 30 years. Though not a beauty, she would have commanded attention in a metropolitan thoroughfare.

"Men are all frauds," she said, with a laugh. "I wouldn't marry the best one of them that ever lived. I prefer to be their superior by remaining in such circumstances that I can always buy their labor and esteem." Miss Mary Meagher was the name to which the lady answered. In Washington Territory she is known as the comiog cattle queen, the companion celebrity to Miss Iliff, of Denver. In the train she had ten car-loads of cattle which had endured the experiment of a 2,500-mile ride. She values the stock at $10,000, and says if the trip is financially successful she will return as soon as practicable from Walla Walla with 400 additional head. She employs a number of cowboys and is the owner of a large herd cattle, to the raising of which she gives her personal attention.

WHAT GRAHAM HAS DONE.

The General Quietly Doing a Great Work in the Soudan.

A London cable says; Attention has been so completely diverted from the Soudan, designedly so, some say, by the immensity of the question pending between Russia and England, that the good work being unostentatiously performed by Gen. Graham is almost lost sight of. He went to Suakim without a flourish of trumpets, and he is pursuing his work without the beat of drums. His work has been onerous rather than great and useful more than ostentatious, and the result is that he has received but little notice. As a matter of fact, he has cleared the district surrounding Suakim of rebels. He has not defeated Osman Digna in pitched battle, because that worthy has taken to the hills, but he has reduced many hostile tribes to submission, and has opened the way for the construction of the Suakim-Berber railway far beyond the present requirements of the contractors. With the exception of the one mishap, for which Gen. McNeill is entirely responsible, Gen. Graham's work has been uniformly good, and greatly enhances his reputation as a commander.

About Widows.

I have a vague idea that a widow, to be natural, should always be plump. I can't give my reason for it. I have long had a conviction that grief over a departed husband is fattening. I know that stage widows are always wan and pale and faint at the sight of any relic of the deceased. But that is a dramatic license, and only in comedies where true love and devotion are made funny, not to say ridiculous, do they make widows plump. Come to think of it, I don't see why a widow shouldn't be plump. She has nothing to worry about. She is heroine of one great battle, with a weakening world before her to conquer. I like widows. It always seems to me that a widow is a woman who has got the best of a man. He may have been a good deal of a man or very little of a man, but she's got the best of him. It seems to be awfully hard for a woman to survive her husband. I do not wish to ask whether matrimony is after all a disease that is fatal to woman. I don't say that a woman should never marry at all. She should always marry some other man.—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

To incarcerate a man as a lunatic in Denmark nothing is required but a certificate from a competent medical practitioner stating that the individual in question is insane. Any one in Denmark is entitled to keep a private asylum without license, and the patients in such an asylum are not under State control. Denmark has an excess of lunatics, due chiefly to the Scandinavian habit of constant dram drinking. They are well cared for in spite of the defect of the lunacy laws.

The ex-director of the conscription under the first empire computed the actual loss of men born within the old limits of France, and destroyed in the imperial wars from 1804 to 1815, at 1,700,000. This estimate does not include the wars of the Republic, or the loss of men not born in the kingdom of France, and goes far to explain how population in France has kept low.

The number of mules attached to the hearse denotes the respectability of a funeral at Rio Janeiro.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Sir John Macdonald, rising to move the second reading of the Franchise Bill, said he would not occupy the time of the House long for this Bill had been more or less before the House for years. The present state of the franchise was anomalous and out of accord with that of Great Britain. The British North America Act contemplated that the franchise would be in the hands of the Provinces. At first that was a necessity, for the Parliament had to be elected before the franchise could be fixed, but it was clear that a Parliament which was elected ought to control the franchise. There could be no more opportune time than the present to introduce this Bill. Franchise Bills had recently been passed in Ontario, Nova Scotia, and other Provinces, showing that it was possible that half of a constituency of a member of this House might be swept away or a constituency might be enlarged, and thus representation in this House changed for purely local reasons. Every person of common-sense must admit that there should be as little difference in the franchise in the different Provinces as possible, otherwise they would be sowing seeds of discontent. If in contiguous Provinces one class was represented and another not represented there would be discontent. If there was to be a change in the franchise of the electors of the representatives of the Dominion it should be by the Dominion Parliament. He would not go over all the changes in the Bill, for it would be a waste of time. He thought that this Bill would enlarge the franchise in Ontario and Quebec, probably also in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, but not in Prince Edward Island. There was one thing in the Bill which he strongly favored. That was the enfranchisement of women. He was, and always had been, in favor of that franchise, believing that it must come, just as women were rising from the position of being mere slaves of their husbands. Mr. Gladstone in England favored that franchise, but would not imperil his Franchise Bill by including it. He (Sir John) would follow Mr. Gladstone's example. He had included woman suffrage in the Bill, but only in order that there might be a discussion and a vote upon it. He moved the second reading of the Bill.

Sir Richard Cartwright said he regretted very much that the First Minister had decided to bring down a Bill of such importance under the present circumstances. No Bill could be more vitally important to the country. It would be heard with surprise in Canada, and not only here but elsewhere, that a man in the exalted position of the First Minister should speak on such a Bill as this just eight and one-half minutes by the clock. He would have thought that the hon. Minister would have entered upon a discussion of the far-reaching consequences of such a Bill as this. This Bill involved new principles which had never been at all fully discussed either in the House or the press or on the platform. The First Minister must know that the steps taken in this direction were practically impossible to be retraced. This Bill has been introduced, he believed, seven times. The hon. Minister has cried, "Wolf, wolf," so often that the people had ceased to expect that this Bill would be pressed forward. Under what circumstances was the Bill introduced? The House met on the 29th of January. This was the 16th of April, 78 days from the opening. He had known sessions when in that time all the business of the country had been thoroughly discussed. Yet what had been accomplished this session? The Budget Speech was delayed five weeks for no reason that appeared in the speech itself or in the changes in the tariff proposed when it was made. The discussion was allowed to go from week to week for four weeks without any apparent effort or desire on the part of the Government to bring it to a close. It was only when the Northwest difficulties had assumed alarming proportions that the discussion was, more by what might be called accident than by the desire of the country, brought to a close. Late as this measure was pressed forward, it was at a time when public attention was almost wholly directed to affairs in the Northwest, when it was impossible that this vitally important measure could be fairly considered by the people. He could not remember any session when public business was so much in arrears. At such a late period of the session the estimates had hardly been entered upon, yet at no time had there been a greater reason why these should be carefully scanned. The Finance Minister himself admitted that he only saved himself from a deficit this year by taking the $500,000 received on capital account from the sale of public lands. Next year, according to the Financial Minister's own figures, they might expect a deficit of $250,000, and since that statement was made the House had been called upon to vote $700,000 to defray the expenses of suppressing the rebellion in the Northwest. So that it was probable there would be very considerable deficits. The debate on the tariff was not yet concluded, there being still several of the most important changes to be discussed. There was a proposition before the House to double the Mounted Police Force, involving an increased annual expenditure of about half a million of dollars. They had every assurance that Parliament would be called upon to deal with a new proposition for further assistance to the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Secretary of State had introduced a Chinese Bill, and the First Minister had stated that the Insolvency Bill was to be taken up. It was quite evident that this Bill could not be pressed through this session with the discussion which would be in accordance with the dignity of the House and the importance of the subject. They were bound to ask what could be the excuse for this action of the First Minister. It looked like very little short of a conspiracy to shut off discussion. (Oh, oh.) The practical result was the same as if it was a conspiracy. This course was rapidly making Parliament a farce. It was clear that a one-man's power was becoming recognized, and that a practical despotism was being established. The First Minister himself admitted that this Bill affected the relations of all the Provinces of the Dominion, and yet for such an important matter he gave an opportunity for discussion only in the eleventh week of the session. This showed one of the great disadvantages of the Opposition being numerically so weak. The First Minister attempted to press through measures such as he had never attempted to pass when the Opposition was more numerous, but, though only one-third of the House, the Opposition represented almost one-half of the people according to votes cast, and it was their duty to see that all measures brought down were fairly discussed. To press this measure forward now was to make certain that other business would be neglected, for the business now before the House, apart from this Bill, could not be fairly discussed in less than seven weeks. There was no reason in the Bill for this haste. Canada had existed for almost twenty years without such a Bill, and the First Minister did not allege that there was a strong demand in the country for the Bill now. He moved, in amendment to the motion for the second reading of the Bill, "That in the opinion of this House it is not possible at this late stage of the session, having regard to the present condition of the public business, to discuss the said Bill satisfactorily."

Sir H. Langevin excused the brevity of the Premier's explanation by saying that the measure had been before the House for some time. The Premier had explained the Bill on its first reading. The measure was intended to give a franchise for this House independent of Local Legislatures, and free it from the changes which Local Legislatures might choose to make from time to time. They remembered what occurred when one of the smaller provinces passed a law which deprived a number of voters known to be Conservatives of the franchise. The Ontario Legislature had just passed an Act making great alterations in the franchise. Why should this House allow itself to be dictated to by Local Legislatures? The question whether we should have a franchise for this House was the principle which was involved in the second reading of this Bill. This measure had been announced in the Speech from the Throne.

Mr. Blake took up first the statement made by Mr. Chapleau that the Bill could easily be disposed of by a discussion of six or eight hours. He pointed out that the measure was a complicated one, and could not very well be anything else, as it had to deal with all the Provinces. It would not do to refuse to consider the circumstances of those which Mr. Chapleau had contemptuously referred to as the smaller Provinces. Mr. Blake proceeded to give a history of the Franchise Bill up to the present time. Sir John had proposed it through the Speech from the Throne in the first session of Parliament after Confederation. A uniform franchise was then announced as part of his policy, but although he had been in power continuously since (except five years) he had not been able to carry out his plans. If the measure was, as the Secretary of State had said, one of ease and simplicity to consider, the question was why he had not sooner carried it through Parliament. It was, however, found to be a very difficult question. The experience of the United States also pointed out that there was no necessity for any change from the present method. There the various States provided the franchise which elected representatives to the Federal House of Representatives. It had been conceded by the Secretary of State that the people of Quebec would be opposed to one principle in the Bill. This was only proof that each Province could best determine the question for itself. It had been stated by the Premier that the Bill would enlarge the franchise in Ontario. This was untrue. The statement might have applied some time ago, but it did not apply now. The fact was that the Bill before the House was a great limitation of the franchise in Ontario. An Act was passed last session which largely extended the franchise in Ontario. Both parties were a unit as to the extension, and Sir John's deputy leader went farther and proposed manhood suffrage. Mr. Blake then compared the provisions of the Ontario Act and the Bill before the House, and proved that the latter would deprive a large number of electors of the right to vote. Mr. Blake next referred to the difficulties and confusion that would arise from a double franchise, and which would add a large burden of expense to the treasury. Parliament also had nothing to do with property, as that was a question of civil rights. The simplest franchise which this Parliament could deal with would be one based on citizenship, residence and intelligence. Figures were given showing the number of the various classes mentioned in the Bill and the manner in which they would be affected. Referring to the clause regarding female franchise, it was pointed out that marriage was treated as a disability. If the franchise was given to the spinsters it could not justly be refused to married women. A question which would arise out of the enfranchisement of women would be that of representation. Were the enfranchisement of women carried to its logical conclusion, the future might see a woman occupying the Speaker's chair. The question was a momentous one, and should only be decided after the fullest consideration, and not be dismissed as it had been by the Premier with only one minute's discussion.

AN IDIOT'S FREAK

Causes the Death by Burning of Four People.

A last (Sunday) night's Reading, Pa., despatch says: A frame building on the Alsace truck farm, several miles from the city, owned by Augustus L. Wentzel, was burned this morning. Harry Wentzel, aged 11; Charles Wentzel, aged 13, sons of the proprietor, Charles and Fred Helzinger, brothers, aged 16 and 26, were burned to death. The building was a short distance from Wentzel's residence and was occupied by the male hired help. The cause of the fire was a mystery until Danny Knoll, a half-witted vagabond, 40 years of age, who has been an object of charity in the neighborhood, related that he came to the place last night, made a bed for himself and fell asleep. About 3 o'clock this morning he awoke, put some coal on the fire, and then walked over to a neighbor's house, a mile and a half distant. When he reached there he saw the fire. The coroner's jury this afternoon placed the responsibility for the fire on Knoll, and he was jailed. Knoll was considered harmless, and it is unknown whether the fire was the result of carelessness or design.

An Old-Fashioned Minister.

Two or three months ago a Detroit lawyer was in the northern counties on business, and one night while he was staying at a farm house two or three of the neighbors dropped in and one of them explained;

"You see, we heard you was a lawyer, and perhaps you wouldn't mind giving us a little advice. We want to get rid of our preacher."

"What ails him?"

"Well, he's good and kind, and a true Christian, but he's no preacher. Fact is, he's too slow for the times."

"Have you thrown out any hints?"

"Lots of 'em, but he still sticks."

"How much of a salary does he get?"

"Well, about $200 per year."

"Reduce it to $50."

The advice was declared to be sound, and in the course of two or three days the minister was notified that his salary would be reduced to the figures named. When Sunday came he read the notice from the pulpit, and added:

"My dear friends, this step was rendered necessary by the continued hard times. I cheerfully accept the reduction, and in case it is found necessary to make a further reduction of $25 don't hesitate on my account. I am here to serve the Lord, and I can do it on one meal a day!"—*Detroit Free Press.*

The Schoolmaster and the Heritors.

In the west of Scotland there lived a parochial schoolmaster who was very fond of a dram. In fact, he went to such a length that the heritors determined to dismiss him quietly if possible. They told him if he would resign his charge they would give him a splendid character, so that he would have little or no difficulty in getting another. To this he agreed. They gave him his testimonial, which after he had read and quietly taken possession of, he said: "Gentlemen, you have as much need of a man with a good character here as any other place, so I think I will just remain where I am."

An appalling list of diseases which arise from "repeated minute doses of lead" was given by Dr. Wynter Blyth in a lecture at the Parkes Museum of Hygiene last week, says London *Truth*. Paralysis, colic, gout, rheumatism, kidney disease, blindness and insanity may all come, it seems, from drinking water with lead in it. Under these circumstances, a simple test for discovering the presence of lead in water may well be useful. It consists of adding a little tincture of cochineal, which, if there be the least trace of lead in the water, will color it blue instead of rose

CURRENT TOPICS.

Right Hon. Sir Edward Malet is the envy of British diplomatists. In these days of slow diplomatic promotion, to be Ambassador to Berlin—without doubt now the most important of British legations—at 47, and to marry the daughter of almost the wealthiest Duke, is an extraordinary success for the younger son of a second-class diplomatist without powerful political connections.

A writer in the New York *Nation*, wearied with the annually recurring jests as to the propriety of conferring the degree of "bachelor" upon female graduates of colleges, traces the etymology of the word in two directions, one of which leads him to a Latin word meaning a farm laborer, without distinction of sex, while the other reaches the Latin word for bayberry—the writer holding that in either case the etymology of the word justifies its application to women as much as to men.

A writer in the *Medical World* says that as opium is an antidote for pain, so conversely, the real antidote for an overdose of opium is to cause persistent pain. With this idea he has "often placed a hand vise on the thumbs and snap clothes pins on the fingers to neutralize the effects of the drug." The method appears to have been successful, though the patients did not feel pain until a considerable time after the application. As the pain increased in severity the pins were removed one by one and the patient revived.

Queen Victoria takes up her bed and walks when she changes her residence. It appears the Queen always sleeps in a wooden bed of particular shape and made up in a special way, and whenever Her Majesty goes to a strange place a bed and its furniture are despatched from Windsor for her use. Two were sent off a couple of weeks since from the workshop at the castle, the one for the Queen's cabin in the steam yacht Victoria and Albert, and the other has gone to Aix-les-Bains. There is already one of the Queen's beds at Darmstadt. It was sent out when she went there last year.

A Glasgow newspaper gives the experience of that city in the use of pavements, whose conclusion is that there are only two kinds which are suitable for use—wood and asphaltum. The macadam and the paving with stones are both condemned, the latter for the reason that it is immensely wearing on horses, and, further, because this class of pavement requires four times as much strength to move a load as in the case of asphalt and wood. These facts are well known in the larger of the great cities of Great Britain, with the result that the macadam and the stone paving are being displaced by asphalt and wood.

The merits of the two soldiers, the Russian and Afghan, are freely discussed as they now stand in front of each other's guns. The Russian is justly described as a good soldier, robust, brave and well disciplined. It he lacks the *elan* of the French he has more steadiness. He is of sullen temperament, and even when beaten will turn in retreat, as shown at Inkerman. He is animated with great devotion to the Czar, whom he regards as a God on earth, and this mingling of religious feeling is regarded as the great motive power of the Russian soldier. The Afghans have somewhat of a similar disposition, and in their many battles with their present friends, the British, showed unquestioned valor. They are of lighter and more Frenchy form and character.

The British Postmaster-General has brought in a bill to revise the telegraph tariff. On and after August 1st the minimum price of a telegram in the United Kingdom will be sixpence, instead of a shilling. The post office now transmits about 24,000,000 messages per annum, at an average price of a shilling and a penny, and an average cost of tenpence. To carry the same messages at the reduced rate would, it is estimated, entail a loss of $650,000 a year. To obviate this the free address will be abolished. The tariff will be two words for a penny, with a minimum charge of sixpence, the words in the address being counted. It is expected that the new tariff will reduce the profits of the department £180,000 a year, leaving the actual profit of the department at not more that £250,000 a year.

The Emperor of Germany, the 88th anniversary of whose birthday has just been celebrated, has, late in life, joined the ranks of artists as a sculptor, or, rather, as a modeller. When he was last at Ems he gave sittings to the eminent sculptor, Prof. Keil, for a bust. Among the numerous decorations which he wore was the Grand Star of the Order "Pour le Merite." The Emperor, dissatisfied with the position in which Prof. Keil reproduced this star on the clay model, erased it, and, with his own hands, carefully remodelled it an inch or two higher up on the left breast. The new star was not, perhaps, as deftly executed as the old one had been, for, as the Emperor laughingly said, it was his first effort; but Prof. Keil obtained permission to leave it just as it had been left, and cheap plaster replicas of the model, which thus acquired a peculiar interest, are now being sold by thousands throughout Germany.

At the British Royal Institution recently Sir F. Abel gave an interesting lecture on "Accidental Explosions produced by Non-Explosive Liquids," and in his lecture he offered suggestions which he was of opinion would tend very greatly to lessen the number of such accidents. He would have the reservoir of the lamp made of metal, and not of glass or earthenware. There should be no opening or channel of communication with it near the burners, unless protected by wire gauze, or unless its diameter did not exceed .04 inch. The wick should be soft and not longer than sufficient to touch the bottom of the reservoir, and the reservoir should always be filled before use. The flame should be lowered carefully, and when it is to be extinguished (when no extinguishers are provided, which, however, all lamps should have) it should be lowered to a mere flicker, and instead of blowing down the chimney, a sharp puff should be blown across the top, the mouth being horizontal therewith.

A Honolulu letter to the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* says the charge so frequently made that the missionaries are responsible for the rapid extinction of the native race at the Sandwich Islands is without any foundation. The seeds of deadly disease were sown before their arrival. The Hawaiian race is doomed, and nothing but a miracle will save them from certain extinction. That disease has made awful ravages among them is due to their contact with foreigners. Of late years leprosy has been introduced by the Chinese, and it has spread with alarming rapidity. It is estimated by good observers that fully one-fifth of all the native population is infected with it, or with similar complaints in such an aggravated form as scarcely to be distinguished from the genuine Asiatic leprosy.

The ocean steamships will not strive this summer to make the "fastest trip on record" for economical reasons.

Kansas editors excel in the selection of eccentric names for their papers. The *Prairie Dog*, the *Astonisher* and the *Paralyser* are already in existence, and now a paper is to be started in Thomas county which will be called the *Thomas Cat*.

"Maryland, My Maryland."

"Pretty Wives,
Lovely daughters and noble men."

"My farm lies in a rather low and miasmatic situation, and

"My wife!"

"Who?"

"Was a very pretty blonde!"

Twenty years ago, became

"Sallow!"

"Hollow-eyed!"

"Withered and aged!"

Before her time, from

"Malarial vapors, though she made no particular complaint, not being of the grumpy kind, yet causing me great uneasiness.

"A short time ago I purchased your remedy for one of the children, who had a very severe attack of biliousness, and it occurred to me that the remedy might help my wife, as I found that our little girl, upon recovery had

"Lost!"

"Her sallowness, and looked as fresh as a new blown daisy. Well the story is soon told. My wife, to-day, has gained her old-timed beauty with compound interest, and is now as handsome a matron (if I do say it myself) as can be found in this county, which is noted for pretty women. And I have only Hop Bitters to thank for it.

"The dear creature just looked over my shoulder, and says 'I can flatter equal to the days of our courtship,' and that reminds me there might be *more pretty wives if* my brother famers would do as I have done."

Hoping you may long be spared to do good, I thankfully remain,

C. L. James.
Beltsville, Prince George Co., Md.,
May 26th, 1883.

☞ None genuine without a bunch of green Hops on the white label. Shun all the vile, poisonous stuff with "Hop" or "Hops" in their name.

The Territorial Government of Dakota has offered a reward of $5,000 for the discovery and development of a mine of anthracite coal in that Territory, and prospectors are busy.

Important to Ladies.

Helen of Troy is said to have bathed daily in wine and milk to preserve the purity of her silky skin. Cleopatra used various medicated ointments and fragrant cosmetics to enhance her charms. The bewitching Catherine of Russia habitually washed in strawberry juice; while strange and grim tales are told about the preparation of the mysterious baths Ninon L'Enclos is supposed to have indulged in. Our fair sex are less luxurious in these days, and we find that ladies who value a transparent white skin, a delicate complexion, in which the tint of the rose is softly blended with the snowy hue of the lily, are now being advised by an eminent authority on the art of keeping beautiful forever, to frequently apply the end of a raw potato to the face and neck by gentle rubbing. After rubbing, the face and neck should be washed, and gentle friction is to follow. Ladies are strongly urged to always keep a raw potato on the washstand. One great advantage the potato seems to possess over many other skin beautifiers seems to be its exceeding cheapness, as one potato can be used over and over again, since it is only necessary to remove a little of the outer surface and to pare off a thin slice before applying the freshly-cut surface.—*Judy.*

A Prize in the Lottery

of life which is usually unappreciated until it is lost, perhaps never to return, is health. What a priceless boon it is, and how we ought to cherish it, that life may not be a worthless blank to us. Many of the diseases that flesh is heir to, and which make life burdensome, such as consumption (scrofula of the lungs) and other scrofulous and blood diseases, find a complete cure in Dr. R. V. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" when all other remedies have failed. Dr. Pierce's pamphlet on consumption mailed for two stamps. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

The photographing of an audience at a theatre has all the features which attend the sitting for a picture by an individual. The audience laughed, fidgeted, looked conscious, prim and unnatural, and was as nervous as it was the proper thing to be in that condition.

Have You Thought of It?

For four thousand years or more the world groaned, suffered, and fumed about its corns, for there was no positive relief—no certain and painless cure until Dr. Scott Putnam gave to the world his great Corn Extractor. If there is suffering now it is a result of carelessness, for the remedy is at hand. Try Putnam's Corn Extractor. It is sure, painless and prompt. Beware of substitutes. N. C. Polson & Co., proprietors, Kingston.

The eightieth birthday of Thomas Cooper, author of the "Purgatory of Suicides," has been publicly celebrated at Lincoln, where he has his home. A new Baptist chapel about to be erected in the city is to be called the Thomas Cooper memorial.

"All Men Are Liars,"

said David of old. He was probably prompted to make the above remark after trying some unreliable catarrh remedy. Had he been permitted to live until the present day, and tried Dr. Sage's Remedy, he might have had a better opinion of mankind. We claim that no case of catarrh can withstand the magic effects of this wonderful medicine. One trial of it will convince you of its efficacy. By druggists; fifty cents.

Lieutenant Mackenzie, who went up in the balloon from McNeill's zareba for the purpose of discovering the enemy's position, was asked what he would do in the event of a disaster below. He replied that he had thought of that point while in the air, and had decided to come down and anchor 50ft. from the ground, and defend the anchor from the balloon until rescued.

* * * * Delicate diseases of either sex, however induced, speedily and permanently cured. Consultation free. Book three (3ct.) stamps. World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

Transportation is still in its primitive condition in St. Domingo. There is not a single waggon road penetrating more than three or four leagues into the interior. All of the inland traffic is carried on by means of animals. A railroad is being built from Samana Bay to Santiago, and if completed will open up rich tracts of land capable of producing great crops of sugar, tobacco, coffee, cocoa, and other tropical articles.

In giving his daughter $750,000, the Duke of Bedford gives her about half a year's income. His rural property yields that sum, and he owns an immense district in London as well.

Another illustration of what the bad sanitary condition of a house will entail was afforded in Milford, Mass., within a week or two, where four children died from diphtheria, while the life of the fifth and last child was saved by being removed to another tenement. The sanitary arrangements of the children's home were afterward found to be bad in the extreme.

The Great Inflammatory Remedy.

Nerviline, the latest discovered pain remedy, may safely challenge the world for a substitute that will as speedily and promptly check inflammatory action. The highly penetrating properties of Nerviline make it never failing in all cases of rheumatism, neuralgia, cramps, pains in the back and side, headache, lumbago, etc. It possesses marked stimulating and counter irritant properties, and at once subdues all inflammatory action. Ormand & Walsh, druggists, Peterboro', write: "Our customers speek well of Nerviline." Nerviline may be tested at the small sum of ten cents, as you can buy a sample bottle for that sum at any drug store. Large bottles 25 cents. Try Nerviline, the great internal and external pain cure. Sold by all druggists and country dealers.

French crapes, richly embroidered, will be among the most appropriate materials for summer wear.

The secret of the large and constant sales of Mrs. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound probably lies in the fact that whereas there are many "Bitters" and "Tonics" of equal value, be it more or less, the Vegetable Compound is so completely superior to all other preparations specially recommended for the needs of women that it has practically no rivals.

The Rome *Sentinel* says that Rev. W. L. Tisdale, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Camden, Oneida county, in his last sermon before going to conference, said: "It has been reported that I am the most unpopular man who ever occupied this pulpit, but if I should be re-appointed to this charge I will come, though the devils were thicker than the shingles on your houses."

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S
VEGETABLE COMPOUND
IS A POSITIVE CURE

For all of those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our best FEMALE POPULATION.

It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaints, all Ovarian Troubles, Inflammation and Ulceration, Falling and Displacements, and the consequent Spinal Weakness, and is particularly adapted to the Change of Life.

It will dissolve and expel Tumors from the Uterus in an early stage of development. The tendency to Cancerous Humors there is checked very speedily by its use.

It removes Faintness, Flatulency, destroys all craving for stimulants, and relieves Weakness of the Stomach. It cures Bloating, Headache, Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Depression and Indigestion.

That feeling of Bearing Down, causing Pain, Weight and Backache, is always permanently cured by its use.

It will at all times and under all circumstances act in harmony with the laws that govern the female system.

☞ Its purpose is solely for the legitimate healing of disease and the relief of pain, and that it does ALL it claims to do, thousands of ladies can gladly testify. ☜

For the cure of Kidney Complaints in either sex this remedy is unsurpassed.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is prepared at Lynn, Mass. Price $1. Six bottles for $5. *Sold by all druggists.* Sent by mail, postage paid, in form of Pills or Lozenges on receipt of price as above. Mrs. Pinkham's "Guide to Health" will be mailed free to any Lady sending stamp. Letters confidentially answered.

No family should be without Lydia E. Pinkham's Liver Pills. They cure Constipation, Biliousness and Torpidity of the Liver. 25 cents per box.

D. C. N. L. 18 85.

TO DEALER AND CONSUMER.

We import only the finest qualities of Coffee and Spice.

Our Blended Coffee, sold ground and unground in 1 lb. tins, is a perfect luxury.

Our 10c. tins of Pure Spice are perfection; all our goods branded "pure" are guaranteed free from adulteration.

Dunn's Baking Powder, is "*The Cook's Best Friend.*"

The Trade supplied with whole Roasted and Ground Coffees in Air-tight Sacks, or 25 lb. tins.

Pure Ground Spices in all sized packages.

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bearing a *red tin tag*; that Lorillard's Rose Leaf fine cut; that Lorillard's Navy Clippings, and that Lorillard's Snuffs, are the best and cheapest, quality considered?

EYE, EAR AND THROAT.

DR. G. S. BYERSON, L.R.C.P. S.E., Lecturer on the Eye, Ear and Throat Trinity Medical College, Toronto. Oculist and Aurist to the Toronto General Hospital late Clinical Assistant Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorefield's and Central London Throat and Ear Hospital. 17 Church Street. Toronto. Artificial Human Eyes

CONSUMPTION.
I have a positive remedy for the above disease; by its use thousands of cases of the worst kind and of long standing have been cured. Indeed, so strong is my faith in its efficacy, that I will send TWO BOTTLES FREE, together with a VALUABLE TREATISE on this disease, to any sufferer. Give Express and P. O. address.
DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 181 Pearl St., New York.

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