

The Planet.

DAILY AND WEEKLY
Chatham Ont.

TOBACCO CONSUMPTION.

At the Inland Revenue Department, Ottawa, statistics of the consumption of cigars, cigarettes and tobacco are kept, and advance returns show an immense increase for the year ending June 30 last in the quantities of the luxury consumed. The consumption of cigars reached in the twelve months, a total of 128,909,992, an increase of 15,816,127. Taking the census population, that would show an average consumption per year of 25 cigars for every inhabitant, or, on the basis of city directory compilation, or one adult male for every five of the population, of 125 cigars per annum for each Canadian man. Of the total given, 112,353,955 are entered as foreign leaf, 1,021,650 as Canadian leaf and 654,845 as combination. Under the heading of foreign leaf tobacco the return shows a total of 7,105,785 lbs. against 6,648,333 lbs. last year; Canadian leaf, 2,186,626 lbs. against 1,807,959, and combination leaf tobacco, 352,205 lbs. The consumption of foreign leaf cigarettes totalled 100,750,828, against 79,006,317 in the previous year. The foreign raw leaf paid a tax of \$1,067,656, against \$851,786 the year before. This represents, of course, only the inland revenue duty, and does not include that paid to the customs. The figures throughout are of the cigarettes and tobacco which has paid the Government tax rather than that actually smoked during the twelve months. The increase in the trade in general is no doubt due to the improving times and the better circulation of money. In 1897 the Canadian tobacco consumption was only 726,081 pounds. The rapid expansion in this trade to 2,186,626 pounds shows the development of the industry.

The new diplomacy should be backed up by some new-idea commanders.

Anyway Buller didn't get it in the neck like some of the other fellows. The Boers caught him in the open.

The British generals in South Africa are not all Teddy Roosevelts.

Now, Sir Wilfrid, what is all this delay about re-offering that second contingent? Won't Tarte give you permission?

When an alderman candidate requests your support, ask him for his election card, and see if he advocates a progressive paving system on it.

Of course if the worst comes to the worst one can have High Constable Coogan mobilize our own Detective James Seney, and crush the enemy at one fell swoop.

A Kingston oil dealer figures out that Archie Campbell's coal oil policy is transferring three and one-half million dollars from the pockets of the Canadian consumers to those of American & Canadian monopolists. Archie should be proud of this.

A lot of unnecessary fuss seems to be made over some slight military checks in South Africa. Wars are not won in a day, and the more trouble it takes to reach Pretoria the more satisfaction there will be in finally reaching there.

Mr. Hespeler, the only independent elected in Manitoba, announces that he will support Hugh John Macdonald. The London Advertiser, which is still working overtime trying to con-

CANDY

HANDMADE
ONLY PURE STOCK USED. As a result of years of experience we make the finest.
Creams, Chocolates, Butter Scotch Taffies.

Nothing better and our prices for the quality of goods the lowest.
Willard McKay
Cor. Queen and Richmond Sts.

The Champion Of the World

The King of all

Blood Medicines

Two advantages of this great offer. We will sell you a large Dollar Bottle of Dr. Clark's Royal Crown Sarsaparilla for

50 CENTS

Aids Digestion, Constipation, Rheumatism, Nervous Debility and all Diseases of the Liver, Kidneys and Blood.

SOLD AT ALL DRUGGISTS.

OR AT

Office: 33 Barthelemy Street,

P. O. Box 220 Chatham

W. H. BOWERS.

vince itself that Greenway will pull through, will please note that fact.

The censorship Buller established in South Africa looked very much as if his ideas of modern warfare were out of date. His military successes are in keeping with the rest of his policy.

Artillery reinforcements for the British generals in South Africa might profitably be accompanied by instructions to make some use of them. Charging entrenched Boers with flesh and blood is slightly different work from moving down poorly armed Derbish hordes in the desert or storming half defended native hamlets in India.

Australia has again got ahead of Canada. On hearing of the British reverse near the Modder the Premier of New South Wales at once cabled another offer of troops to Mr. Chamberlain. When he announced that fact in the Legislature there were no Tarts present to find fault. The members, irrespective of party, cheered loudly. Oh, for such a government in Canada at the present time!

SOME SIDE CRACKS.

Toronto Telegram.

United States good-will to Britain does not interfere with the average American newspaper's enjoyment of the misfortune of the Republic's dear friend, the British Empire.

While the Khalifa is dead, the Hon. James R. Stratton qualified for a vacancy in the robes of the False Prophet with his prediction that the "Government was sure to carry both Elgins."

It would be just like General Buller to relieve Ladysmith, capture 10,000 Boers, and be generally so busy that he would not have time to drop a line and let a waiting Empire know what he was doing.

LIGHT THROUGH THE CLOUD.

Toronto World.

In spite of the reverses we have suffered, we believe the outcome of the South African war will be of immense benefit to the empire. Such a shaking up as this was necessary to bring the country to a sense of the perils that confront it, and to prepare for the dangers which threaten the integrity of empire. One great effort of the war will be a practical consolidation of the empire and the adoption of a policy in the direction of making the empire more self contained and independent.

"SALARY NO OBJECT."

Brockville Times.

We reprint the following extract from a rural exchange showing the deplorable state of affairs which exists in the province:

The trustees received about 100 replies to their advertisement for a successor to Miss Campbell in the public school here, many stating "salary no object." They accepted the application of Miss M. Smith, of Lorneville, at a salary of \$225 per annum. Teachers who say "salary no object" value their services at what they are worth.

Before After Wood's Phosphorine.

The Great English Remedy. Sold and recommended by all druggists in Canada. Only reliable medicine discovered. It cures all forms of nervous weakness, all effects of abuse or excess, Mental Worry, Excessive use of Tobacco, Opium or Stimulants. Mailed on receipt of price, one package \$1.00. One will please, etc. will please. Pamphlets free to any address. The Wood Company, Windsor, Ont.

Wood's Phosphorine is sold in Chatham at Central Drug Store, C. H. Gunn & Co's.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE

Thursday, December 21st

THE FAD OF THE CENTURY

Dumas' Masterpiece in Dramatic Form

The Three Musketeers

The Famous Tragedian

JOHN GRIFFITH

(Of Famous Fame) as "D'ARTAGNAN."

Lavish Scenic Production, Summation of Dramatic Effects.

Prices 25c, 35c, 50c and 75c.

Seats on sale at Central Drug Store.

LIKE A VOLCANIC BUBBLE.

Extraordinary Freak of Nature. Near the Mexican City of Puebla.

The Rev. F. S. Bortain, of Puebla writes as follows: "It may be of interest to some of our readers who visit Puebla to know of one of the less visited attractions in the vicinity of the City of the Angels. I refer to the 'Coccomate.' It is about twenty minutes distant from Puebla over the streetcar line Cholula. Any streetcar conductor can point it out to the curiosity-seeker. It is to the right of the car line, about 500 yards distant.

"It looks from the car window to be a pile of white stones or a well-bleached haystack. But upon closer inspection it proves to be a tumulus of white calcareous stone evidently of water formation, about 50 feet in height and 100 feet in diameter at the base. The form is that of a truncated cone. At the apex is an elliptical-shaped opening about 25 feet along the minor and 50 feet along the major axis. It is a bell-shaped cavity and lined with ferns of various descriptions. I should judge the depth to be at least 100 feet, and at the bottom, so far as is visible, the opening must be 60 feet in diameter. In the bottom, on one side, are to be seen some gorgeous ferns and on the other side a pool of water.

"Tradition says that the ancient Aztecs were accustomed to worship here the genius of the spot, and occasionally threw in a live victim to appease his subterranean majesty. It is also said that a few victims of the inquisition were thrown down here to reflect upon the converted points of doctrine. At all events it is a most singular freak of nature, as it is in the middle of a level plain, or rather a barley field. It looks to have been some volcanic bubble, of which the great Mexican upland is so full, and is well worth a visit on the part of the curious.

"Although I have inquired among my Mexican friends, I have found no one who could tell me the meaning of the 'Coccomate.'"—The Mexican Herald.

Bent Glass.

Bent glass at one time more commonly used for showcase fronts than for anything else, but it has come to be employed for a variety of purposes and it is now used more extensively than ever before. Its use in store fronts is becoming more and more familiar, very large plates being bent for this purpose. It is now used more than ever before in the construction of buildings for dwelling purposes, in windows on rounded corners and in towers; it is used in coach fronts; it is used in the rounded front china closets and in making glass cabinets. Either plain glass or bevelled glass may be bent, and to any curve.

For one use and another glass in many sizes is now bent in many forms. The number of moulds required for current use in a glass-bending establishment is large, and the accumulated moulds number thousands. Glass is bent in a kiln. Glass melts at 2,300 deg.; the heat employed in bending is 1,800 deg. No pyrometer would stand long in that heat; it might last an hour, but it would not last a day, and so the heat of the kiln is judged from the color of the flame and other indications. By long experience and observation the expert glass bender is enabled to estimate the heat in this manner with accuracy. Smaller pieces of glass are put into the moulds in the kilns with forks made for the purpose. The great moulds used for bending large sheets of glass are mounted on cars, so that they can be rolled in and out of the kilns. The glass is laid upon the top of the mould over the cavity and it is softened by its own weight. As it is softened by the heat it sinks into the mould and so is bent into form. It may take an hour or two to bend the glass, which is then left in the kiln from twenty-four to thirty-six hours to anneal and cool. Glass to be bent, or whatever kind or size it may be, is put into the kilns in its finished state: the great heat to which it is subjected does not disturb the polished surface. Despite the exercise of every precaution more or less glass is broken in bending it. Bent glass costs about 50 per cent. more than flat.

While the use of bent glass has increased very greatly in recent years, and is still increasing, and the amount used is in the aggregate considerable, yet as compared with the enormous amount of glass used in ordinary forms the amount of bent glass used is of course, very small. There are four or five glass-bending establishments in the United States, of which one is in the East.

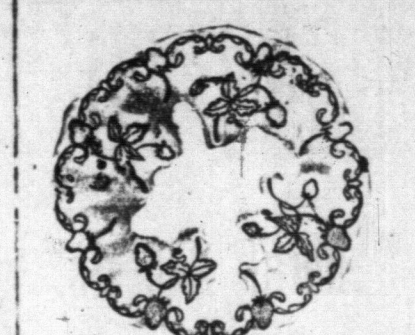
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Ask for Minard's and take no other.

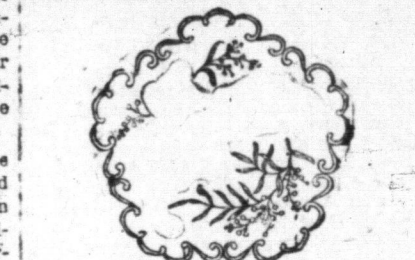
MAKE THE TABLE BEAUTIFUL

By Using Choice Bits of Embroidery, Used as Centrepieces and Doilies.

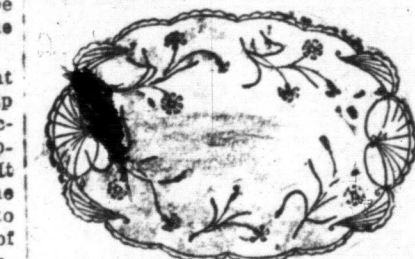
There is nothing that will give a greater air of refinement to a table than handsome table linen, and when this is supplemented with choice bits of embroidery, used as centerpieces and doilies, it is an appropriate foundation for rich china and cut glass.



With any pronounced color in the china set, great care should be taken that the coloring in the embroidery harmonizes with the china, else an incongruous effect will result. The soft, delicate tints, in many of the French Haviland sets, will combine well with almost any color, and are particularly



desirable for this reason. All white embroidery is used much more than formerly, perhaps for reason that it may be put with any kind of china, even of the most pronounced style. The blue corn flower is a simple blossom easily worked, and a great favorite with needle workers because of its beautiful coloring.



The strawberry is a great favorite with needle workers, and this graceful design will be found very pleasing. The scallops should be worked in white. This is a graceful design of the California red pepper berry; it is very effective when worked, and makes a handsome table set.

WOMANLY WORK.

Suggestions and Facts for the Ladies—Plants for the Family Table.

Every housewife should at least grow one plant through the winter to be used for table decoration, even if nothing else in the way of a window garden is attempted.

There is nothing more beautiful than ferns for this purpose, and the florist will fill for you a six-inch fern pot for about fifty cents, with the hardy varieties that with care will last you all through the winter. These fern pots are only the common, shallow earthen pots that florists make specialty of for ferns and which they provide with the ferns.

Many people send to them a china or silver pot belonging to the jardiniere to be filled, but the ferns will not thrive as well in them as in the porous pot, which may be into the jardiniere in place of the one with which it is provided.

Do not have even a root of the maiden-hair fern among the others; it is tempting because of its delicate beauty, but it will seldom thrive in the atmosphere of the living rooms, and the leaves will soon curl up and wither, and the plant must be removed, or there will be an unsightly patch among the green of the other ferns.

Some varieties of the coleus will give a thrifty looking, inexpensive table plant, as this plant is a free grower, and may be trained into a graceful shape.

If ferns are selected, they will need somewhat more care than some of the other plants, as a moist atmosphere is essential to their growth. One who has had great success with her ferns says that she takes them to the bathroom every night, puts them into the bathtub, showers them generously with tepid water and lets them remain in the tub until morning, when they will come out looking fresh and green.

If she forgets them for a single night the ferns show evidence of it the next day. It is quite a care to do this every night, but they will amply repay one in looks for the attention.

A GREAT MISTAKE.

The old idea of taking blood-thinning compounds in order to purify the blood is an error, as the system is thus left in a vitiated condition. Merrill's System Tonic not only purifies the blood in a thorough manner, but the iron contained in it again enriches the blood, leaving one with lots of good, rich, red blood, 50 pleasant-tasting doses 50c., at the Central Drug Store, Chatham.

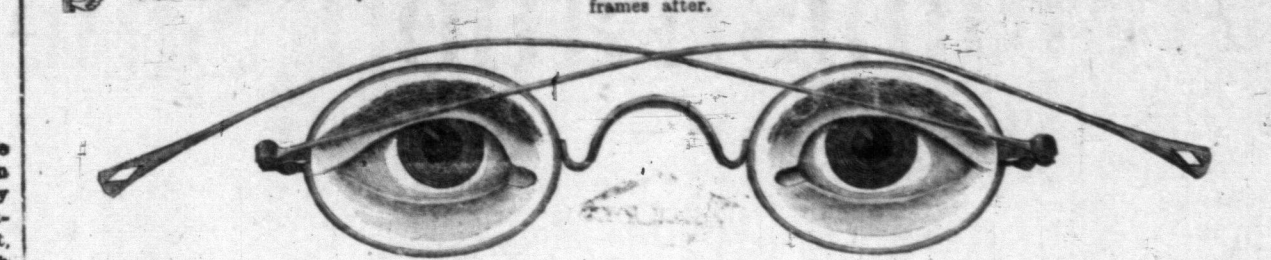
Holly Wreaths, Holly, Evergreen Wreaths, Rosettes, Pampas Plumes, Smilax, and everything for Christmas decorations at Victoria Avenue Greenhouses. Phone 191.

EYE GLASSES OR SPECTACLES

Von Gunten Bros.

Will be pleased to have you call and see their large and varied stock.

Will examine and fit eyes with lenses after Xmas—so you can surprise them and get the proper lenses in frames after.



WESTMAN BROS.

Will Inaugurate an Immense

Cash Removal Sale

Commencing DEC. 1st., Continuing for Two Months

Every Heating Stove Must be Sold.
Every Cook Stove Must be Sold.
Every Range Must be Sold.

ALL AT REDUCED PRICES. COME AND SEE US FOR BARGAINS IN ALL LINES

WESTMAN BROS.

Home Spun Dress Goods

Are the latest and neatest for this season's wear. We ask the LADIES to call and see our up-to-date goods. You will then be convinced that you cannot be without a Tweed Dress for this season's wear, also see OUR DRESSING JACKETS at \$1.50 to \$2.00. SEE THEM AND YOU WILL BUY THEM.

Tailoring Department

We have this season made a special effort in selecting a special range of the best Imported Worsteds, Scotch, English and Irish Tweeds and Overcoatings with a vast range of our own make. We guarantee to save you money and to make your clothes up-to-date and to give you the very best trimmings. OUR CLOTHING IS CASH.

A special reduction in Yarns and Blankets. We have the BEST Underwear for the money in the world. See US for Mitts, Socks, Ready-made Pants \$1.50 per pair. Special line of Ready-made Suits, Ulsters, Horse Blankets, Rugs, etc. Beaver Flans is the best to buy.

Phone 1, Woolen and Flour Mill, William Street.

The T. H. Taylor Company, Limited

A PHILANTHROPIST.

He Will Cap the Summit of Our Civilization With His Request.

"Yes, sir," exclaimed the man with a linen duster and a high-crowned straw hat. "I'm going to do it."

"What are you going to do?" asked the policeman to whom the stranger had addressed himself.

"You know," he went on without heeding the question, "that the summer months are invariably marked by mercurial outbreaks of all kinds. Men's angry passions seem to rise with the thermometer."

"What were you threatening just now?" asked the policeman sternly.

"Threatening?"

"Yes; you said you were going to do something. What are you going to do?"

"I'm going to get rich. I'm going to get some steady employment and save up my money and invest it judiciously and get rich. There's no end of good you can do with riches. Rich men are doing a great deal of good now. They establish schools and colleges and libraries and let the people get acquainted with the soothing thoughts of philosophy and the sublimities of science. But in the months of July and August you, as a practical criminologist, have you, as a practical philosopher, and doubtless observed philosophy, and science don't work. By the time I have got rich there will be all the colleges and libraries that there will be need of and I will cap the summit of our civilization with a bequest for a mammoth marble refrigerator in each town, so that when anybody feels his indignation rising he can go there and wander up and down the stately corridors and cool off."

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

EAT MOUNTEER'S MEAT

CHRISTMAS WOULD NOT BE CHRISTMAS

Without Mince Pies and a bit of adding.

No trouble to make Mince Meat when you buy our chopped meat and chopped meat all ready for use and chopped fairly with our improved machinery, always fresh and strictly pure.

Choose meat of 1/2 lb. kind:

PURE PORK SAUSAGE
PORK AND SAUSAGE
BULGOGIE SAUSAGE
LIVER SAUSAGE

The mammoth Black Bear will be on exhibition on Wednesday next.

E. A. MOUNTEER.
Phone 25. Cor. King and William.

New Xmas Fruits

Finest Selected Hazards 25c
3 lbs. for 75c
Kisses 25c
Cocoa 25c
Shells 25c
Dol 25c

TRY OUR CHOICE HAMS AND BACON

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