

The Colonist.

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GROUNDLESS ACCUSATIONS. We were greatly surprised to see in one of the leading articles of Harper's Weekly of the 2nd inst., the following sentences:

At least Canada should be compelled to abstain from violating obligations which Great Britain has assumed through international agreements.

Harper's Weekly it must be said is most unfortunate in the examples it gives of Canada's want of respect of international agreements and of Great Britain's failure to restrain Canada from committing breaches of good faith.

The Imperial Government has not at any time or under any Premier "abetted the Canadian violators of the Paris award."

Another British vessel was seized, not for killing seals contrary to the provisions of the Paris award, but for having her log irregularly kept.

If Harper's Weekly had made the inquiries it should have made before preferring such a serious charge against the Government of Great Britain and the Government of the Dominion of Canada it would have learned that due precautions are taken by the Customs authorities of the Dominion to prevent the killing of seals contrary to the terms of the Paris award.

Do you expect foreign nations to submit to any injuries the South American republics may inflict on them, without redress?

Do you propose to stand between them and foreigners, and become responsible for their wrongful acts?

Can you become thus responsible safely without claiming and exercising control over their governments yourselves, so that they may not drag you into war against your will?

Could you exercise this control without the establishment of protectorates, with residents to watch them?

Have you any intention of establishing such protectorates, and have you any reason to believe the South Americans would accept them?

Does the Monroe doctrine oblige you to give them a freedom from responsibility towards foreign powers which you have never claimed for yourselves?

We most earnestly beg some Jingo of distinction to answer these inquiries. Do not go on "hollering," however, when the occasion is one of human business and not mere animal desire.

The greater number of the jingoes we are very sure have no notion that their wild talk about the Monroe doctrine involves the consequences that are implied in the above shrewd and sensible questions.

It is not likely that Harper's Weekly will accuse the captains of the American cutters of want of either vigilance or zeal.

There were American sealers in Behring Sea, and at least one of them was seized for being found within the sixty mile limit more than once, and others of them are said to have been not at all careful where they were hunted.

When the Imperial Government gives its assent to a Canadian copyright law of such a nature as will lay it open to the charge of evading its obligations to the United States and to British authors it will be time enough to accuse it of permitting Canada to prevail upon it to disregard its national obligations.

of the license which every Sealer is required to take out. It is simply impossible for a vessel to leave the port of Victoria for the sealing grounds without her destination, whether the coast of Japan or Behring Sea, and all other particulars being known to the Customs authorities.

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A "PREPOSTEROUS SYSTEM." We are often told that every Englishman of standing and ability is a free trader.

"Of all nations on earth, through our preposterous system of one-sided trade we are the most vulnerable. We cannot inflict a single blow on any country except that of arms.

"This is the simple truth and it is not very long ago since Lord Salisbury himself said something very like it. The tall twisters of the United States would be compelled to keep civil tongues in their heads if they knew that their loud boasts and insolent threats might lose them a market for their breadstuffs and provisions.

"This being the case it is easily seen that the Monroe doctrine does not apply, because it is in specific terms declares that colonies already established do not come within its scope.

"Our readers will remember that in 1886 and succeeding years the American talkers were confident that the American claim to exclusive jurisdiction in Behring Sea was unquestionably sound.

"The Government are determined to have all the seats that are vacant in the House of Commons filled before Parliament meets.

There will, therefore, in November and December be six bye-elections, three in Ontario and three in Quebec.

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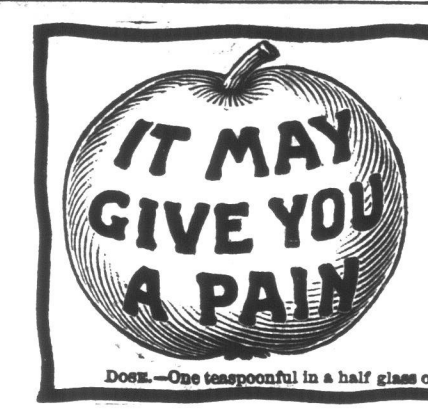
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As many good things are likely to. But you are safe in running the risk if you keep a bottle of Perry Davis' PAIN KILLER at hand. It's a never-failing antidote for pains of all sorts.

with full freedom from the precedents of ages when lunatics and criminals were lumped together! The occasion is propitious. The controversies between lawyers and doctors on the subject are not so fierce and frequent as they were; neither of the parties is now so confident that the other is wholly wrong as it once was.

What the Times wants appears to be "a body of educated and authoritative opinion on the subject," for the guidance of judges and juries, that would do much to take away the ground of the common belief that people are punished who ought not to be, and vice versa. It will, we fear, be very difficult to get such a body of opinion and more difficult still to prevail upon those whose duty it is to administer justice to act upon it.

When the question is discussed in the abstract it is not so very hard to come to something like a satisfactory understanding with regard to it; but in the concrete, when men have a criminal to try whose sanity is doubtful, there are so many difficult questions to be considered, so many contradictions to be reconciled, it is not greatly to be wondered that the perplexed and bewildered jurymen do not know how to decide, and that some of them may console themselves with the consideration that the verdict they may give, whatever it may be, will be revised and corrected by a higher authority.

EFFICIENCY COMPETITION. The annual inspection of the British Columbia Battalion of Garrison Artillery was completed on Saturday, when No. 4 Company at Westminster, was reviewed by Lieut.-Col. Peters, D.A.G.

The details of the points awarded appear below, but need a little explanation. In the first place, each company is allowed five officers, but only one is to be present, and the officers' questions being arranged to go round the full strength without repetition, each company short of officers lost marks in proportion, irrespective of the answers returned by those present.

INSANITY AND CRIME. The case of the murderer Shortis is an exceedingly interesting one, and in a sense very important. As our readers know this young man went about robbing a manufacturing concern in a very singular way, and while committing the crime used a revolver in the most reckless manner, killing two of the employees of the company.

VICTORIA COMPANIES. H.P.M. No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4. Clothing and accoutrements, 10 8.0 7.5 9.0. Manual drill, 20 18.0 15.0 20.0. Company drill, 20 17.0 16.0 19.0.

MAINLAND COMPANIES. H.P.M. No. 4, No. 5. Clothing and accoutrements, 10 10.0 8.5 8.5. Manual drill, 20 18.0 18.0 18.0. Company drill, 20 18.0 19.0 19.0.

BRITISH GUIANA'S NEEDS. LONDON, Nov. 5.—The Secretary of State for the Colonies, Rt. Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, has received petitions from the planters in British Guiana pointing out that they are suffering from a serious decline in the sugar industry and urging that the necessity for government aid is so great that the extension of this industry in British Guiana is threatened unless the planters are promptly assisted.

PLEASANT AS STEEP. Mr. Douglas Ford, Toronto, Ont., states that Millbury's Cod Liver Oil Emulsion with Wild Cherry Bark is free from objectionable taste, being almost as pleasant as syrup, while strong and cold it gives complete satisfaction, acting promptly even in obstinate cases.

CONVICTED MURDERERS. Holmes Rightly Described as "the Man of Steel and Heart of Stone."

Durrant Joins in Prayer With the Editor of the "War Cry."

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 5.—H. H. Holmes, the convicted murderer of B. F. Fitzgerald, spent a quiet day in his cell in Moyamensing prison.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Nov. 5.—Mrs. Pitzel has requested that the charred bones of her little son Howard, and the few personal effects of his, that were found in Holmes' Irvington death-trap be sent her to Galva, Ill., where she will bury them.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 5.—Durrant knelt on the hard floor of the county jail yesterday and prayed. The jury had decided that he was not entitled to mercy and must die, but a Salvation Army warrior told him that when they denied mercy and forgiveness the Father of all—of sinners as well as saints—would not turn a deaf ear to any supplication.

Shortly after noon a quartette of Salvation Army preachers and singers visited the cell. They stationed themselves in the yard in the rear of Durrant's cell, in which is a little service. Prisoners who are confined for petty offences are permitted to join in the services. When the first hymn was sung the little curtain over Durrant's window was pulled aside and his pale face appeared at the opening.

Parks introduced himself in a manly, considerate way. He told Durrant he was his friend whether he was innocent or guilty of the crime he had been convicted of, since he was a minister of God whose duty it was to give spiritual comfort. Parks was evidently sincere, and Durrant expressed his thanks. Then Parks spoke of God and the eternal life beyond the world. He asked Durrant to devote his thoughts to that other life.

He spoke with feeling, and while he was thus engaged a lady of our acquaintance, the Society of Christian Endeavor, to which society Durrant belonged when he was an attendant at the Emanuel Baptist church, entered the room. She had been visiting some of the prisoners, and after making the rounds of the cells, she paused at the door of the jailer's office, listened, and finding that there was no objection to her presence, she joined in the religious talk. The three conversed earnestly for some minutes. "Let us pray," said Parks, when he felt that the proper moment had come. "Mr. Durrant, will you join us in prayer?" The lady went on her knees and Durrant needed no urging. The three looked into each other's faces and for fully ten minutes Parks continued, the others following him. When the prayer was over the three sat and exchanged a few words. Then Durrant's visitors shook him by the hand, bade him goodbye, and he returned to his cell.

The defence has decided upon a plan of action. An appeal will be taken to the Supreme court on the ground that the jury was intimidated by newspaper criticism and was forced to bring a verdict of guilty. The usual technical objections to the trial will, of course, be made, but they will be subsidiary to the main argument that newspaper discussion made it impossible for the accused to receive a fair trial. The defence will argue that they were sensational and thoroughly biased against the defendant. It will be claimed that they created a public sentiment which the jury did not dare resist. With such a plea Durrant will go before the Supreme court for a reversal of the judgment of the lower court and for an order for a new trial. If that be denied he will pay the penalty for his terrible crime with his life.

Durrant has the many thanks of his ministers, friends, mother and father and attorneys. Even a juror—Horace Smythe—called upon him. Juror Smythe is eccentric. He likes to do odd things, and affects odd manners for the most part. He never did a thing in his life than when he stood the wicket of Durrant's cell and talked with the young man whose life he had declared the day before should be forfeited to the state. Juror Smythe sent away satisfied that he had done his duty when he wrote "Guilty" upon his first ballot.

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"Oh, you are too fly," remarked the wind to the kite. "I am not a fly, I am a good flier," retorted the kite.—Philadelphia Record.

Yours very truly, WM. DAVY.