#### A CHALLENGE.

Drop your dainty heads awhile, Flowers rich and rare, Ere you meet my lady's smile— And find you are not fair.

Fly away, you little birds, Tuneful throats of spring.

Lest you hear my lady's words—

And learn you cannot sing.

Call the clouds to cover you, Far-off summer skies, Or you'll see a deeper blue Within my lady's eyes.

Things below, and things above,
Ail things ev'rywhere,
Challenge not my lady love,
Or perish in despair.

—J. A. Flynn in St. Paul's.

#### THE STATE OF TRADE.

Weekly Reviews of the Business Situation in the United States. and Canada,

BRADSTREETS' REPORT. New York, June 30.-Though seasonably quieter in many lines, the strength of the general business situation remains apparently unabated, and the half-year closes with a commercial and financial community contemplating very satisfactory returns in the recent past, and manifesting a tone of cheerful confidence regarding the outlook for the last half dead by lightning while carrying inof 1899. In the volume of business done the fants in their arms, the young ones first half of 1899 will certainly rank higher than the best hitherto experienced, and the notable rise in prices which was such a feature of the past spring has done much to reconcile traders to the admittedly small margins of profits which modern business operations tend toward making permanent. Touching this matter it might be added that staples prices are in a majority of instances well above quotations ruling for some years past, the general level, in fact, being the highest since early in 1893. The iron trade presents a very good outlook for the balance of the year at prices which guarantees large profits. The labor situation has been one of the most satisfactory features of the half-year's business, voluntary advances having raised the compensation of thousands of operatives, and labor troubles being conspicuous by their absence till toward the close of the period under review, when failures to agree upon wages and hours in the Colorado smelting industry and tin plate manufacturing rendered a large number of workmen idle. In the case of the latter industry, however, the suspension, it is hoped, will not exceed the usual summer shut-down. For the first six-months the total number of failures have been 5,049, with liabilities \$50,301, 253. This is a decrease as regards number of 21 per cent. from last year, of 28 per cent. Two farm hands engaged in ploughing from 1897 and of 34 per cent. from 1895, while in a 160-acre plot in South Dakota the liabilities are 30 per cent. Irom 1533, while the liabilities are 30 per cent. Irom 1533, while they were a year ago, 46 per cent. less than in 1897, 52 per cent. less than 1896 and 10 per cent. less than 1892. In number failures are tewer this year than they have been for 17 years past, and the liabilities involved are smaller than in any year since 1881. That current embarrassments are well down to the language) was struck and killed by a current embarrassment for the content of the conte normal is proved by the fact that assets this year constitute only 45.56 of the liabilities, year constitute only 45.56 of the habilities, against 50 per cent. last year, 57 per cent in 1897 and 61 per cent. in 1893. Large failures were specially scarce during the second quarter of the half-year, and the only gain in number or in liabilities noted is in the Territories, while specially heavy decreases in liabilities are reported from the Middle and Western

Canadian trade, similarly to that of the Summer influences naturally affect current trade, which is, on the whole, of seasonably light proportions. Montreal reports business conditions satisfactory, orders for dry goods at wholesale of very fair volume, retail business good, and crop prospects, as a whole, satisfactory, though rain is needed in some sections. British Columbia trade is reported quiet, with collections rather slow, while in the Maritime Provinces trade is light, while crops promise well. Toronto reports some imselling freely on speculative buying. American capitalists are investing freely in Canadian industries. The record of business generally during the year is a favorable one. Failures for the first six months, numbering only 684, with lightilities of \$4,636,641—a fall. only 684, with liabilities of \$4,636,641-a falling off of 16 per cent in number and of 20 per cent in liabilities from last year's exceptionally light totals.

R. G. DUN & CO'S REVIEW. Failures for the second quarter of 1899 have year, with liabilities of \$48,711,000, against \$71,246,383 last year. Demand for iron and steel seems to have no limit. Scarcity of pig has raised the price a dollar per ton for local coke at Chicago, \$1.10 to \$19.75 for Bessemer at Pitteburg, \$1.75 to \$17.75 for grey forge and 75c to \$19.35 for anthracite No. 1 at Philadelphia, with some iron selling above these quotations at all points for early delivery. Prices of pig average higher than at any other time since February, 1890, and prices of finished products higher than since March, 1891. Billets are hardly obtainable. March, 1891. Billets are hardly obtainable. Bar and plate orders are refused quite largely because works are overcrowded. Sheet mills have much stronger demand at the west, but less at the east, and structural works report 26,000 tons required in two eastern contracts. The continued demand, in spite of rising prices, astonishes everybody. Coke ovens, 14,453 at work, output for the week, 181,852 tons, the heaviest week's work ever known at Connellsville. Tin is stronger, at 26 cents, and copper at 18 cents for lake, but lead is dull, with hope of an end to the Colorado strike. Another industry passes all records—boot and shoe shipments from the east, 400,863 cases, exceeding those in any other month of any other year for four weeks, and the demands for speedy delivery show enormous

400 SICK LEAVE MANILA.

From the Washington Star. An official attached to the Weather Bureau has kept, during the past fourteen years, all of the best authenticated accounts coming under his eye of the pranks of lightning throughout the world. One of the facts to be deducted from the great mass of stories about the electricity of the heavens is that lightning cannot be dodged or avoided. There are many accounts of lightning striking and killing timid women who had taken refuge under beds and in closets. In most of these cases it is shown that the persons who have remained in the rooms abandoned by the victims thus killed while seeking safety have escaped unharmed. The State of Kansas seems to

have the palm for the fierceness of its electrical storms, with all of the States of the Missouri and Mississippi valleys following close behind. An army officer riding from Leavenworth to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., in August, 1889, was shocked three times by bolts striking near him. He saw nine huge trees riven by separate bolts. His horse died later from the electrical shocks, while the officer himself suffered no injury of any importance. There are stories of three women, one in Kansas, one in Arkansas and the other in Misscuri, having been struck escaping unharmed in each case. A young man in Central Illinois was fooling with a mastiff dog during the progress of an electrical storm. The log was struck dead by a bolt, nearly all of the hair being burned from its body, while the young man was only mildly shocked. A farmer was kissing his wife good-by before starting for the county fair when he was struck dead by a bolt of lightning. His wife's hair was consumed by the same, but she was otherwise uninjured. Three drunken farm hands returning from a dance, all arm-in-arm, in eastern Nebraska, were overtaken by an electrical storm on the road. The man in the middle was killed by a bolt. His two companions were knocked senseless. but quickly recovered. They found giant squid resembles an arrow, and themselves completely sober when they came to.

A letter carrier in Kansas City was the basement door when a bolt of lightning struck between them. They were both rendered unconscious by the shock, but both were brought around discoveries. I have seen a small squit shock, but both were brought around all right. The letter was consumed. Two farm hands engaged in ploughing were killed by lightning within three minutes. Three young kittens playing in a back yard in Independence, Mo., were struck by lightning. One of them was killed, the other two being only bolt while talking about his queer name with a party of friends in a tavern in central Arkansas. The shop of a bird fancier in Chicago was struck able by a bolt. Of two parrots in one cage one was killed and the other permanently blinded, besides being rendered deaf and dumb. A gang of circus hands were trying to round-up an escaped tiger in a Missouri town, when the tiger was struck dead by light-United States, closes a very satisfactory season, all signs pointing to a very heavy volume of business at generally satisfactory prices.

Ouring a running race at an II- linois county fair, in which eleven horses were competing for the purse, sembled a neck. It was seven or eight the winning horse was struck dead feet in length and a simple growth, the instantly after having won the race by a head on the wire. None of the other horses, most of which were close up at the finish, was hurt at all.

An Indiana fiddler was playing at a country dance, having a seat on the porch for the sake of the coolness thereof. His violin was knocked into quiet, with collections rather slow, while in the Maritime Provinces trade is light, while crops promise well. Toronto reports some improvement in winter wheat, but that the yield will be rather light. Reassorting business is good, and fall orders are increasing. Wool is selling freely on speculative buying. American capitalists are investing freely in Canadian industries. The record of business generally during the year is a favorable one. rado, his fireman not even being shocked. A dozen girls in an Ohio seminary were shocked by a bolt of lightning while seated in the parlor. The same bolt killed one of the teachers at the other end of the building. A Tennessee farmer was feeding his hogs, stand-creature moving over the surface with Failures for the second quarter of 1899 have been 2,080 in number, against 3,055 last year, with liabilities of \$20,259,000, against \$36,602,253 last year, and for the first half of 1899 failures were 4,852, against 6,766 last year, with liabilities of \$48,711,000, against year, with liabilities fire and consumed.

A Memphis woman was curling her hair with curling irons when a bolt of lightning came through the window and knocked the curling irons out of her hand. She was rendered unconscious. When she came to she found the curling irons at the far end of the room. They were almost red hot, and had burned a hole in the carnet where had burned a hole in the carpet where they rested. A bolt of lightning pene-trated a cyclone cellar in Kansas in which a family of four had taken re-fuge, and all were killed. A captive balloon, the largest ever manufactured, was struck by lightning in Chicago about eight years ago and two of the aeronauts were killed. Circus tents have been hit by lightning bolts on numerous occasions, generally with a comparatively small loss of life, considering the size of the Assemblages under the tents. A man who was struck by lightning in western New York State while walking through a forest had the outlines of two perfect trees indelibly stamped in red on his back, but he was not seriously To all intents and purposes the lightmands for speedy delivery show enormous distribution in all directions. New orders are large and several months ahead. Wool sales, 36,179,900 pounds, of which 29,765,900 are domestic, reveal a speculation scarcely less obtrusive than in 1897, when 41,497,000 lbs. obtrusive than in 1897, when 41,497,000 lbs. were sold in the same weeks, against 23,768,200 in 1892, when the mills were well employed. Cotton mills are doing well, in spite of the fall in cotton, as the demand gives them enough to do at current pices, and weak spots in the trade are defended by the agreement between Fall River. Failures for the week have been 181 in the United States, against 254 last year, and 22 in Canada, against 15 last year. of boys were playing ball on a field in

seated and made a big gash in the floor in passing into the ground. None of the occupants of the house was so much as shocked. A man in Mississippi was cutting a chew of tobacco when a bolt of lightning struck his Washington, D. C., June 30.—Gen. Otis when a bolt of lightning struck his hands. They were so badly burned that the transport Morgan City left Manila June 24th for in Francisco with 464 sick. quarrymen were preparing a fuse if

RECORD OF A LIGHTNING STUDENT. a Georgia marble quarry when lightning struck the charge and they were both blown to fragments. The mate of an Atlantic coasting schooner was Ourious Pranks Observed by a Weather Bureau drunkenly inviting a sailor color engaged in shortening sail to come below and be cut to pieces, when a bolt of lightning struck the mate dead. A boy seated in a small boat that was attached to and trailing from a sailing yacht off the South Carolina coast was killed by a bolt of lightning, while the yacht was not damaged. An unbelieving farmer in Indiana was engaged in a controversy with an itinerant minister when he was struck dead by lightning while making a blasphemous remark.

JUST LIKE SEA SERPENTS

Great Creatures of the Ocean That Have Sometimes

Avalon, Cal., June 18 .- "This is the ime when the seaside resort gathers its energies together and often gives to the expectant world a story about the sea serpent," remarked a man interested in science. "Is there a sea serpent? Why, I certainly think so. I believe that there is some strange animal that comes up from the deep occasionally. Perhaps it may interest you to know how easily people are deeived and what things pass as sea serpents. Upon one occasion, some time ago, a vessel in the North Pacific sighted a singular animal, not five hundred feet away, which was pronounced a sea serpent by the men. When first observed, there was what appeared to be a long neck rising our of the water, ten feet into the mounted by a head sharp and pointed. Behind this on the surface were seen irregular undulations or humps, sup-posed to be made by the animal as it moved along. Its length was estimated to be 100 feet, and some of the men saw it so distinctly that they went into particulars regarding its eye, its mane and other features. There was, however, a minority report. single observer of some scientific knowledge recognized in the singular animal a gigantic cuttlefish that evi-dently was fleeing from an enemy, and in its efforts to escape forced its body out of the water tail first, so that it resembled a neck. The tail fin of the at a slight distance could readily be taken for a head. The giant squids range up to sixty or more feet in handing a woman servant a letter at length, and the ten undulating and the basement door when a bolt of sucker-lined tentacles following beflapping along the surface in this way to escape an enemy, its tail out of water, resembling perfectly a large eel; and it is easily seen how a larger one could be confused with a serpent-like animal. "That whales have added to sea ser-

pent fore there is little doubt in my A supposed mind. sighted by a ship in the Atlantic, and a most graphic description given of its enormous size, the tall meck and other peculiarities that always go with the typical sea serpent. The remarkfeature of it was that the serpent moved along the surface for twenty minutes, holding its head aloft, suggesting that it must have been an air-breathing animal. This same creature was sighted by another vessel, this time a whaler, and finally it was captured and found to be a large result of some injury to the head.

"But there is another whale that, in its perfect form resembles a sea ser pent and undoubtedly has been mistaken for one. It is called the Anodon It is a long, slender creature, first discovered near Havre. It is toothless out has long bills like some of the dolphins, and, more remarkable yet, has a decided neck, so that the head appears to be more movable than in other whales. It is very rare, but no one can contemplate the skeleton in the Paris Museum without being struck by its snake-like form. In its natural element this graceful creature might easily be mistaken for a sea serpent.

"Among the fishes are several that might suggest the great unknown particularly the band or ribbon fish, specimens of which twenty-two feet A Memphis woman was curling her long and but four inches in diameter.

> works. A great scheme of improvements is to be carried out, among the items for the present summer being ten miles of macadam and asphalt pavements. New sidewaks, sewers, boulevards and water mains are to be laid in the principal sections of the city. Already no less than \$112,361 worth of street work has been contracted for. Altogether the expenditures engaged are:-Pavements, \$138,-541; sidewalks, \$8,558; sewers, \$58,817a grand total of \$205,916. The remaining work to be done will bring the whole up to \$300,000.

## ASTHMA CURED After Twelve Years' Suffering—To-ronto Physicians Advised Leaving Her Home to Go to Manitoba— Clarke's Kola Compound Cured.

Mrs, McTaggart, 80 Vanauley street, Toronto, writes:—'I have been troubled with asthma and bronchitis for twelve years, were sold in the same weeks, against 23,768, 200 in 1828, when the mills were well employed. Cotton mills are doing well, in spite of the fall in cotton, as the demand gives them enough to do at current pices, and weak spots in the trade are defended by the agreement between Fall River. Failures for the week have been 181 in the United States, against 254 last year, and 22 in Canada, against 15 last year.

Canadian reports show little change in the situation, though there is a larger volume of trade than a year ago. At St. John lumber shipments have been small, owing to higher freights, but business continues fair, with collections good. At Halifax business shows an increase over last year, with few failures, and prices in hardware and woolen goods are firm. Collections continue slow. Business at Quebec is quiet, with few failures, and prices in hardware and woolen goods are firm. Collections continue slow. Business at Quebec is quiet, with few failures, and prices in hardware and woolen goods are firm. Collections continue slow. Business at Guebec is quiet, with few failures, and prices in hardware and woolen goods are firm. Collections continue slow. Business at Guebec is quiet, with few failures, and prices in hardware, with collections fair to good, and the export of cheese and butter is active. Money is stiff at five per cent. on call. The volume of business at Compound at the outlook is very encouraging. Manufacturers at Hamilton continue busy, but retail trade is quiet. Jobbers report fair sales and collections are satisfactory, and at Yanoover wholesale and retail trade improves with the advancing season.

Business continue a good many years ago. The better than the average, with collections fair to good, and the export of cheese and butter is active. Money is stiff at five per cent. on call. The volume of business at Compound the export of cheese and butter is active. Money is stiff at five per cent. on call. The volume of business at Compound the past stiff at five per cent. on call. The volume of bus

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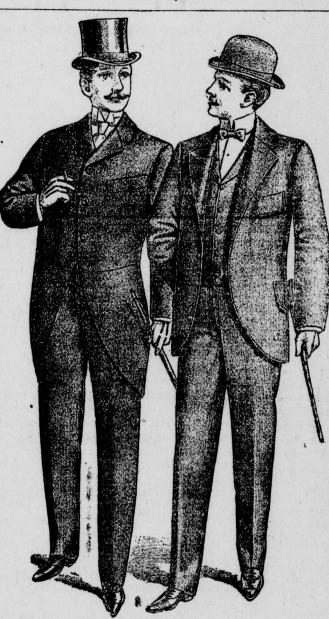
Good writing surface, strong, stands any amount of erasure.

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# CICANTIC BARCAIN SAI

## ..Ready=to=Wear Clothing..



Four years ago we determined on opening up our London Branch with an ambition and determination to do the lion's share of clothing trade of this city. This ambition and determination was born of a thorough knowledge of our business. We clearly saw that to put our goods and prices in competition with any concern here was to establish beyond a question our superiority, while our position as manufacturers enables us to give customers the very highest grade clothing at the lowest possible prices (no middleman's profit to exact.)

## Co-day We Start

One of the most gigantic Bargain Sales of up-to-date, highgrade, ready-to-wear Clothing ever held in Canada. We come

out boldly with our prices, representing exactly goods to be found in our store and challenge competition. We plunge right in and lay claim that we are to-day presenting a list of the greatest sacrificing prices ever made on this continent, right in the height of the season for goods you need now.

### Men's Suits.

Lot 1 contains about 75 men's tweed and serge suits;
all good patterns and colors; former price \$3.50,
\$3.75 and \$4.00, bargain sale price\$2.75
Lot 2 will be found to contain some good strong ser-
viceable tweed and serge suits; former price \$4.00,
\$4.50 and \$5.00, bargain sale price
Lot 3-Men's extra strong tweed and serge suits are
made of substantial wearing materials; former
price \$4.50, \$5.00 and \$5.50, bargain sale price \$3.98
Lot 4-Suits that were \$6.00, \$6.50 and \$7.00, bargain
sale price
Lot 6-Men's suits; the former price \$8.50, \$9.00 and
\$10.00, bargain sale price
ot 7 comprises most of our finest imported tweed serge
and worsted suits; former prices \$11.00, \$12.00, \$13.00
and \$14.00, bargain sale price
and price, burgain sale price

## Stout Men's Saits.

Lot 8-It is a most important matter to a man to know that he really can be fitted ready-made. We have demonstrated this fact beyond the fraction of a question, and clear the entire lot at the following

	Slin	Men's Suits.	
Suits Suits	that were	\$8.50 for	
Suits	that were	\$6.00 for	
		9000 0	å

Lot 9-This has been one of the most successful departments this season, and we claim to be able to fit tall, slim people who never before cared for clothing ready to wear; former prices \$6.50, \$7.50, \$8.50, \$10.00, bars \$6.98, \$7.98. bargain sale price \$4.98, \$5.98,



Men's Pants.

pair good heavy tweed, well-made and trimmed; prices 98c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, bargain sale price ... 69c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.28, \$1.48, \$1.78, \$1.98.



Youth's Suits.

In tweeds and worsteds and serges, new, neat patterns: former prices \$3.50, \$4.00, \$5.00, \$7.50, bargain sale price \$2.48, \$2.98, \$3.98, \$4.98.



Boys' 3-Piece Suits. SHORT PANTS.

## Boys' 2-Piece Suits.

Lot 13—Boys' 2-piece plain and pleated suits in a very large variety of new patterns, for boys 4 to 16 years; former prices \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.75, \$3.00, \$4.00, bargain sale price 98c, \$1.48, \$1.98, \$2.48, \$2.98

These are only a few sample prices of what we can do for you—an abundant stock of the most select goods, such as newest styles in Ties, latest in Collars and Cuffs-in fact, everything kept in up-to-date furnishing goods.

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