Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1885.

THE GOVERNMENT'S DEFENCE.

The Canadian government have issued a pamphlet in defence of their act in hanging Riel. The pamphlet shows that Riel induced the Metis to rebel and then offered to sell them and their cause to the government for $35,000. In the first rebellion he he sold out for a less sum. One thousand dollars was then paid him and he abandoned his followers and left the country before Col. Wolseley had reached Winnipeg. There is documentary evidence to show that Riel was twice a traitor—first to the land that gave him birth and next to the men who trusted him so implicitly that they placed their property and their lives in his hands. In his last rebellion he spared neither priest nor layman—catholic nor protestant. Each was slain or despoiled with perfect impartiality, as circumstances admitted. To call such a man a patriot is to cast a reflection upon the memories of the long line of illustrious men who have won renown in the service of their country. In their emotional outbursts of national feeling the French Canadians forget the character of Riel and the motives that actuated him in espousing the cause of the Metis of St. Laurent. Father Andre, who received his last confession, who was with him when he died, who closed his eyes after the guilty spirit had left its mortal tenement and who with his own hand laid him away in the vault of the little catholic chapel at Regina, in his evidence for the defence at the trial of Riel thus spoke of the nature of the alleged grievances:—

"The claims of the halfbreeds changed frequently after Riel's arrival. Before that they wanted patents for their lands, scrip as given to the breeds in Manitoba, river surveys and exemption from the wood tax. The government replied to one of their petitions conceding the old survey of river lots. This was an important concession. The only remaining questions that remained were those of patents and wood rights. These were in a fair way toward settlement. About March 4th a telegram was received from the government making those concessions."

On March 4th, therefore, according to this competent testimony, the grievances of the Metis had disappeared, and to this fact the resort to arms at the instigation of Riel is attributable. Unless the agitation could be continued and a crisis precipitated, his plans for extorting money from the government would be dished, and so the Duck Lake fight was brought on on March 18th. The proof of Riel's cupidity is overwhelming. Father Andre in his evidence said:

"I had an interview with Riel regarding his claims against the government. In fact, I had two interviews with him. He claimed certain indemnities from the federal government. He asked for $100,000. The prisoner said he would take $35,000 at once. He offered to leave the country if he received this last named amount. He intimated that if he was satisfied, the half-breed question would be satisfied also."

Charles Nolin, a French half-breed, who had many communications with Riel before the rebellion, testified:

"In December, 1884, prisoner told witness of his plans. Prisoner told witness he wanted $100,000 indemnity from the Canadian government. Riel told me that if he got the money he was asking the government for, he would go anywhere the government wished. If his presence was objectionable in the Northwest he would go away."

Thos. H. Jackson, a druggist of Prince Albert, gave like evidence:

"Riel asked me to write some letters to certain Eastern papers placing him in a good light. Riel had applied to the government for $35,000 for losses. His whole bill against the government amounted to $100,000. He disclosed his personal motives to me on this occasion. He showed his motives were those of revenge for his supposed ill-treatment by the government."

But there is even a better witness than these—Riel himself, who, in his address to the jury, sought to justify his demand for money on the ground that he had claims unsettled since 1870. Here is his language when reciting the circumstances under which he obtained money in 1870 to leave the country, the words being those addressed to Archbishop Tache, who paid over the cash:

"The Canadian government owe me money. They owe me something for my reputation that they abuse every day. Besides, I have done work and they never paid me for it. I will take that money as an account of what they will have to pay me one day."

That claim he placed at 100,000, and in his speech to the jury he said:

"When I speak of an indemnity of $35,000 to call for something to complete the $100,000, I don't believe that I am exaggerating."

We shall await the receipt of the government pamphlet with some impatience. The government has made out a very strong case against the dead insurgent and we are much mistaken in our estimate of the character of the sensible section of the French members of parliament if they do not adhere to the Macdonald government. If, however, the government should be defeated on the Riel issue by the French vote, there will still be the country to appeal to, and it will be seen that the liberals will lose more seats in the English-speaking provinces than they will gain in Quebec on this issue.

How Canon Farrar Became a Tectotaler.

About ten years ago he had become convinced that the use of alcohol was not necessary. He knew that whole nations—and the mostly high civilized nations—had existed before it was discovered. He had constantly had before his eyes the fact that criminals, who for the most part had been accustomed from childhood to the habitual use of intoxicants, never suffered in the least from being made compulsorily "sober by act of Parliament." Men who went into prison feeble and emaciated came out robust and strong, and women who went in perfectly wretched and horrible emerged in the bloom of health, if not of beauty. He had also given due weight to the testimony of the greatest English physicians, who agreed that those who eat well and sleep well have the best contributors to health and vigor, and that men can do without alcohol and are better without it. He had concluded that he for one had better give it up; he did give it up, and had never suffered a single day. Like the good Father Mathew, the Archdeacon had seen in his experience "stairs of heaven fall and cedars of Lebanon laid low," because of the habit of drinking. From the disgraceful day of the patriarch in his tent the use of intoxicants had been responsible for the ruin of the noblest hearts and intellects.—Speech in New York.

A Terrible Affliction.

The family of Ald. Burns, of this city, has truly been visited with a great and lamentable affliction. Last week the deaths of two boys were announced, and to-day the decease of a third is chronicled. The dread malady, diptheria, has swept through the little household and carried off three of its most interesting members. In such an extremely melancholy affliction it is unnecessary to say that the sincere sympathy of the whole community goes out to the bereaved ones in this the hour when the hand of God is heavy upon them.—Hamilton Times.

How to Catch Cold.

(Philadelphia Times.)

Sit in a street car next to an open window.

Take a hot drink before going out into the cold or damp air.

Let the boys romp at school during recess time without their hats.

Sit in the passage or near an entry after dancing for half an hour.

Sit in a barber shop in your shirt sleeves while waiting to be shaved.

Wear your light-weight summer hosiery through October and November.

Put on a pair of thin shoes in the evening when you go to call upon your girl.

Fail to change your shoes and stockings after coming in on a very rainy day.

Have your hair cut and shampooed just as a change takes place in the weather.

Wear one of the new ladies' cutaway coats without a chamois or flannel vest underneath.

Throw your overcoat open on a blustering winter day to show off your nice new necktie.

Send the children out in autumn for exercise in short, thin stockings and skimpy skirts.

Leave off your rough overcoat when you go driving, and wear your nice thin one, to look swell.

Go to the frosty door in a cobweb dress, and linger, bidding good-night to your favorite young man.

Take a hot bath in the evening and sit up in your room to finish the last pages of an exciting novel.

Throw off your heavy coat when you reach the office in a hurry and put on your thin knock about.

Go down to breakfast without a wrap on a chilly morning before the fires have got fully started.

Put the window of your sleeping-room up before you go to bed, especially if the window is near the bed.

Run a square to catch a street car and take off your hat for a few moments to cool off when you catch it.

Go into the lobby during a theatrical performance and promenade around without your overcoat.

Do your back hair up high when you have been accustomed to wear it low and go out on a windy day.

Take a long bicyle ride and stand for a while describing and showing off the beauties of your machine.

Come in from a rapid gallop on horseback and stand talking in the open air to a friend for five or ten minutes.

Go to an evening party in a dress suit without putting on heavy underwear to compensate for the lightness of the cloth.

If you are bald headed or have a susceptible back, sit during grand opera near one of the side doors in the Academy of Music.

O'Donovan Rossa's Latest.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—The Sun has a letter contributed by O'Donovan Rossa, in which he says: It is against the constitution of the Fenian brotherhood to strike at England's power on the continent of America. English intriguers had erected a monument to an English spy on American soil. That monument was destroyed. I charge my accounts with $100 as a donation to a man who did the work. I did not give the money to do the work, or to have it done, but I gave it after it was done, and for this I have been deservedly censured.

It was not Dangerous.

"I can't take this Canadian 10 cent piece," said a horse-car conductor to a passenger in New York the other day.

"Why not?"

"Because there's small-pox in Montreal. Some of you fellers never seem to read the papers."

"You're safe enough," answered the passenger. "Don't you see it's got a hole in it? That's where it's been vaccinated.—Texas Siftings.

An Atrocious Murder.

NEWPORT, R. I., Nov. 25.—Emily Burton, daughter of a colored man who was recently murdered, has confessed that on the morning of the murder, her sister Mrs. Dorsey, went to her father for money. The old man flew into a passion, refusing to give her money, and talked very plainly to her in regard to her husband and his "pauperism." Mrs. Dorsey reported the result of the interview to her husband, who decided to fix the old man. All the tenants of the house were out except Mrs. Frank Trager, who was in the back yard. Miss Burton was sent upstairs to keep guard from a window while Dorsey crept to the side of his victim at the breakfast table and killed him.

Just Like all other Clergymen.

(Franklin Spectator.)

A prominent Methodist clergyman tells the following story of an old Baptist preacher who always contrived to lug baptism into his sermons, whatever his text might be. The old gentleman was asked one day if he could possibly preach a sermon without alluding to his favorite doctrine. He said he could, and would if they would give him a text without any baptism in it. The first chapter of Ezra, ninth verse, was selected, which reads as follows: "And this is the number of them; thirty chargers of gold, a thousand chargers of silver, nine and twenty knives." He entered the pulpit, read his text and said: "My brethren, I don't see what they wanted of so many knives unless it was to cut the ice in order to baptize the people."

ONE GIRL TOO MANY.—It was announced in last Tuesday's papers that Lady Mary Trefusis had given birth to a daughter at Ditton Park, the country seat of her mother, the Dowager Duchess of Buccleuch. It would be difficult to convey any adequate idea of the disappointment which has been caused by the sex of the little stranger. Col. and and Lady Mary Trefusis already have several daughters, and a son had been eagerly hoped for, as he would have become heir to the great Rolle estate in Devonshire. Lord Rolle left the whole of his vast property to his wife's nephew, the Hon. Mark Trefusis, in strict settlement, and failing him and male issue to his next brother, who is now Col. Trefusis. Mark Rolle has only daughters, and Col Trefusis is in the same plight. Lady Rolle, with whom her younger nephew is in high favor, had so fully counted on the birth of a son that all the arrangements had been made at Bicton for lighting bonfires and firing cannon in honor of the happy event, and the news that she had only another grandniece was deeply disappointing.—London World.

CURIOSITIES, ANCIENT AND MODERN, bought, sold or exchanged. Indian totem poles, figures, masks, bowls, tools, Indian dress, &c., in carved stone, wood, ivory, bone, &c. Mineral specimens, old coins, shells, or Indian relics of any kind. Correspond with Nathan Joseph & Co., 641 Clay street, San Francisco. 6mdw

Eastern Canada Mail.

Per Northern Pacific Railway

MONTREAL, Nov. 27.—One of the latest victims of the epidemic was Miss Rivet, a daughter of Mr. Rivet, a large real estate owner and landlord in the east end of the city. She had just attained her 22d year, and had returned home from a convent after finishing her education, when she took the disease and died. The greatest sympathy is felt for her family. Deceased and her family had never been vaccinated, but since her decease her relatives have all submitted to that necessary preventive.

A Halifax dispatch says: No new cases of smallpox were reported from Charlottetown up to last evening, but three deaths occurred yesterday. Confidence of an early release from the disease is being restored among the citizens.

GALT, Nov. 25.—Alex. Gordon, a laborer, got intoxicated yesterday and shot at some Collegiate institute boys with a revolver. The bullet lodged in Charlie Stewart's arm. It has been extracted. Gordon was arrested.

TORONTO, Nov. 26.—The Scott act was defeated in Prescott and Russell to-day by 900.

Ex-Mayor Hymans, of London, is lying in a critical condition through injuries received from footpads.

Toronto Hebrew ladies are keeping the memory of Sir Moses Montefiore by benefactions to the Jewish poor.

ST. CATHERINES, Nov. 26.—The body of the woman found in the water has been identified as Mrs. Malam, originally from Smithville. She threatened to kill herself owing to the conduct of a wayward daughter.

TORONTO, Nov. 27.—Savage & Lyman, jewelers, of Montreal, have called a meeting of their creditors.

The Canadian schooner Highland Maid has been found in Lake Erie deserted, and it is feared that her crew have been lost.

Capt. Moore, who was captain of the Canadian Pacific steamer Algoma, recently lost on Lake Superior, is recovering.

LONDON, Nov. 24.—Walter Hyman, who a few nights ago was struck on the head and robbed by footpads while on his way home, is now lying in a critical condition, his brain being effected by the injuries received at the time of the robbery.

MONTREAL, Nov. 26.—Hon. Mr. Chapleau arrived in town to-day from Ottawa, and was soon surrounded by numbers of his former supporters. According to rumors, he is here to explain his position as an officer of the cabinet, and to "sit upon" some of the "bolters." To-night he is to meet a large assemblage of his friends at dinner and to come to terms with them.

Bishop Cameron, of Archial, N. S., who arrived here yesterday, says that it is a mistake to suppose that the people of the maritime provinces were taking any great interest in the Riel matter. Personally he was satisfied that Riel had met the fate he deserved. Any attempt made to export political capital out of this question in Nova Scotia would meet with failure, and do the liberals a great deal more harm than good.

J. B. Ferguson & Co.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL STATIONERS NO BOOK SELLERS, VICTORIA, B. C.,

Is the best place in Victoria to obtain:—
School and College Text Books,
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Wrapping Paper and Paper Bags,
Bibles, Prayer and Hymn Books,
All kinds of Office Supplies,
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Or anything usually kept by a first-class Stationery House. w

Syrup of Figs.

Manufactured only by the California Fig Syrup Co., San Francisco, Cal., is Nature's own true Laxative. This pleasant liquid Fruit remedy may be had of Langley & Co. Sample bottles free and large bottles at 75 cents and $1.25. It is the most pleasant, prompt and effective remedy known, to cleanse the system; to act on the Liver, Kidneys, and Bowels gently yet thoroughly; to dispel headaches, Colds and Fevers, to cure Constipation, Indigestion and kindred ills. dw13

The Babies Cry for It,

And the old folks laugh when they find that the pleasant liquid fruit remedy, Syrup of Figs, is more easily taken and more beneficial in its action than bitter, nauseous medicines. It strengthens the liver, kidneys, stomach and bowels, while it arouses them to a hearty activity. For sale by Messrs. Langley & Co., Victoria. 6dw

Sledges and Reindeer in Lapland.

[Sophus Tromholt's Travels.]

The only means of conveyance afforded by the country was the reindeer sledges, and the author gives a graphic picture of the manner in which the reindeer is prepared for duty.

"First, two symmetrical bits of wood are laid above and below the neck of the deer and fastened together. From the middle of these a band runs down on each side to a wooden block under the stomach immediately behind the fore legs. To this block the single trace is attached, generally made of reindeer skin. From the end of the wooden block again a broad belt runs over the back of the animal, while around the neck a rope is placed to which the rein is fastened. This is the whole harness. It is loose and primitive, but doubtless best adopted to reindeer drivers.

"The sleigh seems from its construction to be better adapted to water than to land traveling. Cut a low boat in halves, take the stern part and close it behind with a perpendicular piece of wood, and you have a pulk. It is about the length of a man; without any covering whatever, and completely empty, the driver sitting down on the bottom. As it is provided with a keel, it will be pretty clear that it is about as easily managed as a boat on terra firma. The pulk is built of birchwood, but the keel is of fir. What is most annoying to the uninitiated is that the pulk does not, as the sleigh, travel on runners, but on a little keel, and capsizes in consequence at the slightest bump or want of balance on the part of the driver, and that it is drawn by a single trace and not by shafts, from which it follows that the reindeer can not hold it back down hill, which often causes the traveler to come down rather more prostratively than he might wish, and finally that two reins are not used.

"There is, however, good reason why the Lapps prefer the single to the double system, and each one has advantages of its particular kind in reference to the nature of the road. A sleigh would, for instance, sink far deeper into the loose snow, and be knocked to pieces over rough ground, where the road is obstructed with logs and stones, and the pulk has often to shoot down a declivity of a couple of yards. The sleigh would capsize quicker than the pulk, strange as it may seem, as the latter capsizes only in the hands of an inexperienced driver."

John Bull Taking Up the Revolver.

[London Standard.]

Recently, for the first time at Wimbledon, a competition was commenced with the revolver. This deadly little weapon has never received in this country the attention it deserves, and as a consequence we are not only far less skillful in its use than any other nation, but our service weapon is inferior to that of any other power. The range was twenty yards only, at a target twelve inches in diameter, with a three-inch bull seye.

Out of those who fired, many never touched the twelve-inch disk, while others only succeeded, after dwelling on their aim in a fashion that would hardly have been practicable in front of a Zulu or an Arab, in getting one or two through the pasteboard.

Wolves and the Telegraph.

[Popular Science News.]

In Norway it is believed that wolves are frightened away by telegraph lines. While a vote was pending on a grant to a new line, a member of the Storthing remarked, that, while his constituents had no direct interest in it, they would support the grant, because the wires would drive away the wolves. It is said that, however hungry a wolf may be, he will never go into a spot that is enclosed by ropes stretched on posts. It is a remarkable fact, that since the first telegraphic line was established, twenty years ago, wolves have never appeared in its neighborhood.

INDIANS THAT SEEM FIRE-PROOF.

Peculiarities of the "Hashkawn" Dance of the Navajoes—A Strange Scene.

[Denver Letter.]

Mr. John B. Sweet, who has recently been traveling in New Mexico and Arizona, gives an interesting and graphic sketch of the "Hashkawn Dance," which he had witnessed at one of the Navajo agencies. It took place in a large corral or inclosure of an irregularly circular form, about forty paces in diameter. Its fence, about eight feet high, was constricted of fresh juniper and pinon boughs. In the center was a conical pile of dry wood, about thirteen feet high, which was to make the great central fire. Around this, a few feet from the fence, a dozen smaller fires were burning for the comfort and convenience of the spectators, who numbered about 500 men, women and children, gathered here from the various parts of the Navajo country.

The fire dance was the most picturesque and startling of all. Some time before the dancers entered I heard strange sounds mingled with the blowing of the buffalo horn. The sounds were much like the call of the sand hill crane, and may perhaps be properly called "trumpeting," and they were made by the dancers constantly during the exercises. The noises continued to grow louder and come nearer, until we heard them at the opening in the east, and in a moment after men having no more clothing on than a breech-clout entered. Every man bore a long, thick bundle of shredded cedar bark in each hand, except the leader, who carried four smaller fagots of the same material. Four times they all danced around the fire, waving their bundles of bark toward the flame; then they halted in the east; the leader advanced toward the central fire, lit one of his little fagots, and, trumpeting loudly, threw it over the fence of the coral in the east. He performed a similar act at the south, the west, and the north, but before the northern brand was thrown he lit with it the fagots of his comrades. As each brand disappeared over the fence, some of the spectators blew into their hands, and made a motion as if tossing some substance after the departing flame.

When the fagots were all lit, the whole band began a wild race around the fire. At first they kept close together and spat upon one another some substance of supposed medicinal virtue. Soon they scattered and ran, apparently without concert, the rapid racing causing the brands to throw out from their centers streams of flame over the naked hands and arms of the dancers. They then proceeded to apply the brands to their own nude bodies, and the bodies of their comrades in front of them—no man ever once turning around. At times the dancer struck the victim vigorous blows with his flaming wand; again he seized the flame as if it were a sponge, and, creeping close to the one pursued, rubbed the back of the latter for several moments as if he were bathing him. In the meantime, the sufferer would catch up with some one in front of him, and in turn bathe him in flame. At times when a dancer found no one in front of him, he proceeded to "sponge" his own back, and might keep this up while making two or three circuits around the fire, or until the dancer behind some one else.

At each application of the blaze the loud trumpeting was heard, and it often seemed as if a flock of a hundred cranes were winging their way overhead, southward through the darkness. If a brand became extinguished, it was lit again in the central fire, but when it was so far consumed as to be no longer held conveniently in the hand, the dancer dropped it and rushed trumpeting out of the corral. Thus one by one they all departed, and the spectators stepped into the arena, picked up the fascicles of the fallen fragments of bark, lit them and bathed their hands in the flames as a charm against the evil effects of fire.

"Were they not blistered?" asked the reporter.

"They were not hurt in the least," was the answer. "I believe they were protected by a coating of earth or clay paint. That, however, did not make the effect any less strange. I have beheld many fire scenes on the stage, many acts of fire-eating and fire-handling by civilized jugglers, and many fire dances by other Indian tribes, but nothing quite comparable to this. The scenic accessories were unique. Demons accurging lost souls with the eternal fire could scarcely be pictured to look more awful."

Food and Sleep.

[The Arzonaut.]

Dr. R. M. Hodges once read a paper before the Boston Society for Medical Improvement, in which he touched on this question upon which doctors disagree and said: "It is a common impression that to take food immediately before going to bed and to sleep is unwise. Such a suggestion is answered by a reminder that the instinct of animals prompts them to sleep as soon as they have eaten, and in summer an after-dinner nap, especially when that meal is taken at midday, is a luxury indulged in by many. If the ordinary hour of the evening meal is 6 or 7 o'clock, and of the first morning meal 7 or 8 o'clock, an interval of twelve hours, more or less, elapses without food, and for persons whose nutrition is at fault this is altogether too long a period for fasting.

"That such an interval without food is permitted explains many a restless night, and much of the head and backache, and the languid-half-rested condition on rising, which is accompanied by no appetite for breakfast. This meal itself often aggravates these sensations. It is, therefore, desirable, if not essential, when nutriment is to be crowded, that the last thing before going to bed should be the taking of food. Sleeplessness is often caused by starvation, and a tumbler of milk, if drunk in the middle of the night, will often put people to sleep when hypnotics would fail of their purpose. Food before rising is an equally important expedient. It supplies strength for bathing and dressing, laborious and wearisome tasks for the underfed, and is a better morning 'pick-me-up' than any 'tonic.'"

Gen. Putnam's "Wolf" Cave.

[Chicago Times.]

The cave out of which Israel Putnam dragged the wolf is seldom visited because it is in a stony, mountainous forest, in a remote corner of Connecticut. A picnic party recently made the tedious trip, which involved several miles of rough walking. There are pictures in primers of Putnam entering the cave erect, with a blazing torch held above his head. The hole is really so small that it can only be explored on hands and knees, and an adult can not turn around in it. The length is 300 feet, and tradition says that the hero followed the beast to the further end, shot him between the eyes by their own glow, and then was drawn out with him by means of a rope.

Shakespeare's Cousin's Diary.

[Chicago Herald.]

The immediate publication of the manuscript diary of Shakes eare's cousin, the town clerk of Stratford-on-Avon, is announced. The volume will consist of autotypes of the folio pages of the manuscript and a transcript by experts of the British museum. The diary extends from 1613 to 1616—the years of Shakespeare's residence at Stratford previous to his death on the 5th of May (April 23 o. s.) of the latter year. From beginning to end it is a record of the attempts made to inclose, and of the resistance offered to the inclosure of the common fields of Stratford, in which Shakespeare was interested.

Street Car Travel in Scotland.

[Chicago Journal.]

In many towns in Scotland where street railroads are in operation, instead of charging a stated fare from which there is no deviation on account of the distance the passenger travels, the car routes are laid off into districts. When a man gets on a car he pays 1 penny, which takes him to the end of that district; then the conductor collects another penny, and continuing at each new district until the terminus of the line is reached. By this means a passenger only pays for the distance he rides, and is thus encouraged to enter the car when he has but a short distance to go.

Diplomacy in English.

[Chicago Times.]

The English language has had a wonderful experience lately. The negotiations between the Chinese and Japanese with regard to Corea was conducted wholly in English, because there was in English an ample vocabulary of clear and definite diplomatic terms which were possessed by neither the Chinese nor the Japanese.

An Old Banknote.

The museum at St. Petersburg has a banknote, probably the oldest in existence. It is of the Imperial bank of China, was issued by the Chinese government, and dates from the year 1399 B. C.

Twelve Tons of Plates.

["Halston" in New York Times.]

I sat in the office of a leading electrotyping and stereotyping firm the other day and enjoyed a conversation with one of the proprietors that proved exceedingly entertaining. His business was the text. In the midst of our chat a messenger brought him a letter from a well-known publisher. It was brief, saying simply that "twelve tons of old plates" were ready to be melted. I asked some questions. This is what he told me: "Since the beginning of this year I have melted over fifty tons of plates for this firm—electrotype plates of books which this firm has been publishing. Some curious things come out in an examination of the plates that are thus destroyed. I have had curiosity enough to look over the larger part of the mass that has gone into the pot.

"The publishing house is an old one, and its publications cover a wide scope from text books to novels. In the list of plates to be melted the biggest share by long odds is composed of novels, and, though the house has been printing novels for years, I find that the books condemned, the plates for which no further use can be found, are almost wholly those of most recent date. You may think this explicable on the theory that plates of previous date are already out of the way; a little investigation shows me that this is not so to such an extent as might be imagined. A plate of a page of the ordinary novel will weigh from a pound to a pound and a half; the entire make up of a whole volume will average 400 pounds, and the fifty tons that have been melted represent over 200 books for which the publisher finds no further use; this additional twelve tons send fifty or sixty more to oblivion. Rather sad, isn't it, for the hopes and dreams of your aspiring scribblers?

"Out of the two hundred and odd volumes already thrown overboard by this house this year fully four-fifths bear imprints of dates since 1876. Now, while destroying these more recent books, this publishing house has stored away over 300 tons of other plates of work precisely similar to this that is put out of the way."

Observations Concerning Gray Hairs.

[Medical and Surgical Reporter.]

Many persons begin to show gray hairs while they are yet in their twenties, and some while in their teens. This does not by any means argue a premature decay of the constitution. It is purely a local phenomenon and may co-exist with unusual bodily vigor. Many feeble persons, and others who have suffered extremely both mentally and physically do not blanch a hair until past middle life; while others, without assignable cause, lose their capillary coloring matter rapidly when about 40 years of age.

Race has a marked influence. The traveler Dr. Orbigny says that in many years he spent in South America he never saw a bald Indian, and very rarely saw a gray haired one. The negroes turn more slowly than the whites. Yet we know a negress of pure blood, about 35 years old, who is quite gray.

In this country, sex appears to make little difference. Men and women grow gray about the same period of life. In men the hair and beard rarely change equally. The one is usually darker than the other for several years, but there seems no general rule as to which whitens the first. The spot where grayness begins differs with the individual. The philosopher Schopenhauer began to turn gray on the temples, and complacently framed a theory that this is an indication of vigorous mental activity.

The correlation of gray hair, as well as its causes, deserve more attentive study than they have received. Such a change is undoubtedly indicative of some deep-seated physiological process, but what this is we can only ascertain by a much wider series of observations than have yet been submitted to scientific analysis.

The Violinist of the Future.

[Demorest's Monthly.]

Of course the human voice is the best interpreter of music, for no instrument or the combination of instruments known as an orchestra will ever equal the vocal organs of man or woman in expressing the melodies, harmonies, and emotions of that most precious and inspiring of all the arts. The one instrument that comes nearest the voice in its ability to interpret musical expression is not the piano but the violin. The piano after all is only an improved harp, while the violin more nearly imitates the sounds produced by the vocal chords. Heretofore young girls have spent laborious years in learning how to play the piano, an accomplishment difficult to acquire and requiring incessant practice to retain proficiency.

But there has been a change lately that threatens to make the violin as popular among women as the piano has been. Tens of thousands of girls are now learning how to finger the bow. The mastery of the violin is easier to acquire than that of the piano and does not require so much strength of hand and wrist. The delicate fingering it involves is just what girls can easily learn. It is no novelty for women to play on instruments of this kind, for the painters of the middle ages represented the angels as playing on viols as well as harps.

Aristocratic Custom Doesn't Pay.

[New York Cor. Buffalo Express.]

"It may surprise you to be told," said an old hotel clerk, to whom I had remarked that probably Garmoyle's presence as guest was a good thing for the Brunswick, "that the patronage of foreign aristocrats is a damage. Fifteen years ago nearly every titled foreigner who came here put up at the Clarendon, now demolished. That house had for a while the exclusive favor of such tourists. It bankrupted its keepers. Ten years ago the Brevoort got this run of business and held it until lately; and the proprietor is a bankrupt. The Hotel Brunswick succeeded to the business of feeding and lodging the aristocrats, and the concern has been in the hands of a receiver for a month. The reason is quite simple. The guests demand the very best but are not willing to spend money freely enough to make a profit for the landlord. In short they want the fare of Americans without paying as Americans do. Their presence has ruined every hotel which has had it in this city."

Fire-Trap Hotels.

Fire-trap hotels are discussed in The American Architect, which suggests that "it might not be a wholly bad plan to authorize building inspectors to advertise such places in the daily papers continuously as notoriously unsafe. Almost anything would be better than the cruel destruction of life and property that goes on year after year almost unchecked."

Garlic.

Garlic among the Greeks was held in such abhorrence that any person who partook of it were regarded aggrofane. The Romans, on the contrary, gave it to their soldiers, with the idea that it excited their courage, and to laborers to strengthen them.

A Mammoth Cheese.

[London Agricultural Gazette.]

By the City of Berlin, which arrived at Liverpool last week, Mr. Thomas J. Lipton received a consignment of a cheese of extraordinary dimensions. It weighs nearly less than 2,900 pounds; and there are two others from the same dairy, now due on the Oliyde by the Anchor steamer Anchoria, which together weigh fully 6,000 pounds.

These monster cheeses are said to be the largest in the world at the present moment, and were made by Dr. L. L. Wright of Whitesborough, New York state. Six days' milk of 1,200 cows was required to make the three cheeses. Only a few days previously, Mr. Lipton received four smaller cheeses, each weighing over 1,100 pounds. They were made by the Cloverfield Cheese Factory company, one of the best known factories in America.

Right in Season.

[Philadelphia Call.]

Book Agent—This is a regular swindle. I've walked twenty-two blocks at full speed this morning to get here early, because you advertised a new publication just suited to the season, and here you have nothing to offer but a fresh lot of big family Bibles.

Subscription Book Dealer—I can't see what you are finding fault with.

"Why, I supposed, of course, you had a new campaign book of some kind. What do you mean by advertising a publication just suited to the season, when you have only Bibles?"

"Mean? Why, I mean the fern-pressing season, of course."

Anti-Rust Rails Needed.

An anti-rust rail will become a necessity if electric railways ever come into general use. It was demonstrated at the recent forestry exhibition in Edinburgh that the electric railway there would not work on rusty rails.

BLACKMAIL.

Sensational Scene in a British Court of Justice.

LONDON, Nov. 21.—At the Marlborough Police Court to-day Viscount Clifden charged Charles Mollison, recently game keeper on his Kilkenny estates, with attempting to extort from him the sum of £500. It appears that the Viscount discharged the prisoner, who thereupon sent him a registered letter accusing him of having committed on several occasions the foulest of crimes. He further threatened that he would at once bring criminal action against Lord Clifden unless the latter forthwith remitted him £500. Lord Clifden in his evidence made a vigorous denial of the accusations contained in the letter. The prisoner on hearing this became greatly excited, and insisted that every accusation which he had made was true. When he was fully committed for trial by the magistrate and about to be led from the dock he pointed at Viscount Clifden and shouted: "Villain, you ought to accompany me to prison." Lord Clifden is only 22 years of age. The prisoner is 50. Society, in which Lord Clifden occupies a high position, is excited over the case and sympathizes deeply with the young peer, who it is generally believed is a victim of a conspiracy.

Forty years' experience, in every clime on earth, has proved Ayer's Cherry Pectoral to be the most reliable remedy for colds, coughs, and all lung diseases. Neglected colds often become incurable ailments. Deal with them in time, and prevent their becoming deep seated in the system. dw.

FAMILY MARKET REPORT.

SATURDAY MORNING, Dec. 5.

BUTTER—Choice Island, 50c ℔ lb; Island Roll, 15c; New Grass Cal., $1 ℔ roll; White Clover, 55c; Canadian Reg. 30c
CHEESE—Canadian, 25c. ℔lb.; Cala., 25c.; Eastern Cream, 30c; B.C., 25c.
EGGS—Fresh Island, 62½c ℔doz.; Sound, 50c.
CORNMEAL—50c ℔sack of 10lbs.
OATMEAL—62½c ℔ sack of 10lbs.
FLOUR—Extra, $5 50 ℔ brl.; $1 50 ℔sack; Superfine $5 ℔brl.
WHEAT—2½c.℔lb.
BEANS—Lima, 8c.℔lb.; Small White and Bayou, 6c
SPLIT PEAS—12½c.℔lb.
VEGETABLES—Potatoes, 1½c. ℔ lb; sweet 4c. ℔ lb; Onions, 2c.℔lb.; Cabbage, 2c. ℔ doz.; Beets, 2c.℔lb.; Rhubarb, —℔lb.; Lettuce, 25c. ℔doz; Cauliflower, $1 00 ℔doz.; Asparagus, —c—℔lb.; Radishes, 50c.℔doz bunches; Squash, 3c. ℔lb.; Turnips, 2c. ℔ lb.; Green Peas, —c ℔ lb. String Beans, —c; Cucumbers 50c. ℔ doz.; Cabbage, 1½c.℔lb.; Tomatoes, 12½c.℔lb.; Green Ochra, —c℔lb.; Chili Pepper, 20c.℔lb.; Green Corn, —c℔doz.; Dry Squash, 2c.℔lb.
HAMS—Home Cured, 20c. ℔lb.; Chicago, 20c.; Oregon, 20c; Shoulders, 18c.
BACON—Breakfast, 18½c.℔lb.
LARD—20c.℔lb.
FISH—Cod, 6c. ℔ lb.; Salmon 12½c ℔ lb.; Boneless Cod, 10c.; Soles, 10c.; Halibut 12½c; Yarmouth Bloaters, 25c. ℔ doz.; Sal. Bellies, 3 for 50c; Herring 3c.; Flounder, 6c.; Smoked Oolachans or Salmon, 15c.; Smelt, 8c.; Sturgeon, 6c; Whiting, 7c.; Shrimp, 50c.; Salt Oolachans, 6c.; Crabs, 75 cts. ℔ dozen; Smoked Herring, 12½c.℔lb; Salmon Trout, 8c; Oolachans, 8℔lb.; Spanish Mackerel, —
CANNED SALMON—1lb tins, per doz., $2.
FRUIT—Lemons, 50@75c℔dz.; Oranges, 50@75c℔dz.; Limes, 50c ℔ doz.; Apples, 5c.℔lb.; Cranberries, 50c ℔ gal.; Quinces, 6c. ℔ lb.; Pears, 5c; Grapes, 25c; Bananas, 50c℔doz; Cocoanuts, 12½c ea.; Cherries, —c ℔ lb.; Apricots, —c℔lb.; Strawberries, —c; Gooseberries, —c℔lb.; Raspberries, —c.℔lb.; Plums 6c℔lb.; Peaches, —c; Pineapples, $1 ea Watermelons, 75c. each; Muskmelons, 25c
CANDIED FRUITS—Lemon, 50c.℔lb.; Mixed, 50c
CURRANTS—Zante, 15@16c.℔lb.
RAISINS—English layers, 50c ℔ lb.; Cala., 25c Sultana, Valencia and Eleme 25c.
FIGS—New, 2½@50c.℔lb.
MIXED SPICES—25c.℔lb.
STARCH—6½ per ℔box; 25c per lb.
TEA & COFFEE—Coffee, ground, 50c. ℔ lb; green, 25c.℔lb; Tea, Iron 75c. to $1 25 ℔ lb.
SUGARS—Crushed or Cubes, 12½c; Granulated or No. 1, 8½c. for $1; D or No. 2, 9½c. for $1.
NUTS—Eng. Walnuts, 20c.℔lb; Cocoanuts, 12½ea; Almonds—Paper Shell, 37½c.; Jordan, 75c Brazil, 37½c. Chestnuts, 37½c.
ROLLED SPICED BEEF—12½c. ℔ lb.; Ox Tongues 75c. ea.; Smoked Tongues, $1 ea.
BEEF—Choice Cuts, 12½c.℔lb; other cuts, 10c; Soup meat, 5c.
MUTTON—Choice Joints, 12½c.℔lb; Stewing meat 5c.
PORK—12½c.℔lb.
VEAL—12½c.℔lb.
LAMB—$1.25 per quarter.
SAUSAGES—15@18c. ℔lb.
SUET—10c.℔lb.
SUCKING PIGS—$2.50@3.00 ea.
DUCKS—Tame, 8 ea; Wild, 75c ℔ pr.
CHICKENS—Spring Chickens, 50@37 ½ doz.
TURKEYS—37½c. ℔lb.
GEESE—Tame, $2 50 ea.
COAL OIL—62 ½ ℔ tin; ℔ case, $8 75.
OYSTERS—75c. ℔ quart; Canned, 37½c℔can.
HAY—$15 per ton.
OATS—1½c.℔lb.
MIDDLINGS—2c.℔lb.
BRAN—1½c.℔lb.
GROUSE—Willow, 75c ℔ pr; Blue, $1.
PHEASANTS—Mongolian, 10@12½c℔lb.
KIPPERED SALMON—12½c℔lb.

CAUTION.

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