

## POT-POURRI.

Miss Shillaber, a daughter of the famous humorist, P. B. Shillaber, gives this account of how her father came to sign himself "Mrs. Partington":

"My father had always been delighted with Sydney Smith's description of a 'Mrs. Partington' mopping back the Atlantic with a broom, and her name just then occurring to him, he chronicled a rise in breadstuffs thus: 'Mrs. Partington says the price of flour makes no difference to her, as she always pays the same for half a dollar's worth.'"

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The Guelph Co-operative Association, Limited, held its first half-yearly meeting for 1909, recently. The total sales of the Association amounted to \$29,795, an advance of \$2,815 over the preceding half year. The profits amounted to \$1,043, after paying interest on loans. A dividend of five per cent to shareholders and two and a-half per cent to non-shareholders was paid. Profits were reduced by the fact that meat cost 2½ cents per pound more than when the butchery department was started, and that the selling price had not been advanced. The net profit on share capital was 56 p. c. The Association has added coal to the commodities dealt with, the price charged being \$6.20 per ton. The City bought its coal from the Society. The Association is also starting two new departments, namely, graniteware and crockery. In less than 2½ years the Society has paid in dividends and interest on shares over \$4,700 on a share capital of \$3,690. The Society has a reserve fund of \$2,000, and a surplus of \$457 at profit and loss.

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A professor at a well-known engineering college says that but for occasional innovations in the application of learning, such as the following, he would find it hard to judge the extent of his usefulness.

This question was asked upon an examination-paper: 'What steps would you take in determining the height of a building, using an aneroid barometer?'

The answer was: 'I would lower the barometer by a string, and measure the string.'

## Personal.

### Appointments.

Mr. Artemas Lord has been appointed Inspector of Lights and Superintendent of Life Saving Service for the province of Prince Edward Island.

### Transfers.

Customs Department:—G. A. McHaffie has been transferred from the Inside to the Outside service.

### Promotions.

Interior Department:—S. J. Willoughby, A. R. Morrisset, F. W. C. Cumming, F. C. Blais, E. F. Drake and A. Pinard, from 2B to 2A.

Inland Revenue Department:—E. O. Way, from 3B to 3A.

Audit Department:—Miss J. Herron, Miss L. R. Living, Miss S. E. Steeves, Miss E. L. Inglis, Miss F. Brook, Miss M. Daly, Miss T. Darcy, Miss F. J. Halkett, Miss F. Loverin, Miss J. G. M. Lour, Miss E. M. Snow, Miss S. E. Turnbull, Miss M. C. Teoy, Miss Wright, Miss M. H. Sullivan, from 3B to 3A.

Indian Department:—J. W. Steone, G. M. Mathesous, G. L. Chitty, R. B. E. Moffat, R. M. Ogilvie, P. J. O'Connor, S. W. Hobart from 2B to 2A. R. G. Orr, from 3B to 3A.

### Superannuations.

Mr. Thomas Foster, Collector of Customs, Brantford Ont., will retire on superannuation on January 1st, 1910.

Col. F. Toller, Comptroller of the Currency, Finance Department, will retire on superannuation on January 1st, 1910.

A. G. D. Taylor, Chief Clerk of English Journals, House of Commons, will retire on superannuation on January 1st, 1910.

### Resignations.

Interior Department:—M. J. McLaughlin has resigned from Dec. 15th.

Customs Department:—D. J. O'Donoghoe and Miss H. E. Scott have resigned from Dec. 31st, 1909.

### Deaths.

Walter Dickey, a superannuated official of the Customs, Toronto, died on Nov. 28th.

Edward Gordon, a superannuated official of the Railway Mail Service, Ottawa district, died on Nov. 19th.

R. E. Hardy, a superannuated official of the Rideau Canal staff, died on Dec. 5th.

George Andrews of the Government Printing Bureau died Nov. 30th, 1909.