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THE MINERALS OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Dr. R. W. Ells of the Dominion Geolegical Survey embodies the result of considerable study and exploration in this province in an interesting and informstive pamphlet on "The Geological and Mineral Resources of New Bruns wick," recently issued by the Department of Mines. Dealing with his subject in exhaustive detail, Dr. Ells takes up separately each mineral discovered in New Brunswick and the practical outcome and possibilities of the various attempts at mining. And his conclusions are not so comforting as the scientific but more optimistic, and perhaps more interested, students of the same subject.

Up to date, he points out, actually profitable mining has been confined to the non-metallic minerals comprising the coal, gypsum, building-stone, shale deposits, clay, etc. In most cases he delieves that these industries can be largely developed under proper attenon to business requirements, and worked at a profit. As to the ore-deposits proper he has but little to say in their favor. Large sums of money have been spent in futile attempts to develop certain of these, much of which it is only fair to say might have been avoided and a proper examination of the territory by competent and disinterested persons been made. Of these large expenditures it is safe to say that only a very small proportion has been returned to the investors.

In the copper industry he points out that all attempts at mining have been disastrous, owing principally to the small amount of the mineral itself in all the occurrences as yet known, and to the broken nature of the deposits, since although there have been a number of occurrences of good ore, in no case have these been sufficiently extensive to make profitable returns on investment. The silver and galena ores are too poor in silver to render its extraction profitable, especially in view of the small size of the lead veins. The manganese ores were for some years worked profitably owing to the finding of large pockety masses of excellent quality, but of these the largest de posits and those of the highest grade, have long been exhausted apparently, or at least but small attempts have been made to find a further continuance of the same, while the uncertain pockety nature of the occurrence renders more difficult its profitable exploitation.

The new discoveries in iron, however, appear to Dr. Ells to indicate a profitable field for investigation if the cost of transportation is not excessive. As regards the bituminous shale industry and the associated albertite he finds a promising field for the investment of capital skilfully applied.

Aside from the iron ore deposits, the value of which has not yet been fullly led but which promise well particularly on the North Shore, Dr. Ells believes that in the development of its present coal areas and the probcovery of new mines, lies the richest of New Brunswick's mineral wealth. The Minto coal, carefully mined, is, he says, "of excellent quality, clean and bright, and furnishes a fuel for either donestic or steam purpose qual to any obtained from the Nova tia mines." The principal seam of this field extends over a wide area and vidence of recurrence at various places throughout the province, not bly in Westmorland county, conses Dr. Ells that "In view of a further possible development of the coal industry in this province it is advisable that a systematic series of borings at well selected points should be made, as was recommended some thirty years ago, but only partially carried out. For while," he says, "there is no likelihood of finding large seams like those of Nova Scotia, judging from the results obtained from the borings made at widely separated points, it is quite possible, with judiagement, to obtain an output of some thousands of tons of excellent fuel, which in view of the railway con uction now contemplated, should be meet fairly well all local demands, both for locomotive and domestic consumption, as well as for the several factories located in St. John and Fredericton, which now consume large quanties of the slack or screened soal, as also of the run of mines out-

The advice Dr. Ells gives on this point might well be given more extended application. While traces, mosty unprofitable, of almost every mineral, including gold, have been discovered in New Brunswick, only a small portion of the province been carefully prospected and much of it has hardly been explored at all.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT That at least one-fifth of the punishments inflicted for indictable offenses in this country are wasted, that is, are tacking in any curative or deterrent effects, is the conclusion drawn from the criminal statistics by Mr. William Trant, the police magistrate of Regina, in an article on the treatment of criminals, which he contributes to the current issue of the University Magazine. That is to say, nearly twelve per cent. of the convictions are for the second time, and nine per cent are habitual

Yet Canada's treatment of its crimhals is probably the best in the world. Dwenty years ago Major Arthur Grifths, inspector of British prisons, writof prison discipline in every civilzed country, declared that the prison to any other country. Since then the deep enough to force decision for reaprison system of Canada has not gone son's or conscience' sake and to give sokward: on the contrary, it has ad- each partisan a personal, vital interest vanced steadily, and that the tribute in the fight. paid by Major Griffiths continues to be

that General Booth is to be permitted luct a Canadian jail according to the reclamation methods with which But clearly there is room for much

Mr. Trant, at the outset of his artile, points out that the progress of reorm in the treatment of criminals is retributive punishment, satisaction of ready—or very soon. ustice, example or warning to society, and reformation of the criminal. Retributive punishment is, after all, but ways and byways, of rates and taxes-another name for vengeance. Satisfac- and these are collected indirectly s tion to justice is found, upon analysis, to amount to the same thing. As to Trant argues from the abolition long be the basis of the best argument for ago of gibbeting, public executions, and a closer Ganadian association with Imeven the pillory and stocks, that it perial politics, for some such measur cial effect. It may be here noted that Mr. Trant does not touch at all upon the question of capital punishment,

confining himself to the discussion of prison methods, suspended sentences and kindred matters. Condensing into a sentence the introductory portion of hopeful predictions set forth by less the article, which shows throughout a great grasp of the whole subject, it international in their scope and conmay be said that he disposes of the taining possibilities of growth or defirst three of the above-mentioned cay, peace or war, vital to his perfour objects of punishment, and leaves sonal welfare only the fourth, the reformation of the culprit. Punishment, he says with truth, should reform, not ruin. Reformation is the best deterrent. As Sir Robert Anderson, late assistant comnissioner of the Metropolitan Police of London, and a high authority on these matters, has written, "the punishmentof-crime system is giving way," and

further, "I denounce it as both false

and mischievous." These are weighty words, coming from such an authority The most valuable portion of Mr Trant's article, which is valuable throughout, is that in which he deals with the question of the treatment of juvenile offenders. No child ought ever to see the inside of a jail; Mr. Trant goes farther, and says that no child ought to see the inside of a police court. He speaks of Judge Lindsay's juvenile court in Denver, which is held privately, in a parlor, and has in connection a detention school. Recent Dominion statutes, in establishing courts for juveniles, and a statute passed at the last session of the Saskatchewan legislature, on the lines of the Manitoba legislation, authorizing the establishment of associations to

deal with juvenile criminals, are steps in the right direction. The conclusions of Mr. Trant's article are that there should be no intercommunication between prisoners without supervision; that during the period between commitment and trial prisoner ought not to be subjected to further restraint than to prevent escape or the hiding of the proofs of guilt; that sentences inflicted should be with a view to reformation—suspended sentences, under proper safeguards, for first offenses of the ordinary or common kind, and for other ofenses indeterminate sentences, or probation, or the parole system, or something of the nature of all three combined; that those addicted to revolting crimes of a brutal nature should, for the safety of society, be kept in close confinement for life; and that no juvenile should be sent to jail, or be made to appear in a criminal court, or be handled by the police. Important as these considerations are, they barely ich upon the all-important question of the prevention of crime by dealing with immoral and degraded parents. Recent legislation introduced in the British House of Commons by Mr. Gladstone, the home secretary, adopting the system of indeterminate senences as a bar principle, in the direction of dealing with this

problem.

THE CURE FOR BAD POLITICS A clear-sighted writer, discussing, in The Canadian Courier, the problem of electoral corruption, pointing out that lost of the money spent illegally in elections is not devoted to the purchase of votes but rather to the payment "for their time" of voters, Liberal and Conservative, who could not be bribed to vote against their party but without some inducement would refuse to vote at all, comes to the conclusion that "the sole cure for corrupt politics is politics dominated by issues."

"If," he contends, "we can give that man who wants pay for his time an issue in which he is profoundly concerned, he will be on hand to vote without pay, and will walk all the way if necessary. So long as it makes no difference to him which party wins, he can supply about his duty as a citizen and the blood-bought privileges of his half-day away from work is the loss of a half-day's pay or profit; and that is a real issue he can understand. When the politicians give us live issues which awaken public interest, the sphere of influence of the briber will

contract painfully-to him" It is the common-place excuse for the apparent failure of our election lawsstringent enough in themselves-to do away with political corruption, to say that public opinion is to blame and hence that the real remedy lies in education. And this is true in a large measure. But it is sure that so long as the Canadian people look upon politics as a game between ins and outsas they must look upon it today-so long as there stands between the parties no dominant issue which touches the hearts-or the pockets-of the average elector, just so long will the masses retain their present indifference to the manner in which the game is played. The public conscience demands rectifude in social and business ent. And it is different because today in this country politics means so little, except to those intimately and profit-

life, but in politics—Oh, that's differably interested. In England and even in the United States one hears little of the bribery evil; and we refuse to believe that the English or the American people are a whit more moral in their ideas and behavior than Canadians. system of Canada was advanced and In England particularly the dividing But their politics means something. alightened, a tribute he did not pay line between the parties is definite and

eserved is beyond question. As an in- adian politics needs live issues and But it is one thing to say that Canregard, it may be mentioned that long as a government keeps on the only the other day it was announced right or the popular side of every

public question as it arises—as the faculty of doing and continues to ho the popular imagination with its plan for the future, what is a hapless opposition to do? It might, of course, take the wrong side of a large nationa question just for the sake of getting interested, but it is not likely to do s till hampered by the old ideas of the and if it takes the right side, it gen purfold object of punishment, namely, eraily finds the government there alaffairs are at the best but enlarge municipal affairs—matters of high and these are collected indirectly so that the people do not notice a per-

to amount to the same thing. As to sonal drain.

the force or example of warning, Mr. This has long seemed to The Sun to cannot be contended that the display of Imperial federation as will lift the of punishment has ever had a benefiparochial round; give him larger things to think about than the poculations of a minor departmental official, or the scandalous whispers regarding a politician's character; bring him into touch with world politics and plans, demanding far vision of the future and involving responsibilities

FOR BETTER ACQUAINTANCE

Columbia and consider at first hand its claim for "better terms," The Victoria Colonist makes the admirable suggestion that the several premiers should, of their own motion, join a transcontinental tour, to teach and to earn. "Let it be begun at Sydney, Cape Breton, and ended at Dawson," says The Colonist. "Let each province within its borders and the Dominion pay the bills for the Yukon. For such occasion let politics be laid aside, and let the premiers address public gatherings upon Canada as a whole, each man in turn dealing with his own province in particular. What an inspiring tour it would be! It would promote good-fellowship between the peoconcentrate public attention and give us all a better idea of the greatness of our common country. The press would chranicle the movements of the party, and the complete story of the tour would be a book of the greatest value." On its face the scheme is a fine one. We know too little of each other, we Canadians. Between the Maritime and the Western Provinces there is a gulf of nearly a week's time fixed, barricaded with prohibitive telegraph tolls. The hand to hand touch that makes for national solidarity is difficult. It is impossible for most individuals to examine the country personally, and the press of each district can districts far remote. But here is a plan to establish a travelling bureau of information and acquaintance and good will, a plan worth consideringso was Mr. Borden's provincial preits unpleasant failure is painfully relement of party politics; but perhaps would be wise to wait until the East has forgotten Mr. Roblin and Mr. Bowser and until Quebec and Ontario have forgotten Mr. Hazen.

---AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Writing to the Maritime Farmer, Mr. Irvine H. T. Dunfield of Portage, Kings County, calls the attention of other young New Brunswick farmers to the large advantages to be gained through the courses provided at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, at can be learned." He, personally, has profited and he believes others who go vill profit. Admitting that many successful farmers have never had the advantage of scientific training, he points with as the farmers of today. Take that the fight against them started up. Also, he says "we learn to elevate our calling, to show that there is plenty of will be careless whether he votes or brain power a man may possess and some arrangement with the New Hanot. All the academic lecturing we to point out how farming operations may be improved and conducted to the best advantage to the tiller of the soil. day for the West. franchise passes over his head. A I am not a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I believe that great things are going to be accomplished along agricultural lines in Maritime Canada as the years go by."

We commend this appreciation of every agricultural reader of The Sun, actual capital invested in United believing it to be just and wellgrounded. Excellent work is being done there under the able instruction of Professor Cumming-work which This startling fact, together with the invites the authorities of this province to hearty co-operation, rather than to such competition as Hon. Mr. Flemming York and Boston, is fraught with poshas recently proposed. There is too much educational rivalry already in these small provinces whose interests are so closely knit and if it is at all possible to arrange a fair scheme of to ambitious Canadian Atlantic ports. maritime co-operation in this important department of technical instruction it would seem far preferable to follow this course and lay the foundations for a great Maritime technical school than to continue the disintegrating policy dictated by petty prov-inclai pride and jealousy. Already, we are glad to note, the New Brunswick sovernment has gone

so far in this direction as to offer free transportation to any young men in this province who desire to avail themselves of the short winter courses which open at Truro next month. Particulars of this offer may be obtained by writing to the Deputy Commissioner for Agriculture at Fredericton In the interests of New Brunswick it is to be hoped that many will take advantage of the opportunity.



THE CENTRAL INQUIRY The Central Railway inquiry drawing to a very flat, stale and un-profitable close—that is, for its origi-nators and its conductors. Decidedly It has not come up to advertise Not only have the promised sensations failed to materialize but even ordinary news interest has been lacking throughout the most of the proceed-

This, however, is no discredit to Mr. Powell's energy and professional abil-ity. He did his worst to earn that \$50 er day, and but for his wire drawn aferences and elaborate insinuations the failure of the inquiry to accom-plish its mission would have been even more prenounced. But for him the Conservative press could have dragged ary a headline out of the whole dull business. But for aim there would have been no "W. P. \$5,000," no missing million, through its gradual reductions to haif a million, to a hundred housand, to thirty-rine thousand, and finally, after Dr. Pugsley's evidence on Thursday, to nothing which cannot be fully accounted for by unprejudiced nation of the necessarily incomlete and tangled records of a concern which has passed through so many changes; but for him none of these hysterical political accusations of offenses which, if actually committed, should have been the subject of crimnal action rather than of political conlroversy. No, it has not been Mr. Powell's fault. He had the purpose nd the personal capacity, but the Commenting on Premier McBride's facts were too strong for even his alert eported intention to invite the other and hone too scrupulous wit to twist provincial premiers to visit British into evidence in support of the campaign by which Mr. Hazen and his nen have endeavored to injure and weaken a man who, both in the provincial and federal field, has always proved himself too strong for them One by one the posts of suspicion and nsinuation upon which he has builded his house of scandal have been knocked away by evidence postponed as long bear the expense of the party while as was possible, longer than was decent, and then reluctantly admitted, until the whole structure is tumbling about his ears.

The people in general will be glad the nasty business is over and glad of the result. Only the most bitterly partisan like to believe ill of their public ple of the various provinces. It would their inspiration. Already the popular verdict has splendidly vindicated able impression. Dr. Pugsley against the envious spite of his enemies and the report of the Central Railway Commission can only velop a disconcerting and wholly unendorse the expression of public opin- sympathetic habit of cold and calcuion in this regard. Though the death lating evangelization. They demand of many prominent actors in this varied drama has necessarily made investigation difficult, the fact stands The scientific analysis of such anreasonably clear to unprejudiced men | nual phenomena whether in indithat the government of which Dr. Pugsley was a member acted sensibly ing results. and honorably and progressively in a cay, and that, considering all things, a public property. It is earnestly to an excellent plan, at first sight. But be hoped, now this affair is ended, that niers' tour a good plan in theory, and party political considerations for a while and get down to the practical ith regard to its development.

THE CP.R. IN THE STATES

Reports are current, and apparently well founded, of C. P. R. aggrandizement in the United States which compel the interested attention of all who are concerned in the Canadian policy of directing, as far as is possible, Canadian trade along Canadian channels. Not many weeks ago it was rumored that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company had secured access to Chicago and the Mississippi Valley, by the purchase of a railway which had Tiuro. Here, he says, "anything that line. Nothing very definite his since been heard confirmatory of the report, but there has been enough talk to indicate that at least there was some basis for the story, and it is not beyond the realms of possibility out that "the farmers of yesterday did has been also reported, upon apparent- the good judgment of the Common the insect pests, it is only of late years Maine Central lines, thus winning acinterest has been seecured in the the period of adjournment will not be cess to the port of Boston. Now the ination of the qualifications of appli-How to combat these pests, is one of latest report is that the Canadian Pa-cants. A close observer might be able cific has secured the entrance into to detect more than usual activity in New York city, and is arranging to the manipulation of the wires that run room in it for the exercise of all the the West. It appears to have made to every separate alderman by the City ven and Hartford, and has already been offered 250 tens of freight per Already the C. P. R. owns or controls an immense mileage of American and they will be influenced in many

-allowing, of course, for the subsidies probability of C. P. R. access to Chicago, and to the Atlantic ports of New sibility of important changes in Canadian transportation conditionschanges when may be particularly, and perhaps not too pleasantly, interesting

----PEACE AND GOOD WILL This season of peace and good will is an ironically appropriate time to recall general attention to the continually more urgent efforts of the Christian nations to provide themselves with the means for destroying each other. While the British government has under preparation a bill for the maintenance of the British fleet at a standard ten per cent. stronger than the combined fleets of any other two nations, the German government is preparing for a haval expenditure next year of within a few pounds of twenty millions sterling, fully three millions sterling more than in the current year, and six millions sterling more, than in 1907-8. For new construction and armaments the amount shows an increase of practically 2% millions sterling, the important items being: for ships, etc., seven millions; artillery, 34 millions; torpedoes, £413,-500; and mines, £750,000. Two Dread-

nought battleships are to be completed, the third and penultimate instal-ment is included for two more battlefor three battleships and another cruiser, making instalments for thirteen protected-deck cruisers, one gunboat, nly provided for fourteen "capital" ships, so that, with the United States he new estimates, the British admiralify know what they have to provide to maintain the two-power standard. There are other Items in the German votes which will require counteraction in the British estimates year. The Russian budget for 1909 is also published, and the total is appreaching ten millions sterling, the crease being £130,000. This in the sum for the completion of vessels already begun and small craft. The new destroyers are to cost £108,000 each, and the designated been increased from 25 to 30 knots; £30,000 is provided for three submarines. The programme for the pullding of a new fleet is independent, and negotiations with shipbuilders ar still in progress. The new constitutional party in Turkey is evolving a new naval construction scheme of considerable scope, which will rank with that of Spain, Argentina and China. The Minister of Marine of the French navy is also evolving a large programme; but the scheme, while significant, is not yet within the range of practical politics, so far as twopower standards are concerned. What is of importance is that all powers are ncreasing their naval expenditure, some of them in an almost alarming

THE CIRCULAR PROCESS OF CIVIC REFORM

degree. And to what end?

That the Common Council should inlulge in an annual period of penitence petrays on the part of the respective and successive members of that institution a keen appreciation of human nature. All the world is inclined to deal tenderly with the avowed penimen and cheerfully welcome their actent. Annual elections are inevitaby quittal of charges obviously political in | preceded by annual spasms of reform. It invariably creates a favor-

But the tears of the chronic penitent weary experienced saints. They desubsequent constructive activities worthy the periodic flow of emotion. viduals or institutions yields interest-

For instance, in the present case the most difficult matter; that but for Common Council has carefully and their vigor and enterprise this useful wisely limited its lament to the errors road would have fallen into useless de- and weaknesses of the various departments of civic administration. only chronicle the larger events of the particularly the present condition and There is a ready admission that things value of the line, the province got full are not as they should be. They note and fair return for every dollar spent with deep regret that the departin its construction and acquirement as mental machinery is complicated and antiquated. They propose with reckless disregard of consequences to anythe provincial government will dismiss one in the departments, to mend that state of affairs. With manifest and cent history. Of course this idea of business of administering the affairs wrong-doings and short-comings of when 945

partments.

And then annually we come to the period of reconstruction. It may be written in brief fashion though with nominal variation "Flanagan: off again, on again, Finnegan." No one has failed because every one is some one's friend. Every one must be well provided for, or someone will make a row. The Common Council as at present constituted can resolve to reform the method of administration, can compel every man in its employ to resign, tentatively—can adopt radical measures of revision-all this can be done; but when it comes to selecting a man to fill the newly created office, then the Common Council as at present constituted usually adjourns. The meaning of the adjournment is avowedly that they require time to investigate the qualification of the various applicants Certainly a plausible

Council, but we venture to believe that wholly spent in the exhaustive exam-Hall.

In all of which there is nothing esrallways, operating lines from Regina, instances by their personal needs. That via Minneapolis and St. Paul, to the is a constant factor in human nature. Soo and from Duluth to the Soo. These It is idle to dream of eliminating the tive and increasingly receptive coun-Nova Scotla's notable institution at Canadian company in the somewhat and always in and about every reprenew acquirements will place the wire-puller. He will always be with us try of Cuba. Without it the only remarkable position of having more sentative body. But if there is to be States railways than it has in Canada responsible government there must be in civic affairs anything approaching some way whereby the individual aldermen can be held responsible for the actions of the Council. The Council does everything, the aldermen do nothing. They hide their light under that bushel. The idea of a responsible ministry must be imported into our municipal government if the citizen is to be offered the opportunity of marking his ballot with discrimination. Under such an organization it would be possible for a responsible administrative group which might be called a Board of Control, to name an engineer not because he received or was the only one who could receive a majority vote of a contending council, but be-

cause his qualifications were of such a character that they could appeal to the people to sustain their decision. Under he present system the people may say who shall be in the Common Council, but they have no power to approve or disapprove the actions of the whole Council. By and by it will be manifest that reform must begin on the organization of the Council before the Council can

change in existing cnditions. Under the present system the accomplished wire-puller is the unquestionable boss

accomplish any distinct and radical

THE EARTHQUAKE The imagination of the average man who walks this solid Canadian ground

balks at comprehension of the signific ance of yesterday's terrible news from stricken Sicily and Calabria-a hundred ships and one Invincible cruiser, the thousand men and women and chilsecond instalment for three battleships aren crushed and ground into red and a cruiser, and the first instalment waste, cities engulfed, whole provinces laid in ruins and seeds sown of inevitable pestilence and starvation which 'capital' ships, in adition to six fast may reap more lives eventually than the earthquake itself. It is all on too and other craft. Britain, so far, has big a scale to be sympathetically realized by us well-fed, carefully guarded folk. In recorded history there ha suilding four, and including four in probably been no natural disaster exeeding this in its extent and ferocity of its destruction. Two or three, notably one at Yeddo, Japan, in 1703, and one at Pekin in 1731, are credited with larger death lists, but the records are not well authenticated. At any rate this earthquake holds the grim record for well on to 200 years. The scene of this tremendous catas-

trophe was in Calabria, the toe of the so called "boot" of Italy, and the Island of Sicily, separated therefrom by the narrow Straits of Messina. This locality has been for centuries a danger centre for volcanic disturbances. Calabria alone has suffered 30 destructive quakes during the past 300 years, in addition to innumerable minor disturbances. Stromboli and Etna are the two volcanoes of Sicily whose activities are most feared, for they are in the immediate vicinity of Calabria. Most of the surrounding islands are of volcanic origin, and a quake anywhere here affects the entire district.

It was only a little over a year ago, Oct. 24, 1907, to be exact, that the last destructive quake occurred. This, too was in Sicily and Calabria and wrecked several towns, destroyed churches in many more and was attended by loss of life that, fike all these disasters, can only be estimated, and it is believed that the estimates as a rule fall far short of the facts. In the quake of Oct. 24, 1907, in the commune of Ferrazzano alone, 100 lives were lost, and in scores of towns many were killed by falling buildings. The total death list was estimated at the time to be 700. The last great disaster before 1907 was on Sept. 8, 1905, when Vesuvius, Stromboli and Etna erupted in unison, creating seismographic disturbances felt in almost every part of the world. In the 7 to 40 seconds that that quake

lasted scores of villages in Calabria and Sicily were laid in ruins and upwards of 3,000 persons were killed. A partial list of the worst quakes in Italy, as computed by The Boston Her-

ald, is: September, 1186-In Calabria and Sicily: one city and all its people verwhelmed in the Adriatic. March, 1638-In Calabria towns destroyed and many lives lost. February, 1783-The "great earthquake of Calabria." Loss of life estimated at 60,000.

October, 1835-100 lives lost by shock at Castiglione. December. 1856 - Monenurso and other towns of Calabria destroyed and 10.000 lives lost. December, 1887-Besignano in Calabria destroyed, 25 lives lost.

September, 1905-3,000 lives lost and

200,000 Calabrians made destitute in a score of ruined villages. This, however, is but a partial list of the most violent and destructive of the quakes of this district. No list can vehement sincerity they confess the of the people. Yet the record of 1783, shocks were received which 501 were described as great shocks, gives some conception of what it means to these people when the slightest rumble comes. The quake that commenced these 945 shocks was on Feb. 5, 1723, and for a year thereafter it might be said that the same quake was intermittently active. The centre was the town of Oppido, and for a radius of 22 miles every village and town was destroyed within two minutes of the first shock, while for 70 miles all were seriously damaged, and the whole of Calabria and across the strait of Messina and all of Sicily were shaken. At Oppido whole houses were in's day. The church is dedicated to swallowed up-40,000 perished as a di- St. Swithin, and on festival day tite rect result of the quake and 20,000 more died from starvation or the epidemic that followed Today, however, the rapidity with which assistance and supplies can be forwarded and the rescurces of medical science will undoubtedly ward off much of the after calamity, but in spite of all that can

----A USEFUL S. S. LINE

be done much suffering is inevitable

charity of the world.

making strong demands upon the

The St. John-Havana Steamship Company has a strong case for its claim upon the federal government for a subsidy which shall enable it to compete with other subsidized lines and to maintain and increase a service which sentially objectionable. Representatives has already proved highly useful to should be influenced by their friends the business interests of this port and province. This line provides the only direct channel for New Brunswick trade to and from the richly producavailable routes are via Halifax or New York, either of which impose upon the New Brunswick exporter ruinous rate differences. The direct service has already proved of notable local advantage, as appreciative quotations elsewhere attest, and with increased accommodation and quicker trips there is no doubt that a very profitable business can be worked up. Subsidies are already granted to other lines of no larger value or efficiency and if the ple's wrongs. Then he passionately government proposes to continue this cried:method of assisting in trade development it cannot justly refuse aid to the St. John-Havana service.

> THE MANGER SONG OF MARY. By Edwin Markham,

> > Hark, baby, hark

To the bells in the dark.

Here are the three that are led by the star-Melchoir and Gaspar and swart Bait Great are the gifts in the hands of the wise. Mother has only a kiss for your eyes!

Croon, baby, croon, Like a dove at the noon. Melchoir with beard reaching down to the knees Pours you the gold from the hills the seas, Brings you a gift for a king to com mand Mother has only a kiss for your hand!

Sleep, baby, sleep, For the shadows are deep. ar with pearls on his red surban Bringing you myrrh and Arabian where he passes is delicate sweet. Mother has only a kiss for your feet!

Dream, baby, dream, For the star is agleam. Baltazar kneels by the manger and sings. urning white frankincense, rings over rings,

They have brought treasure from has nothing to give but her heartl EVENING.

When the white iris folds the drows ing bee. When the first cricket wakes The fairy hosts of his enchanted brakes, When the dark moth has sought the

lilac tree

And the young stars, like jasmine of the skies. ire opening on the silence, Lord, there lies Dew on Thy rose, and dream, upon mine eyes.

lovely the day, when life is robed in splendor, Walking the ways of God and strong with wine. But pale eve is wonderful and tender And night is more divine. Fold my faint olives from their shimmering plain. shadow of sweet darkness fringed with rain Give me tonight again.

me today no more, I have bethought me Silence is more than laughter, sleep than tears. Sleep like a lover faithfully hath sought me Down the enduring years.

Where stray the first white fatlings of the fold. Where the Lent lily droops her earlier gold. Sleep waits me as of old.

Grant me sweet sleep, for light is unavailing When patient eyes grow weary of the Young lambs creek close and tender

wings are failing. And I grow tired as they. Light as the long waves leave - the lonely shore Our boughs have lost the bloom that morning bore.

Give me today no more. Charles Y. to -Majorie L. C. Pickthalf. TO A FRIEND,

(A New Year's Randel.) May peace of soul be thine Throughout the new-born year! Should health and goodly cheer the To glad thy life combine, Or Fortune prove malign Thomas And Fate deal blows severe,

May peace of soul be thine Throughout the new-born year! No greeting more benign, No benison more dear

Upon this, my prayer sincere, Can spring from heart of mine: May peace of soul he thine Throughout the new-born wenet -Arthur Barry O'Neill C. S. C.

HAY ON CHURCH FLOOR. 40

A curious custom is annually observ ed at Old Neston church on St. Switt church is strewn with hay. Many years ago some donor left a field to provide money for bread which is distributed four times a year. The tonahi of the field has to supply the hay to strew the church. The custom is sup nosed to have orginated from the fact that on festival Sundays the parishioners wear new boots, and the idea of the donor was to have the hay laid down to stop the squeaking incidental to new footwear.—London Standard

Many stories are told of the foolish ness of the ostrich. Everybody has heard, for instance, how this bird will bury its head in the sand and conceive itself altogether hidden.

There can be no reasonable doubt that the species goes to great lengths of folly. And yet, if the testimony of reliable naturalists may be taken, dark ostrichs don't bleach themselves with peroxide of hydrogen in the belief that

blondes. Nor do they resort to rats, expecting to create the impression that their feathers fuff naturally.

society will thereupon deem them

NONE LEET ALIVE

"An orator," said one of our statesmen, "was addressing an assen of the people. He recounted the peo-

"'Where are America's great men? Why don't they take up the cudgel in our defense? In the face of our manifold wrongs why do they remain cold, mmovable, silent? "'Because they're all cast in bronze!" shouted a cynic in the rear."

You cannot possibly have a better Cocoa than BBCC A delicious drink and a sustain food. Fragrant, nutritions and ical. This excellent Cocoa maintains the system in robust health, and enables it to resist winter's extreme cold.

REXTON

REXTON, Dec 26.—The dec fre Walter Warren took place home in East Branch on Friday lingering liness of cancer Warren was Miss Margaret Me daughter of Finlay Meintosh of liver, Buctouche. She is surviv her husband and five children. Warren was 47 years of age. The neral was held on Sunday after rom her home to the cemetery at ch, where interment took p Miss Nellie Clark, teacher of music at Mount Allison Ladies'

lege, returned home on Tuesday and the holidays with her pa Mr. and Mrs. George N. Clark. Mise Tina Fraser returned hon Tuesday from Melrose, where sh Miss Sadie Forster returned on T lay from Brownsville, Kings co where she has been engaged at

Miss Lou Abbott returned ho Tuesday from Mount Allison Miss Jessie Ferguson returned on Friday from Sackville, where

was attending college. Miss Mary McLean returned hom Saturday from Charlo, Restigo county, where she had been teach Wilfred McLean returned on S day from Riverside, Albert count spend the holidays with his aunts sees McLean of Jardineville Miss Maude Smallwood of Hard

visiting Mrs. Egbert Atkinson. Mr. and Mrs. James L. Girvan West Galloway left on Wednesda visit friends in Westville and Ste ton, N. S. Douglas Girvan returned home ednesday from Chipman, Quens

spend Christmas at his home West Galleway. Dr. M. J. de Olloqui of Rogersv spending Christmas at her Misses Vera Moinerney, Stella Bi

Kate Robertson and Clara Palmer rufned home on Saturday from Fr ericton, where they were atending I Robert Fraser returned home Wednesday from St. Joseph's Colle to spend his holidays.

Bugene McInerney returned home Tuesday to spend his holidays. He ! seen attending business college in Mr. and Mrs. John D. Palmer

rederioton are visiting friends Mr. and Mrs. Fred Knight of Mon ton came here yesterday to sper Christmas with Mrs. Knight's parent

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lennox. M dame Lennox, who has been th guest for some time, returned hor Hugh Fraser of Moncton is spending Christmas at his home here. James Warman left for Boston

Mrs. Ursula Richard is very ill he Royal Hotel Mrs. Pascal Hebert returned home sturday from Moncton, where she ha been receiving treatment for a loot. She is feeling consider

A Capuchin Father came to Big Cov on Wednesday to celebrate midnig mass for the Indians of that plac Midnight mass was also sung at S Anne and Richibucto Village. Miss Lizzie O'Connor, who has bee aching near Harcourt, is spending her vacation at her home here. Miss Amanda Millet, who has bee

ttending St. Louis Convent, is spend ing her holidays at home. Daniel McDonald, James McLean and oseph Biward returned home from Sartibogue Bridge, where they had een employed for some time, or hursday.

There is to be a skating carnival in e rink on Monday night. Prizes wil awarded. The Buctoche Band wil s in attendance. The skaters are preng their costumes. Miss Ella Fahey, who has been a ding Normal School, is spending her cation at her home in Molus River

Don. Mck. Murphy of Bass River who has been attending business col lege at Moncton, is home for Christ Miss Minnie G. Cail of Bass River i me from Normal School to spend he

Mrs. David Clark of Bass River i isiting her father, Mr. Brown, a almon River. Mr. and Mrs. P. Ward of Molus River isited Moncton last week. The post office of Mundleville h een quarantined on account of scarles fever in the family of the postmaster.

ohn Lawson. Those who formerly got heir mall there have now to come to Rexton for it. Smelts are still very scarce, and some f the fishermen are getting discouraged and taking out their nets. The price is 21-4 cents per pound. Eels and pass are also scarce. The death occurred at St. Charles on

Dec. 22nd, of Mrs. Mary Richard, relic of the late Antoine Richard, at the adranced age of 87 years. Miss Bmma Short of St. John is vising her friend, Miss Helen Carson. Villiam McMichael of East Galloway raised this year 132 turkeys.

C. S. Hickman has about 140 men in nber woods on the Upper Richiucto River. Besides Mr. Hickman, who personally looks after two crews, Reswick, E. Campbell, E. Duny and G. Fenwick have charge of mps and Edward Walton is manger. He has opened a supply store at Harcourt. He already has one rotary In the woods and expects to have other soon. The lumber will be ship-

pet from Harcourt by rail. Tank Hogan, late of the Kent Northtel, has purchased from G. B. Jutz at Moncton the building on Main street, at Moncton, which is occupied one side by Abel LeBlanc as a fruit tore and on the other by a barber op. It is understood Mr. Hogan will open up a restaurant in the build-

SACK VILLE CRVILLE, N. B., Dec. 26.-Dr. F. McClung, of the university will and the vacation in Baltimore and the there will attend the American Kate Lawrence, B. A., teacher

ham Ladies' College, Quebec,

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