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The Free Press,

LONDON, ONT.

Thursday, January 11, 1883.

CHARGE OF THE SEVEN THOUSAND.

One of the objects of the recent convention at Toronto, with its 7,000 delegates, as is now said, was to make it appear that the "reformers" are in overwhelming force in Ontario, and thus to discourage their opponents, the Conservatives. Of course, as we all know, it would be perfectly useless to send 7,000 delegates to a convention from a single Province to do business. The number is too large; such an assemblage would be too unwieldy, except for such a purpose as we have suggested, that of bluff and braggadocia. But the Conservatives are self-contained kind of folks, and are not very easily disconcerted. The Grit tactics puts one in mind of those formerly adopted in the battle-field in China, when hideous figures unsupported with heads and other noisy instruments were advanced with the hope of scaring the "outer barbarians" away. The Conventionists talked loudly, as well as wildly, and have since paraded their numbers with an affectation of exactness which is amusing. A contemporary down East had the misfortune to speak of the Convention as having been attended by 5,000 delegates. He was immediately set upon by the Liberal journals, and told that he must acknowledge to the full 7,000 or be written down in uncomplimentary terms. The evident object is to try and overawe by mere numbers, and to make it appear to those who do not look below the surface of such things that any opposition to Mr. Mowat at the polls must end in failure. But we know that the Conservative members elected last June to attend the Dominion Parliament are in a majority of twenty over their opponents. It is known, too, that a very large proportion of Mr. Mowat's majority to-day hangs upon the slender thread of a few votes. The Belleville *Intelligencer* has just reproduced some figures, which are interesting at this time, and indicate that the charge of the Seven Thousand is one of insolent assumption rather than of self-reliance and bravery. The *Intelligencer* says:—According to the returns of the votes cast in the general election for the Ontario Legislature in 1879, there were 116,594 Conservative votes against a Reform vote of 121,119, or an aggregate total of 237,713 votes polled. The number of votes polled for each candidate would therefore be 2,697, as nearly as possible. Now, the Reformers had over the Conservatives just 4,525 votes, or within a hundredth of the number required for two members, so that if the people were to be represented in Parliament according to the strength of the votes at the polls, the result would be the return of 4½ Reformers to 4½ Conservatives, or 1½ Reform members in excess. Yet the Reformers actually returned 58 members, whilst the Conservatives returned but 30, or virtually two of the former to one of the latter, although there was practically, as near as could be expected, an equal division of opinion. For the Reformers to be entitled to 58 seats they should have polled 136,426 votes and the Conservatives should have polled 89,910, or an excess for the former of 46,516 votes, while their excess was only 3,525." Since the election of 1879 the public have had occasion to note that the chief efforts of the Mowat Administration are directed toward defeating the National Policy and the Government that established it. To do this they have robbed municipalities of rights they formerly enjoyed and practiced, erected illegal tribunals, called License Commissioners, before whom people have been dragged, their calling disallowed, and themselves brought in many instances to ruin. To do this they put their hands upon every petty appointment they would grasp, even to the very humble porters and clerks of the minor courts. To do this Mr. Mowat and his colleagues, forsaking their legitimate duties, rushed into the field of Dominion politics, and did all that in them lay to crush out the National Policy, and arrest the further construction of the Pacific Railway. It had not been before understood how bitterly the Mowat interest had banded itself to defeat the national end and national development, in order that those who proved themselves so utterly incapable at Ottawa between 1873 and 1878 might have a chance of going back to the days of flagrant deficits and sorrowful retrogression. No! The Charge of the Seven Thousand may be thought magnificent, but it is not political warfare. It is an obvious attempt to capture the judgment of the electors by means similar to those adopted in the "Flowery Land," where drum-beatings, horn-blowings, trumpet-blasting, human bellowings, and other barefaced blatent and bellicose behoolerics are resorted to. The display of physical force at the Convention was all very well as an attempt to confound the unthinking, but the sound, sober-minded Conservatives know just where they are, and know too where they will stand whenever Mr. Mowat shall think proper to challenge the opinion of the country.

The warden of the Illinois penitentiary has collected figures as to the death rate in penal institutions, and astonishing variations are shown. While at Sing Sing the yearly deaths from 1,000 inmates number less than seven, at Auburn they are twelve, and at Clinton over twenty. The lowest rate is three in Wisconsin, and the highest is seventy-seven in Mississippi. He says that the practice of letting convicts work in mines and upon railroads, without proper food or lodgings, causes frightful destruction of life in several Southern States, but he cannot understand why the figure is so high as forty-eight in New Hampshire.

SHRIKE AND SPARROW—WARS IN NATURE.

The great increase of the sparrows in every part where they have colonized has been previously remarked upon in these columns. These birds are found not to be as good as recommended when they came here. They have nearly succeeded by their pugnacious habits in driving off the more welcome summer visitors of song and plumage, are filthy in their modes, and have no apparent redeeming quality. It was said they eat certain grubs and insects, but it does not appear that these are of the kinds which are hurtful to agriculture. They multiply so fast as to threaten to become as great a nuisance as they were once in Germany, where a price had to be set on their heads. It was promised that the birds would do good deeds in gardens and orchards, and they were made welcome, but up to this time no evidence of their good works has been made manifest. The time may soon come when they will have to be checked by a general slaughter, and it is suggested that were the sparrow to be used for ornament in place of other birds, the decimation of the brood would be complete and speedy. The fashion of wearing birds upon hats and bonnets seems all prevailing. Birds of all colors, and of sizes from that of the spring chicken downwards, are seized upon by the fair sex for their own adorning, so much so that the pretty native birds will soon be all gone, unless some bird of common species, like the sparrow, can be dyed and plumed to represent them. This fashion is but the revival of one which existed in Egypt in the reign of Patudanjaram, when, as we are told, the rage for wearing birds as ornaments was very great, so that even those sacred to the gods of the country were taken for the purpose. It was at last made law that any lady found wearing a bird upon her person smaller than a hen should for the first offence be dipped in the Nile; for the second, to be made to hold her tongue for an entire week at a time, and for the third, to be sent into banishment. Something will have to be done hereabouts to preserve our song birds, and also to get rid of the pesky sparrow at the same time. Dr. Hewson, of England, says the bird is a common danger as well as a nuisance in his habits; that he may have small-pox, and communicate the disease. Ugh! These are reasons why the appearance of any foe to the sparrow should be hailed as a blessing. Even the shrike, or butcher bird, had a fellow as he is in some respects, can be welcomed for the work he is now doing, both in the city and country, for the sparrows' destruction. This bird is now about in large numbers, and though it feeds on a variety of dainties in their season, such as insects, grasshoppers or crickets, makes a special prey of the sparrows at this season of the year. It swoops downwards, like a hawk, with closed wings, on its victim, which it instantly strikes on the head, tearing open the skull. Then it impales it on the nearest twig or thorn, or an iron spike will do instead, and tearing the flesh apart swallows it ravenously in large pieces. This bird is very bold, and often enters where pet birds are kept to seize them from their cages. An informant lost two canary birds in this way last summer. A cage containing one having been left on a table, with the window open, the pet was stolen, the only trace left of it, her. The association would keep secret the names of its members, and in this way it guaranteed their security. All members were to be at liberty to seize the shrike wherever they pleased, but must pledge themselves to reveal nothing.

The late Mme. Rudersdorff left the following instructions regarding her final burial, her body being interred at the time of her death in a vault in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Dorchester District, Boston: "I want to be buried in an oak coffin of the cheapest kind. The inside must be lined with zinc or lead. I wish to be dressed in a skirt and wrapper, any hair done up as now, with a black lace scarf now on my hat to be dressed with my hair, and everything must be of the cheapest character. There is a heap of stones by the lake at Lakeside. A tomb must be constructed of these stones and my coffin placed in it. A cheap, rustic fence must be built about it. A one-foot square of granite must be placed over my face. Captain Silas Sawyer will build the tomb. This burial receptacle has never been completed, and it is considered doubtful if it ever will be.

THREE DAYS WITHOUT FOOD.

Terrible Experience of Mr. John Sutherland and Two Half-Breeds.

A 72 Hours' Tramp When Entirely Out of Provisions.

From the Winnipeg Times.

Learning that Mr. John Sutherland (a brother of Mr. Hugh Sutherland, M.P., and Mr. James R. Sutherland, of the city) had arrived here, after having been three days without food on the trip between Fort Michigan the foes of the rabbit are not hunted as they are in the woods near our villages and towns, and so they keep the milder but more fecund animal in check, while here the rabbits increase much faster than they can be killed by man, while their natural foes are decimated for value of their skins. There is no chapter more vivid and interesting to the student of nature than the war that is perpetually in progress, both in water and on land, of the different species among those of their kind, and of one species with another. Thus, the existence of the fir tree is determined by the presence of cattle; but in some parts the existence of cattle is determined by small insects. It was feared that a fly in Egypt would bring the cavalry to a halt by sowing death among the black horses, while a white horse can survive in its presence. In Paraguay, neither cattle, horses nor dogs have ever run wild, for the reason that a male fly lays its eggs in their bodies at birth, and they perish. These flies are checked by a parasite insect, which in turn is devoured by birds. Kill the birds, and the parasites would live and put down the flies, when cattle and horses might roam the plains in safety. The shrike, which is now making war upon the weaker bird, while cunning in its tricks to secure prey, is a silly thing about its own house. Its nest is large, and carelessly left, while around it are stuck humble bees, beetles and a variety of other insects, each impaled on a thorn, like the trophies of the chase around a Pawnee wigwam. Sometimes birds are also impaled instead of insects. There is a popular idea that the bird alone has *nine* impaled creatures at hand, and that when it eats one it catches another, and with it replaces the one which has been eaten. The bird is thus called also the Nine-killer. In fact in a certain grave treatise the bird has been credited with possessing arithmetical powers. Should any one go near the nest, the bird sets up a hideous squall, as if it meant to inform the searcher that he was on the right trail, and remains on or near the nest while it continues to utter its harsh screams, and flies away noisily when the intruder is near at hand.

The London *Spectator* says in regard to Christmas cards:—"We must confess that we are here fairly beaten out of the field by America, and must set on our own ground, too."

At a fashionable wedding in Boston the floral piece suspended over the bridal couple was a yoke.

GLORYING IN WRONG-DOING.

The *Advertiser* remarks that:—

"No one objects to local measures being disallowed when they are *ultra vires*. The Provincial Legislatures must confine themselves within the bounds of the Constitution. If they do not, they must expect that the Minister of Justice will check their usurpation by an appeal to the vetoing power."

True, true. But the Provincial Legislatures must do something more than that. They must keep themselves not only within the "bounds of the Constitution," but within the bounds of law and justice. They must not presume upon their capacity to "do wrong if they choose," and glory in the claim that there is no authority within the realm to restrain them. The Rivers' and Streams' Bill which was disallowed at Ottawa was an outrage upon civil rights perpetrated in the cause of partisanship. It began by setting forth a lie in order to cover the misdeed, by declaring that to be the law which is not the law, and never has been. The Supreme Court has just reaffirmed what the law in the matter is, as laid down by Vice-Chancellor Proudfoot, when the courts were first appealed to to step in between Mr. Mowat and the wrong he sought to commit. There must be a restraining power somewhere. This is admitted up to a certain point. It is a very bad thing, no doubt, to pass beyond constitutional prerogative. But how much worse is it to run counter to law and justice, as Mr. Mowat did, and still glorifies in doing, and wants to do again. Even Ahab, of old, was willing to be more just than Mr. Mowat; for when he wanted Naboth's vineyard he was willing to pay him full value for it. But the Grit Legislature, which asks to be permitted to "do wrong if it chooses," tried to deprive Mr. McLaren by a trick in legislation of that which was his own, the result of his enterprise and labor. It would be better we had no local legislatures than that under the pretence of exercising powers vested in them they should commit gross wrong, so lost to shame as to re-enact and revel in it.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Professor S. A. Forbes, Director of the State Laboratory at Normal University, Bloomington, Ill., has nearly ready for publication a report of the zoology of Illinois. The report will deal especially with the invertebrate animals of the State, and will differ materially from all other State reports in being adapted especially for pupils of the schools and for the agricultural community.

German journalists are agitated in consequence of the arrest, in Vienna, of a Berlin journalist who was sentenced some time ago to eight months' imprisonment for libelling Prince Bismarck, and who fled to Austria in order to avoid fulfilment of his sentence. The interest of the case centres in the question whether, under existing laws, the German Government is entitled to demand the extradition of the fugitive.

The Anti-Nihilist Association which was not long since founded in Russia, has decided not to confine its operations to that country, but to establish branches in all the chief cities of Europe. Through a breach of faith on the part of a Russian student at Vienna, the statutes and objects of the association have been divulged. It aims appear to be the discovery by secret means of the aims and objects of the Nihilists. There were two categories of members. The first would be initiated in all the affairs of the association. The ordinary associates were only to be used for special purposes, and to know but one other member. The association would keep secret the names of its members, and in this way it guaranteed their security. All members were to be at liberty to leave the society whenever they pleased, but must pledge themselves to reveal nothing.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Fourth Parliament—Fourth Session.

Special to the Free Press.

Toronto, Jan. 10.—The Speaker took the chair at 3 o'clock.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Among the bills introduced and read a first time were the following:—

Mr. Lyon—To incorporate the Thunder Bay Colonization Railway Co.

Messrs. White and Waters—To amend the Municipal Act.

Mr. Waters—To amend the Assessment Act.

Mr. Gibson—To amend the Married Women's Property Act.

Mr. Meredith—To authorize the city of London to borrow $200,000.

Hon. Mr. Fraser—To incorporate the Roman Catholic Bishopric of Peterboro.

THE BUDGET.

Hon. Mr. Wood rose, amid cheers from the Government benches, to deliver his financial statement. He spoke for about an hour. The revenue of 1882 was $2,840,066, made up as follows:—Dominion subsidy, $1,332,509. Crown lands, $1,095,152; Algoma taxes, $14,099; Education Department, $30,052; law stamps, $52,399; licenses, $92,360; drainage debentures, $41,902; drainage assessments, $6,547. Public institutions — Toronto Lunatic Asylum, $30,535; London Lunatic Asylum, $8,795; Kingston Lunatic Asylum, $1,083; Hamilton Lunatic Asylum, $1,208; Orillia Lunatic Asylum, $1,480; Reformatory for boys, $683; Reformatory for females, $3,996; Central Prison, $24,403; Deaf and Dumb Institute, $490; School of Practical Science, $385—total, $79,268. Casual Revenue—Fines, etc., $4,422; county court fees, $757; division court fees, $2,882; insurance fees, $425; Provincial Secretary's Department, $7,662; *Official Gazette*, $9,198; private bills, $4,812; statutes, $387—total, $30,578. Interest, $101,927; lock-up, Huntsville, fire insurance, $1,500; Mimico Farm, $707. The expenditure was $2,919,133, as follows:—Civil Government, $187,101; legislation, $160,016; administration of justice, $448,731; education, $510,384; public institutions, maintenance, $610,199; immigration, $30,084; agriculture and arts, $131,166; hospitals and charities, $78,095; miscellaneous, $31,827; public buildings, $12,849; public works, $20,340; colonization roads, $110,650; charges on Crown lands, $83,417; refunds, $41,348—total, $2,439,883. New public buildings, $1,342; municipal loan fund, $57,458; drainage debentures, $37,519; aid to railways, $254,445; land improvement fund, $111,158; common school fund, $25,000; stationery and office expenses, $1,723—total, $2,919,133. The estimated receipts for 1883 were as follows:—Subsidy, $1,116,872.80; specific grant, $80,000; interest on special fund, $136,696.67—total, $1,333,569.42. Crown lands, $100,000; clergy lands, $20,000; common school lands, $25,000; grammar school lands, $5,000; woods and forests, $600,000—total, $950,000. Public institutions revenue, —Lunatic asylum, Toronto, $37,000; London, $9,000; Kingston, $5,000; Hamilton, $5,000; Orillia, $2,000; Penetanguishene Reformatory, $1,000; Mercer Reformatory, $6,000; Deaf and Dumb Institute, $500; Central Prison, $35,000; total, $115,500. Education, $31,000; interest on investments, $110,000; casualties, $35,000; income fund, $97,000; Algoma taxes, $3,000; law stamps, $60,000; drainage assessment funds, $30,000; municipal loan fund, $10,000; Toronto Mechanics' Institute, $7,700; from insurance companies to defray the expenses of inspection by the Provincial Inspector, $3,000; from counties, to defray expenses of taking inmates to asylums and boys to Reformatory, $6,000; total, $387,700—making a total estimate of $2,839,742. The Provincial assets gave a grand total of $3,252,023; the liabilities were $427,436—leaving a surplus of $4,825,586. The trust funds of the Dominion were worth more than they represented. In an informal arrangement for settlement with the Dominion and Quebec, provisions had been made that Ontario should receive interest from Confederation. The Treasurer then went on to compare the increased rate of expenditure in Ontario with the States of Ohio and Michigan. The expenditure of Michigan in 1871 was $1,274,364; in 1881, $2,392,569, or an increase of 23 cents per head. In Ohio in 1871 it was $2,259,606; in 1881, $6,740,543, or an increase of 14 cents per head. In Ontario in 1871 it was $1,816,866; in 1881, $2,786,314, or an increase of only six cents per head. The Non-resident spoke at some length on the agricultural interests of the country, dwelling on the benefits conferred by the Guelph Agricultural College, and by the Agricultural Commission report, remarking that other countries, including Scotland and the Australian colonies were establishing model Farms on the Ontario plan.

Mr. Merrick said that the only variation in the financial statement was its character as an election document. The country should look at the financial condition of the Province when the Government assumed office as successors of Sandfield Macdonald. At that time there was in the treasury $3,647,000 in cash, trust funds amounting to $7,786,000, and a share of old liberty, valued at $100,000—making a total of $6,539,000. The revenue from 1872 to 1881 was $28,200,815, and the expenditure $22,456,000, showing a surplus of $5,000,000. Thus they had a total surplus of $12,000,000 odd. Besides, the Government had enjoyed abnormal receipts. The present position of the Province is not such as might be fairly expected in view of those large surpluses. The Government from 1871 to 1881 received $923,791 under the operation of the license law. Moreover, under the Crooks Act, all fines went to a special fund, and not to the municipalities, as formerly. The enforcement of the old law was even more effective, for inspectors were now seldom seen except during elections. Expenditure had been made without the consent of the Legislature having been first obtained, such, for example, as payments to Professor McCandless and others at the time of the Agricultural College difficulties.

At six the House took recess.

Mr. Ross followed, arguing that a million and a half should be devoted in the way from Prince Arthur's Landing to this city in the cars than on account of my experience of cold weather.

"I have called Mr. Sutherland, to see if you would be kind enough to give the *Times* an account of your experience while on the trip between Fort Frances and P. A. Landing.

Mr. Sutherland—I would much sooner that very little should be said about it at present I am in the hands of a medical man, but this is more in consequence of having contracted a cold while on the way from Prince Arthur's Landing to this city in the cars than on account of my experience with food.

Times representative—When did you leave Fort Frances, where was your destination, who accompanied you on the trip, and what was the experience of yourself and companions?

Mr. Sutherland—I left Fort Frances, where I have been living for some time, for Prince Arthur's Landing. I was accompanied by two half-breeds, and we were on special exploring business. We started out towards the close of November, and took with us five dogs and a sleigh, with provisions enough to do us, as we supposed, until we reached the Landing, as well as blankets to keep us warm on the journey. We were on snow shoes, and walked alongside our dogs. The distance from Fort Frances to P. A. Landing is about four hundred miles. We got along all right until within about 60 or 70 miles from the Landing, when we found that we were

OUT OF PROVISIONS.

Then we started across the country expecting to shorten the distance, but it was not long until I discovered that we were lost. Our guide did not know the way, although he had pretended that he did know it, and we soon realized the terrible fact that hunger would soon stare us in the face. This was a few days before Christmas. We managed to get a little fish and wild rice from some Indians, but for three of the six days that we were lost we did

NOT HAVE A BITE OF ANYTHING

to eat. We were obliged to let our dogs loose in order to keep them from starving, and it was a question which we should do—strike the right trail, kill and eat our dogs, or

DIE FROM HUNGER OURSELVES.

At last we got on the right trail, and reached P. A. Landing in a very exhausted state.

Times representative—I suppose you must have suffered much?

Mr. Sutherland—For the first day or so I felt the pangs of hunger very intensely. After that the desire for food left me, but I became gradually very weak, and finally became quite sick. It was a question of life or death with us, and we kept up our courage and finally reached P. A. Landing as well as could be expected under the circumstances, and with the exception of the cold contracted on the cars from P. A. Landing here I am now all right again.

SOME ROYAL CHILDREN.

THE CHEERFUL FAMILY OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRIA.

Youth's Companion.

"There is luck in odd numbers." This is the expression invariably used by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales when referring to his five children—his two boys and three girls.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise is the most amiable of the three, and is a miniature copy of her mother. The Princess Victoria, her father's pet, has a temper of her own, impetuous, ardent, hot, smiling through tears like a sunbeam in showers, while Maude, whom Queen Victoria idolizes, has a disposition somewhat like that of her right royal grandmamma. None of the Princesses fear the Queen, although everybody else has a wholesome dread of her Most Gracious Majesty, who is as exacting as she is severe. The daughters of the Prince of Wales, after the first formal deep courtesy down to the ground is made, romp with their grandmother as they would with one of the governesses, and it is a matter of apprehension to the Dowager Marchioness of Ely, who, with the exception of the late Duchess of Sutherland (the Grand Duchess), is most intimate with the sovereign, when the young Princesses pounce upon the Queen and dare to pull about the ruler of an Empire upon which the sun never sets.

The Princess Louise is the most talented, the Princess Maude the smartest. All three have a talent for languages, and are always delighted when their uncle, the Crown Prince of Denmark, is with them, as then they chat in Danish. He is said to be their prime favorite, and as they dearly love a romp, the good-tempered uncle indulges them with the claim of a lad of 15.

The Princesses are all musical, inheriting this taste from their mother, who is a superb pianiste, but who never plays outside of her own immediate family circle. She is a devout follower of Rubinstein, and performs that wonderful waltz after a fashion that would have enchanted the maestro could he have had the privilege of hearing her play it.

The Princess of Wales carefully watches the musical education of her daughters, and nearly every day, after Mademoiselle Gayrard-Pacini, the premiere pianiste of Balmoral, who is their instructress, has concluded her lesson, she asks how each demoiselle acquitted herself. The Prince is no musician. "I leave all that sort of thing to Edinburgh," he laughs.

The young Princesses having been promised a visit to the Tower of London in May last, which they were nearly crazy to see, the Rev. Teignmouth Shore, one of the Queen's chaplains, was ordered to act as their escort.

"I won't go if I can't go like any other little girl," said the Princess Maude. "I hate to have great big soldiers saluting and everybody bowing down to the ground. It's no fun, and I want to go like any other little girl." The Princess Maude carried the day, having been warmly supported by her sisters, and the happy trio did the Tower "like any other little girls" to their unbounded satisfaction.

The Princesses are made to keep early hours. In a.m. in summer finds them out of their beds, and in flannel suits for calisthenics. Their breakfast is very simple, as much starboard, oaten meal, and milk as they like to eat. No hot rolls, no heavy meats, consequently no dyspepsia. Their dinner at 7 is equally plain. A nutritious soup, a fish, and a joint, with vegetables, and one pie or pudding. Their greatest dissipation is waiting up to help dress mamma for a ball.

The Prince, when away, writes to each of the girls in turn. The writer was asked at seeing a letter—a charming, affectionate letter, too—on the envelope of which was written:

H. R. H.

THE PRINCESS VICTORIA OF WALES.

A. E.

And although the initials of the heir to the throne were in the left-hand corner, because he had had them in stamps two postage-stamps instead of one, the post-office charged 2d for the extra weight was sprawled all over the envelope. What radical but will rejoice at this?

The letters from their brothers while cruising in the Mediterranean are the sources of unbounded delight to the young Princesses. George is the favorite, and such exclamations as:

"Oh, won't we have fun when George comes back! What romps we'll have with George! were to be heard in the nursery at both at Marlborough House and Osborne, whither the little ladies were invited to assist at the departation at Cowes.

The Princesses are incessant talkers. They ratle away from cosy morn to dewy eve, and the resident governesses, extremely elegant ladies, are occasionally driven to the verge of despair by the incessant prattle of these little royalties. The elder governess they call "Mrs.," the younger "Sally," dexterously cutting the latter monosyllable in two. They are admirable mimics, and every new vowel who arrives is pretty certain to have his or her "precious weakness" admirably reproduced by these natural and charming children. They are very fond, like other children, of inspecting visitors from the regions of the staircase, and a favorite rarely escapes from their affective recognition. When *en famille* the young Princesses are always dispatched by their parents for the wraps of the guests when the latter are about to take their departure. "Louise, run and get Lady So-and-so her cloak." "Maud, where is Mrs. Jones's shawl?" "Victoria, go and find the Duchess cap!"

The Princess of Wales dresses her daughters in the plainest possible way, calicoes, ginghams, muslins, and flannel being de *rigueur*. No corsets, no tightness of any kind, and as for ornaments, such as rings, earrings, or bracelets, her Royal Highness would be astounded if such an idea were so much as mooted.

She is very particular about having the girls instructed in sewing, embroidery, and all manner of women's domestic work, and continually holds up her sister-in-law, Lorne, as a model in that respect.

THE STRAY FRUIT TREES.

Western writers are quoted as noting that fruit trees which stand alone or in single rows in corners or along the dividing line of a farm, are much more enduring than those in the interior of an orchard. No explanation of this is given, but it is as commonly seen at the East as at the West, that such trees are no doubt, to the greater exemption from wormy fruit than those which are scattered about, and shielded by their companions. The pioneers tear off the bark of their stems or break their arms in the spring or summer time when every sound means hatchet-ping or ring-in supplies. And the owner—often the circuit courier of all—is apt to let the stray trees alone, while he looks after and saves those in the three years into the tops of those which he wants to force into paying for the ground they occupy.

Many sorts of fruit trees of erect growth might be planted to advantage by banks of streams, or by roadside where the owner of the land could thus derive some yield from the soil which is his, but which the public use for passage. Unfortunately our young people are not bred up to so strict regard of meum et tuum as those of some countries. In France and Germany trees and vines by the open highway, without even a fence intervening, are touched with nothing but dust, even close to large towns. Here the fruit that can be reached at all by the gamins is so regularly plundered that we find the owners cutting down their exposed trees to save themselves from losing temper as well as fruit, and so we take a step toward the habits of Eastern Arabs, and the desolation of their country.

A young women's seminary in the Illinois town of Knoxville was burned to the ground yesterday morning, and its hundred inmates had barely time to escape with their lives. Every few months we hear of the burning of some large building in which scores of human beings are huddled together, and almost always there is heart-rending loss of life. Sometimes it is an asylum, sometimes a poorhouse, sometimes a factory, sometimes a prison which is thus destroyed. The latest fire will teach a valuable lesson if parents learn from it to look carefully into the safety of the edifices in which their children are to live while at school. If it is not possible in all cases to make such buildings absolutely proof against fire, it is at least possible to obtain reasonable security for the lives of their inmates.

A number of vessels of the German navy are being armed with the new bronze torpedoes, the experiments with them having turned out very successful. The British Government has also ordered a considerable number of these torpedoes.

PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS.

The music for a Sunday bull fight in Arizona was provided by the band of a United States cavalry regiment.

Pupils in a Philadelphia institution for feeble-minded children gave a performance of "Pinafore," and proved equal to the requirements.

At Macon, Ga., recently a large hawk swooped down on a cage containing three canary birds, fought away the woman who went to their rescue, and then carried off one of them.

Vanity Fair says that a colonel in the Guards, who was under fire for just five minutes, has got for it the Order of the Bath, a Turkish order, and the English and Egyptian war medals.

That there has been a deterioration in St. Louis society is denied by the *Post-Dispatch*. Drunken men are not now tolerated at weddings in that city, whereas formerly nobody was permitted to keep sober on such an occasion.

A man desired to bury his amputated leg in a Dubuque cemetery, but the superintendent refused to allow it on the ground that a burial permit was necessary for every interment, and such a document could only be procured for an entire body.

The Federal Government has recognized the Confederacy at last. A letter sent from Wiregrass, Ga., to Savannah ran the gauntlet of two United States Postmasters with a ten-cent confederate postage stamp upon it, bearing Jeff Davis's face.

A large number of prominent bankers, merchants and lawyers of this city have united in tendering Sir Edward M. Archibald, late Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at this port, a complimentary dinner, which will take place at Delmonico's on the 29th inst. Ex-Secretary Evarts will preside.

Lady Wilde says:—"The chattering, pert, flippant woman, with sharp manner, a silly laugh and a rude, mocking retort, is insufferable to a man of culture; but a coquette, though vain and versatile, may still be charming, for she has the wish to please, which is the Grundbegriff of woman's fascination."

The *Saturday Review* says that "Miss Austen's six novels are, with Scott's and Thackeray's, perhaps the only English novels which those who love them read and re-read perpetually without the slightest loss of relish, with a certainty of recreation and delight, and with an ever-increasing admiration for the author and her work."

A Portland paper tells a story of a wealthy but very parsimonious Maine man who, a few days before his death, awoke in the evening, and, turning to the watcher at the bedside, asked: "How much do they give you a night?" "Two dollars and a half," was the reply. "Well, you needn't come any more; I can't stand such a sums that," and he died.

The death rate of New York city compares very favorably with that of many smaller cities, as well as larger ones. The rate is 24.21 per thousand of inhabitants, which is better than New Orleans, Charleston, Savannah and Hartford, and than a large number of foreign cities, including Paris, where the rate is 24.86. Madrid is the worst of all, with a death rate of 40.6.

A remarkable pigeon roost near Macon, Miss., embraces forty acres in a valley surrounded by precipitous hills. A creek spreads over most of it, and a thick growth of vegetation makes an impenetrable mass. The birds seem to have been promptly and by instinct to select this as the safest lodging place for them in the region. Between sunset and dark they fly in from all quarters in immense numbers, darkening the heavens, and making a roaring noise.

The visitor to Tangier will have visible proof that romantic English women are not yet extinct. A shabby house is pointed out to him as the seaside abode of "El Santo"—the Saint. This particular saint claims to be the nearest descendant of the Prophet, and as such Sidi el Hadjeb-es-Salam, Cheriff of Wazan, is held in extreme reverence all over the north of Africa. But to Europeans he is mainly interesting as the husband of Miss Keene, of London. She became, eight or nine years ago, the wife of this elderly saint. By this time she has been able to free her eyes from glamour, for El Santo, with the Italian leaning in his knees, is a very different personage from a mustito in an old shooting coat and shoeless feet, unable to speak any language but Arabic.

A theatrical company playing "Uncle Tom's Cabin" is going through the South, and blood-hounds are introduced in the chase of Eliza, the fugitive slave. The play does not seem to excite much animosity among the people, but the dogs are objected to. In Norfolk the feeling was so high that the canine feature was omitted from the performance. The hounds used for the purpose of tracing runaway slaves were not bloodhounds, according to the assertion of a leading old Virginian, but were common hounds, trained to follow anything, even a wagon. They were not used for hunting, but were kept only for the purpose of tracing fugitive slaves. They were harmless, so far as biting was concerned. A South Carolina man, who formerly owned a thousand negroes, declares that no genuine bloodhound was ever seen in that State.

An invention which it is believed will effect important changes in the metal trade has recently been patented in Great Britain and most foreign countries, and is now being sold as an article of commerce. The invention consists of a new method of manufacturing alumina, by which nine-tenths of the present cost is saved, while it can be made in immense quantities in the course of a few days, instead of requiring nine months to produce it, as was formerly the case. The inventor is Mr. Webster, of Hollywood, near Birmingham, England, who has been engaged in the experiments since 1851, and only succeeded in perfecting his process about twelve months ago, after having expended nearly $150,000 in the experiments.

The principal situation in "The Silver King," now running in London, and soon to be produced at Wallack's, is extremely melodramatic. Wilfred Denver, who has come into the room of his enemy in an intoxicated state, with the intention of having a fierce struggle with him, awakens from the drunken stupor into which he has fallen and finds the man lying dead before him. The horrible thought, "I am his murderer. I have killed him in my frenzy!" flashes through his mind. The belief is strengthened by finding on the floor a revolver which he had put in his pocket that very morning. The truth of the matter is that Wilfred Denver, rushing into the room, surprises there some burglars who are looking through the well in search of a safe filled with diamonds. They shoot down the poor fellow, take his revolver from him, and with the same pistol shoot the owner of the house, who in his turn surprises them. Then they disappear, leaving Wilfred to recover from his stupor, to see the victim, and to rush forth into the world, believing himself a murderer.

Whoop Up is a town in Cahula, on the border of civilization. It was originally what is called in the Northwest a "whisky shop," but has long grown into something of a village. The stockade was built by men who had a practical knowledge of Indian fighting and trading. It enclosed three acres, and the buildings were of heavy logs, with openings only on the inner square. The business consisted of buying skins from the Indians, and paying for them as much as possible in whiskey. The Indians would fill themselves full of the reduced high wines or adulterated whiskey of the traders, and, when they were fighting drunk, would be enticed outside of the wall. Then the gates were shut, and the savages were left to fight out their fury among themselves! Next day the thrifty traders went out to bury the dead, succor the wounded and drive away the rest. "I never get drunk, myself, when I trade whiskey with the Injuns," says David Akers, the present owner, who considers himself a reformer of the old methods. "So of course I can watch its effects on them, an' as soon as I see our gettin' a leetle too much, I put more water in his licker. I give it to the critters weak enough to begin with, but the second cup is allers weaker'n the fust. But I never kick 'em out, or refuse to give 'em a drink as long as they have anything to trade. I never kick 'em out anyhow, and I seldom refuse 'em a drink. Ye see, after they get so far I just give 'em good, pure water out o' the river, but I never refuse 'em. They like me, too, cos they don't have a headache next morning. I just keep 'em feeling good and rich and jolly, but they never get drunk enough to hurt one another, or cut, or shoot, on my whiskey. No, sir-ee, not as long as there's good water in the river."

The object of a ball dress, says *Vanity Fair*, is to look perfectly fresh.

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A|Dtuts-fn

Notice to the Book Trade.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE—CHANCERY DIVISION.

Gage vs. Beatty and Canada Publishing Co.

The trade are hereby notified that an injunction has this day been granted in the above suit to restrain defendants from selling Copy Books bearing the name "Beatty's New Self-Acting Copy Book." Notice is hereby all damages will at once be instituted against all parties selling "Beatty's Copy Books" other than those published by