

she was directed, began swinging. When the swing had got in full motion and well a going, so that it went clear beyond the precipice, at every sweep, the old woman slyly cut the cords and let her daughter drop into the lake. She then put on her daughter's clothing, and thus disguised went home in the dusk of the evening and counterfeited her appearance and duties. She found the child crying, and gave it the breast, but it would not draw. The orphan boy asked her where its mother was. She answered, "She is still swinging." He said, "I shall go and look for her." "No!" said she, "you must not—what should you go for?" When the husband came in, in the evening, he gave the coveted morsel to his supposed wife. He missed his mother-in-law, but said nothing. She eagerly ate the dainty, and tried to keep the child still. The husband looked rather astonished to see his wife studiously averting her face, and asked her why the child cried so. She said, she did not know.

In the mean time the boy went to the lake shores, and found no one. He mentioned his suspicions, and while the old woman was out getting wood, he told him all that he had heard or seen. The man then painted his face black, and placed his spear upside down in the earth and requested the Great Spirit to send lightning, thunder, and rain, in the hope that the body of his wife might rise from the water. He then began to fast, and told the boy to take the child and play on the lake shore.

We must now go back to the swing. After the wife had plunged into the lake, she found herself taken hold of by a water tiger, whose tail twisted itself round her body, and drew her to the bottom. There she found a fine lodge, and all things ready for her reception, and she became the wife of the water tiger. Whilst the children were playing along the shore, and the boy was casting pebbles into the lake, he saw a gull coming from its centre and flying towards the shore, and when on shore, the bird immediately assumed the human shape. When he looked again he recognized the lost mother. She had a leather belt around her loins, and another bolt of white metal, which was, in reality, the tail of the water tiger, her husband. She suckled the babe, and said to the boy—"Come here with him, whenever he cries, and I will nurse him."

The boy carried the child home, and told these things to the father. When the child again cried, the father went also with the boy to the lake shore, and hid himself in a clump of trees. Soon the appearance of a gull was seen, with a long shining belt, or chain, and as soon as it came to the shore, it assumed the mother's shape, and began to suckle the child. The husband had brought along his spear, and seeing the shining chain, he boldly struck it and broke the links apart. He then took his wife and child home, with the orphan boy. When they entered the lodge, the old woman looked up, but it was a look of despair, she instantly dropped her head. A rustling was heard in the lodge, and the next moment, she leaped up, and flew out of the lodge, and was never heard of more.

It is reported that the C.P.R. has secured the control of the Manitoba Railway.

## THE METHODIST CONFERENCE.

During the past two weeks the Quadrennial Session of the Methodist Conference has been in session in Metropolitan Church, Toronto. The great question of the Federation of Victoria College with Toronto University was the first business of importance that came up. One of the grandest debates ever heard in Canada took place over the discussion of the question, finally the Federationists gained the day, and the motion favoring Federation was carried by a majority of 25 out of a vote of 275. The Methodists have, by their action in conference in several ways, proven themselves to be the faithful friend of the Indian. The son of Rev. John McDougall, who laid down his life on the frozen fields of the North-West while bringing the story of the Cross to his Indian friends, was in attendance and brought with him from his mission field three chiefs representing the leading tribes. These warriors were converted under the teachings of the noble McDougall and came from their far away homes to tell the white man in his home what the missionary was doing for them, and well they told their story, and created in the hearts of all who heard them an ardent desire to push forward the great work of spreading the Gospel to attain the greatly desired end. The committee having in charge the Missionary work in connection with the Methodist conference have recommended in regard to the Indian Missions that the Government be requested to subsidize the McDougall Orphanage and Training Institute at Morley; that the Government be requested to grant to the Church the management and control of an industrial school at Bottle River, similar to the institutions granted by Government to other Churches, and the committee recommended that correspondence with the Government be continued until the prayer be granted. The committee further recommended that the Government be requested to grant the deeds and titles to mission property held by the Methodist Church during periods ranging from five to thirty years, viz:—Blood Indians, Belly River, Morley, Woodville, Battle River, Victoria, Saddle Lake, Whitefish Lake, Fisher River, Beren's River, Norway House, Oxford House, and Nelson River. The committee recommended the continuance of correspondence until this prayer be granted. The report was received.

It may not be generally known in America that the Bee is always the pioneer of the white man. Wherever the white man may go in search of new domains he will find that the buisyy bee has preceded him. It was a fact well known by the Indians centuries ago and the sight of the honey bee was a sure sign, that the tramp of the white man's foot would soon be heard and that by degrees their forest homes would yield to the axe of the pioneer. The chiefs in Tecumseh's day saw with dismay and sorrow the inroads made by the white man in the western part of this province, and bitterly told their story of wrongs and misdeeds committed by the pioneers. Their eloquence availed them not, and the bee was henceforth looked upon by the Indians as the forerunner of disaster and ruin to

the tribes. It is a well-known and curious fact that will serve as a lesson for our naturalists to grapple with, that the bee was seen, only a few years ago, on the banks of the Saskatchewan, and other settlements now possessed by the hardy white settlers of the North-west.

## HINTS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

A bag of hot sand relieves neuralgia.

Vinegar will clean the mica in the stove doors.

Salt should be eaten with nuts to aid digestion.

Rub window-sills with fine wood ashes and rinse with clean water to remove flower-pot stains.

In washing bedsteads use strong brine or hot alum water.

Wash grained woods with cold tea, wipe dry and rub with linseed oil.

Cayenne pepper blown were mice and ants congregate drives them away.

It may not be generally known that a little ammonia in water will cleanse glass thoroughly and impart to it a considerable brilliancy.

Glaze the bottom crust of fruit pies with the white of egg and they will not be soggy.

Put a small piece of charcoal in the pot when boiling cabbage, to prevent it filling the house with the smell.

Quick boiling toughens all meat, whereas a slow bubbling renders the meat tender and secures a better flavor.

Hash, to be good—and it can be good—must not stew and simmer, and simmer and stew, but be heated through as quickly as possible and sent to the table at once.

Ham, to be eaten cold, should stand in the water in which it is boiled until it is cold; it will not be so dry and hard.

The most effectual remedy for slimy and greasy drain pipes is copperas dissolved and left to work gradually through the pipe.

To clean marble the following is recommended: Common soda, two pounds, powdered pumice-stone and finely powdered chalk, one pound each. Pass through a fine sieve and mix to a thin paste with water. Rub it well over the marble and the stains will be removed, then wash the marble over with soap and water and it will be as clean as it was at first.

WHITE SOUP.—One quart of water, three potatoes, three onions, one sliced turnip, a sprig of parsley. Boil until soft, then pour water and vegetables through a colander, then return to kettle. Just before serving add one pint sweet cream, or part milk, add a little pepper and salt one tablespoon corn-starch, stirred smooth with two tablespoonfuls butter. Let it boil up once and serve.

Never serve potatoes, boiled or baked whole, in a closely covered dish. They become sodden and clammy. Cover with a folded napkin that allows the steam to escape, or absorbs the moisture.

TO KEEP EGGS.—Three gallons water, one pint freshly slacked lime, one half-pint salt. Use perfectly fresh eggs with sound shells. Put them in carefully. If more lime is put in it eats the shell; if more salt it hardens the yolk. If the recipe is strictly followed, the eggs will keep sound for a year or more.