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and to make sure of it, they could easily have muzzled the income and chained it up in the dog-house.

* *

Whatever one may think of Henri Bourassa's political views, he seems to have solved the problem of how to keep in the glare of the limelight seven days in the week, about as well as any politician in the business.

* *

Not many Canadian firemen have the experience of George D. Drake, of St. John, N.B., who has been fifty years in the employ of the fire department, and who was recently presented on his completing a half century of service with a purse of gold by his chief and comrades.

* *

St. Anne's Church, in French Village, N.B., has been presented with a new bell by Miss Susan Goodine, a former resident of the province. The old bell was indeed historic, having been given to the ancient church by King Louis XIV. of France in the eighteenth century.

* *

The largest unclaimed balance in any Canadian bank is reported by the Bank of Montreal. The sum is \$4,000, and stands to the credit of Mr. D. Watson. The last transaction in connection with the account was on July 4th, 1865.

* *

This is a world in which it is difficult to be both safe and happy. Now, a correspondent who is anxious for the public welfare has written to the Montreal "Star," complaining that the straws which we get at soda water fountains are used three or four times before being thrown away, and therefore may bring on all manner of dire disease. Moral: Carry away your straw.

* *

According to the "London Advertiser," the decorations at a birthday party in that city were pinks and marguerites. Marguerites in particular make a fine decoration. In fact, there is no finer decoration at a birthday party or anywhere else than a lot of Marguerites and Ethels and Bessies and Evelyns and Graces and Florences and Charlottes. The more the merrier.

* *

A sailor who deserted from the "Monmouth" at Victoria a week ago effected his escape in the disguise of a preacher. It is said that he was given away by the fact that his hands were as hard as iron. That doesn't prove anything. Using one's hand as a gavel to keep lazy sinners awake during service might produce the effect.

* *

A noted hygienist has declared that eating large, luscious strawberries has the effect of making one sulky and irritable, and that ladies suffer more in this respect than men. So far as we could see, they have generally concealed their sufferings pretty well, but perhaps it is as well to be guided by the opinion of one who knows, and not add further to their tortures.

* *

AUTOMATIC COLLECTION.

A negro preacher, whose supply of hominy and bacon was running low, decided to take radical steps to impress upon his flock the necessity for contributing liberally to the church exchequer. Accordingly, at the close of the sermon he made an impressive pause, and then proceeded as follows:

"I hab found it necessary, on account ob de stringency ob de hard times an' de general deficiency of de circulatin' mejum in connection wid dis chu'ch, t' interduce me new ottermatic c'lection box. It is so arranged dat a half dollah or quahtah fells on a red plush cushion widout noise; a nickel will ring a small bell distinctually heard by de congregation, an' a suspendah-button, my fellow mawtels, will fiah off a pistol; so you will gov'n yo'selves accordingly. Let de c'lection now p'ceed, wile I takes off ma hat an' gibbs out a hymn."—Independent.



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