The Toronto World.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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The Fast Atlantic Service Difficulties.

The Local Board of Trade has pronounced strongly in favor of a Federal Government subsidy being given to establish a swift line of Atlantic steamers.

For a length of time this project has been under discussion. Proposals have been made by English capitalists interested in ocean navigation, which, at one time, seemed likely to develop into an agreement for the necessary subsidy being granted. Just as they were ripening there came a frost, which if it did not kill the project, kept back its early completion.

There are many who seem to imagine that a new line of swift steamers can be put in service for Canada as easily as rolling off a log is accomplished. The Government has only to issue its fiat and these vessels would appear as suddenly as objects called into view by the wand of a conjuror.

This is hardly the case. There are very grave and highly complicated considerations involved in such a policy. Such steamers as are wished for cost about a million dollars. Their daily working expenses are enormous, we forget the average figures, but they are startling to the inexperienced.

Mr. Allan, the chief acting partner of the great Allan firm, has declared that no such vessels will ever be navigated up the St. Lawrence. He considers that course far too dangerous for ocean greyhounds. He says that it would be madness to run vessels that cost a million or more dollars at railroad speed up a channel which needs great care and caution on the part of its navigators.

Before Quebec and Montreal are abandoned as the terminal points of the subsidized steamers there will be a struggle. They each regard themselves as having vested rights in this service, rights which have led to vast expenditures of public money, both local and national. But if those two ports were left out in the cold there would then come the difficulty between Halifax and St. John. Between those places there is a jealous feud as bitter as between two vixen beauties over one lover.

Were we to hint our preference of one of these ports as the terminal for this fast service, we should bring down a shower of journalistic fire and brimstone upon our heads from the press of either Halifax or St. John. Imagine then the position of the Government, having to select between four ports, three of which would take deadly offence at any one of the quartet being selected, and inevitably by any choice two provinces being intensely irritated by their ports being neglected.

It is easy for us in Ontario to pooh-pooh such considerations and to advise the Government to "take the bull by the horns." But before any subsidy could be granted Parliament would have to vote the supply, and the difficulty we have named might cause the subsidy to be condemned by an adverse vote. Bulls when seized by the horns have a trick of throwing up their snouts in a way that endangers the horns' holder; the House of Commons has seen this done.

Then there are other interests besides local ones to be considered. The millions invested in the present steamship services will not be jeopardized without arousing strenuous opposition in and out of Parliament. Any arrangement or proposal likely to give large preferences to one line of railway as carriers of ocean freight would be fiercely contested by its rival. We believe also that such a subsidy as say $500,000 or $750,000 to be given to one corporation would probably excite such opposition as would endanger the scheme that called for so large a sum.

We should rejoice to see a fast ocean service between a Canadian and English port. We believe it is most desirable in the interests of commerce. We hope to welcome it as a new strength to and evidence of our independence of the States. We consider that a large subsidy to sustain such a service would be a profitable investment for this country. But it is well that the public should be fully advised of the difficulties involved in this proposal and not be allowed to suppose that a service requiring millions of capital and arrangements to be made of a highly-complicated character can be established off-hand without prolonged and most anxious consideration.

Two Cents a Mile.

Professor Hadley says: "The railroads of the world are to-day worth from twenty-five to thirty thousand millions of dollars. This probably represents one-tenth of the total wealth of civilized nations, and one-quarter if not one-third of their invested capital. It is doubtful whether the aggregate plant used in all manufacturing industries can equal it in value. The capital engaged in banking is a mere trifle to it. The world's whole stock of money of every kind—gold, silver and paper—would purchase only a third of its railroads." A writer in The Nineteenth Century for December caps this by saying "the income of English railways is more than the entire rent of English land." He adds: "The relationship between pennies and miles is not as many persons, especially railway managers, seem to think a fixed law of nature. On the contrary, in Bengal, the railways, acting merely from the point of view of enlightened self-interest, carry passengers four miles for a penny. The rate of fares must be fixed by a careful consideration of all the circumstances of the case, one of the most important of which is the ability of passengers to pay them."

That is just what The World advocates—a penny a mile, because the amount is better suited to the average Canadian than three cents, and the companies would be the gainers. Who can doubt the efficacy of low fares who saw the enormous magnitude of the passenger traffic throughout Canada during the last holiday season? Cheap fares fill the cars. Cheap fares induce travel. Ten times as many people will go to a place and back at a dollar as at two dollars. The article in The Nineteenth Century is headed, "Railway Mismanagement."

It appears from The Globe that seven or eight years ago Mr. Pike of Locust Hill was charged $300 for a self-binder. It is now worn out and he has to buy another. He will get it for half the money. The poor farmer has been much helped by that reduction in prices, which results from wholesome competition. The N. P. does not seem to enhance the price of agricultural implements, whatever other iniquities may be laid to its charge.

THE SEARCH-LIGHT.

The Villa Palmieri, leased by the Queen, which was formerly the residence of Boccacio, and in more modern times was occupied by the Grand Duchess of Tuscany, is beautifully situated between Florence and Fiesole, standing on very lovely grounds. There are only two stories, the upper one consisting mostly of bedrooms. It is upon this story, as upon the occasion of her visit in 1889, that the Queen will occupy a suite of five rooms overlooking Florence and facing south, the first of the five being the breakfast-room, leading out of which is the saloon, containing some beautiful sandalwood cabinets which belonged to the Grand Duchess of Tuscany. Next will come the Queen's dressing-room, then the room for her attendant, and at the further end the royal bedroom. This is a large room lighted by three small windows, and the furniture, which will be the same as when Her Majesty was in Florence before, is of walnut wood. Princess Beatrice and her husband are to be lodged on the same floor, and the only room on the ground floor to be used by the Queen will be that in which luncheon and dinner will be served.

* * *

The late Thomson Hankey must have been almost the doyen of higher commerce in England. For nearly the whole of his long life he was an extremely active man, business director and in turn governor of the Bank of England and member of Parliament. He was a persistent smoker, and up to within a very short time ago might have been seen sunning himself up and down Portland-place, where he resided, with the inevitable weed between his lips. He was 87 years of age last June.

* * *

Sir George Graves, military commander at Bombay and the senior in rank of Sir George White, who has been appointed to succeed Lord Roberts as commander-in-chief in India, is said to be sore over the slight he has received, and is about to resign if current rumor be true.

* * *

Mr. Gladstone has decided to appoint Lord Cromer to be Viceroy of India, if the office becomes vacant while he remains in Downing-street. Mr. Gladstone was originally anxious to send Lord Reay to Calcutta, but the proposal met with such very vigorous opposition in influential quarters that the plan was reluctantly abandoned by the Prime Minister.

Mr. Laurier Trifling With the Disease.

[From The Goderich Signal (Annexationist.)]

Mr. Laurier's speech at Hamilton, while it had in it some good wholesome political doctrine, fell short of what we all know to have been his duty to his country. That the Canadian farmer must be prosperous before any prosperity can be the lot of our country at large is self evident, and we feel very sure that the Liberal leader knows the disease, and is quite aware of the only permanent remedy. Yet he contents himself with delivering old and stale platitudes and fondly imagines that he is going to succeed thereby.

Let us suppose him successful at the forthcoming general election. What can he do beyond reducing the expenditure a trifle, perhaps, and reducing the import duties on a few goods—in all of which he would have our heartiest support? Can he give our farmers the freedom of the American market and the profits therefrom? If not, then we feel bound to say that his talk about British free trade and the adoption of such by our country is as a tinkling cymbal and is unworthy of him.

Revenue we must have, and to obtain it duties must be levied on imports or else we will have to organize a staff of Federal tax collectors.

That Mr. Laurier has faith that he can cure the ills and evils from which our farmers are suffering short of union with the States we do not believe, for we know him to be a highly intelligent man. He cannot, therefore, escape from either performing his full duty to his distressed fellow citizens by proclaiming the truth, or becoming a laggard in the race for the emancipation of our land.

And Now They Are Abusing Him Because He Returned to the Fold.

[St. John, N.B., Globe (Grit).]

Mr. Cockburn, M.P., whose faith in the National Policy has been some what shaken lately, spoke at the great Conservative meeting in Toronto on Friday evening. Referring to the large number of Ministers of the Crown present, he called them "the twelve apostles of Conservative purity," and not satisfied with this he addressed them as "ministering angels." At first it might appear that he was sarcastic, but if so he was unconsciously sarcastic. Mr. Cockburn lately spoke out very strongly against the continued maintenance of a high tariff, and gave evidence unmistakable that he was not wholly satisfied with the new Ministerial arrangements. Perhaps he has thought it advisable to straighten himself out with his old friends again, for, as one of the apostles fell from grace, a successor had to be chosen, and upon the succession the vain old pedagog has fixed his eye.

The Whole Thing in a Nutshell.

[Hamilton Spectator.]

When you hear a man yawping about "tariff reform" ask him what the phrase means. Ask him how he proposes to "reform" the tariff—upon what articles he proposes to reduce the duty and upon what articles he proposes to increase the duty to make up the loss of revenue.

The Mackenzie Memorial.

The subscription list of the Alexander Mackenzie memorial fund will be closed on Feb. 1. A general canvass has not been made, and anyone, therefore, who has been overlooked can send his subscription to Mr. S. H. Blake or Mr. Robert Jaffray. The subscriptions are not confined to Ontario, and it is very desirable that the papers in the other provinces, as well as throughout this province, should give publicity to the date when the subscriptions will close. Especially is this desirable in Manitoba and Nova Scotia, from which, probably for lack of reminders, no subscriptions have been so far received.

Death of Mr. Joseph Walker.

Mr. Joseph Walker, who has been ill for a couple of weeks at his residence, 243 College-street, died Wednesday evening at 8.30 o'clock, of fatty degeneration of the heart, combined with pneumonia. Mr. Walker was the eldest surviving son of the late Robert Walker and was born in Toronto in 1837, 56 years ago. On the completion of his studies at Victoria University, Cobourg, he entered the dry goods business of his father, the well-known firm of King-street east. The funeral will take place at 2.30 p.m. to-day, and the body will be placed in the family vault in the Necropolis. The deceased leaves a widow and one daughter, Mrs. Nellis of Brantford.

Run Down by the Trolley.

As trolley car No. 8 was crossing Bloor-street on its way up Yonge-street a few minutes after 6 o'clock yesterday morning, it ran against J. B. Smith of 68 Grenville-street, and knocked him over. Fortunately he escaped without serious injury.

From the Red Sea Shores.

Red Sea Moss, known to natives of Palestine for centuries, an absolute cure for Asthma, Bronchitis Consumption, Influenza cold, ringing noises in head falling eyesight, all diseases of head, eyes, throat chest, lungs. A. Hutton Dixon, 41 East Bloor-street Toronto, sole agent for America. Free by mail $1 Trial packages 25c. 135

The Mafia Again.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 19.—The Mafia Society of New Orleans has notified Joseph G. Ghio, a fruit merchant of this city, that he must suffer for a certain crime and that his body will be cut in pieces.

THE AMUSEMENT WORLD.

At the Grand.

Manager Sheppard is to be congratulated on the attraction he has secured for the balance of the week. The old-time favorites, Barry & Fay, are to be seen at their best in "McKenna's Flirtation," and it is safe to say that a more satisfied audience never left the Grand than those who were present at the opening performance last evening. From the rise of the curtain to the conclusion the play is brimful of brilliant repartee and fun. The two Irish comedians are themselves men of more pleasing talent, and each is a foil to the other. The dry, natural comedy of Fay is as mirth-provoking as the rich unctuousness of Barry. The support is numerically large and all are excellent, Miss Lydia Barry's artistic talents being far in advance of what is usually seen in comedies of this character.

"Peaceful Valley."

The popular comedian, Mr. Sol Smith Russell, always a great favorite in this city, will appear at the Grand Opera House next Monday, presenting his successful new play, "Peaceful Valley." Mr. Russell has for years held a first place among American comedians. His methods are peculiar to himself, his artistic work so natural and so perfect, and his characters so lifelike and homely, that his stage portraitures are among the most familiar to the play-going public. There is no actor to-day who has greater power over the feelings of an audience, and who can more readily move them by the magic of his art to smiles and tears at will. Theatre-goers from Prince Edward Island to Southern California know that there is but one Sol Smith Russell.

Through the comedian's remarkable mobile face there ever shines that indefinable something that tells of a good heart, that earnestness that inspires confidence, that manliness that attracts.

The plan for the sale of seats is now open. There is no need of expanding upon this engagement. Sol Smith Russell is known to all and will meet with a royal welcome. The sale begins this morning.

A New Elocutionist.

Miss Marguerite Dunn of this city made a successful debut as an elocutionist last night. She has abilities of a high order, and despite the fact that there are so many candidates for public favor in this special line, Miss Dunn will, judging from her performance last night, achieve a secure hold of the general estimation. The limited attendance must have been somewhat discouraging; the entertainment was worthy a crowded house. Miss Dunn has good personal appearance, a pleasant and facile face, wealth of rich black hair, a voice of richness and good compass, graceful action, and gives indications of histrionic qualities. The program certainly was not very exacting, but in the 10 pieces she recited there was scope for the full range of her powers. The horse-racing story of "Lor Salvator Won," by Ella Wilcox, went prettily, it was followed by the pathetic "Song of the Market-place," alms for love of God; Riley's dialect, "When the Folks is Gone," was tragically touched. More lightsome was "The Last Kiss." The pranks of Hezekiah in "Aunt Melissy on Boys" were admirably recited, recalling passages in Lover's Handy Andy. "The Gypsy Flower Girl" and a "Scene from Leah, the Forsaken," were full of the pathos and the tragedy of love. Each was rendered in true artistic spirit. Three humorous pieces were given with vim and taste and their rendition delighted the audience. The University Glee Club and the organ recitals of Mr. H. K. Burdon afforded breathing time for the talented debutante. Miss Dunn has "a future" before her, and all who were in Association Hall last night would gladly hear her again.

Benefit To-night at the Academy.

Mrs. Dion Boucicault and her clever company of artists in that laughable and pleasing comedy, "Husband and Wife," are delighting large audiences at the Academy of Music, and no doubt the benefit which is to be tendered to the Sons of England Life boat fund to-night will fill Manager Whitney's cosy theatre to overflowing. The performance will be under the patronage of the Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Kirkpatrick. During the play an exhibition of fancy drill, etc., by the S.O.E. Drill Corps will be given.

Letter Carriers Concert.

The letter-carriers held their annual concert last night in the Auditorium. Ex-Mayor E. F. Clarke was in the chair. The entertainment was for the benefit of the benevolent fund and the audience was worthy of the occasion. A program of more than usual excellence was rendered by well-known artists.

Notes.

The Nelson Opera Company will arrive here Sunday from Springfield, Mass. The company will present "The Bohemian Girl" Monday evening at the Academy of Music at popular prices, 25, 35 and 50 cents.

The Nordica Concert Co. will give one grand performance at the Pavilion Friday, Feb. 10. This organization is the only approach to operatic work that will be heard in Toronto this season. It is the strongest company that can possibly be brought together and embraces, besides six eminent artists, Mme. Lillene Nordica, the famous dramatic soprano, whose triumphs in Europe are well known.

Photograph albums will be given to every lady in attendance at the Musee this afternoon. Barney Baldwin, the broken neck man, will be on exhibition next week. This man is famous from the fact that he is the only person known to the civilized world that has ever lived after the neck had been broken.

The Brothers Byrne in "Eight Bells" come to Jacobs & Sparrow's Opera House week commencing Monday, Jan. 23. A prominent exchange says: "The sun had evidently gently meandered over the foreyard last night when 'Eight Bells' struck at the Union-square Theatre, New York. It was then 'all hands up for fun,' and there was lots of it; in fact, it rippled in the orchestra, drifted up in the balcony and was wrecked in the gallery, where it flowed gracefully on the shore in a great roar of sound, pitching and tossing with glee. 'Eight Bells' has evidently come to stay."

TO STOP TRAP-SHOOTING.

The Humanitarians Discuss the Proposed Bill—Other Matters of Interest.

The Humane Society had under discussion at their meeting yesterday afternoon a bill which is to be brought before the Local Legislature at its next session, and is intended to prohibit the trap-shooting of live pigeons. Mr. Emerson Coatsworth, M.P., was present and thought there was no cruelty in the practice. Dr. Hodgins thought the society ought to establish offices wherever matches are held. Petition forms will be printed and sent to all the societies in the province, which when fully signed will be presented to the local Government in support of the bill.

A deputation was appointed to wait on the Attorney-General to express dissatisfaction with the report of the Dehorning Commission.

Fifty dollars was voted to appeal from the decision of Col. Denison in a cruelty-to-horse case.

Humane societies have lately been formed in Port Rowan, Ont., and Winnipeg.

Two Flyers to New York via the Picturesque Erie Railway.

There is no question about it but the Erie Railway is one of the greatest double-track roads in the United States to-day and unsurpassed for scenery and solid comfort. You can leave Toronto at 12.50 p.m., arrive at Buffalo at 5.50 p.m.; leave Buffalo at 7.30 p.m. and arrive in New York at 7.30 a.m. You can also leave Toronto at 11 p.m. and connect with the Erie flyer at Hamilton, which is a solid vestibule train through to New York. Dining cars attached to all trains for meals. For further particulars apply to S. J. Sharp, No. 9 York-street. Telephone 103, Toronto.

Are your corns harder to remove than those that others have had? Have they not had the same kind? Have they not been cured by using Holloway's Corn Cure? Try a bottle.

THE ICE QUESTION.

New Obstacles Arising Which Make the Solution More Difficult.

War still wages between the Medical Health Department and the local brewers and icemen over the ice question.

Yesterday the cases against E. A. Cullerton and Ralph Burns for cutting ice in Blockhouse Bay were adjourned for a week to await the result of the Reinhardt case, which had been appealed. Later in the day Reinhardt paid the fine of $10 and costs imposed by the magistrate, thus dropping the appeal.

Last night information was laid against Mr. John McCurrah, secretary of the Davies Brewing and Malting Company, charging him with cutting ice on the Don River without the necessary permit. The charge is laid under the old bylaw, which imposes a penalty of $50.

A hitch has now arisen with the Grand Trunk. Several weeks ago Ald. Lamb and Burns waited upon Mr. A. White, the district general freight agent, the result of which was an agreement whereby the railway was to bring ice down from Lake Simcoe at a low rate. Wednesday night Ald. Lamb received a letter from Mr. White notifying him that these special rates had been withdrawn, assigning as a reason that permits had been given brewers to cut ice on the Don River.

The letter was handed to Dr. Allen, the Medical Health Officer, who immediately sent a reply to Mr. White, pointing out that the arrangements made by Ald. Lamb and Burns had nothing to do with the board, and that under the agreement it was not stipulated that the ice was to be drawn from Lake Simcoe for the brewers.

Notwithstanding the summonses that have been issued against persons for cutting ice on the Don harvesting goes on apace. Yesterday Dr. Allen and Mr. T. C. Robinette of the City Solicitor's Department had a conference regarding the matter, and the latter was of opinion that, as the city owned both sides of the Don, it had power to eject trespassers, but the Mayor, in the absence of Assistant Solicitor Caswell, refused to issue an order for the despatch of a squad of police to the scene of operations, fearing that a suit for damages would be the result.

There was a rumor on the street yesterday to the effect that the brewers were going to issue a writ against the city for damages, and one of them was heard to remark that it was for $32,000.

WILL THEY COME?

The British Association for the Advancement of Science May Visit Toronto.

A deputation composed of President Loudon of Tororto University, Chancellor Burwash of Victoria University, Chancellor Rand of McMaster University, Professor Ramsay Wright of Toronto University, Professor Coleman of the School of Practical Science, and Alan Macdougall, C.E., representing the Canadian Institute, waited upon Sir Oliver Mowat, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Gibson and Mr. Harcourt and asked for financial aid to enable them to invite the British scientists to meet here in 1895. They were promised all possible assistance.

Notes from Osgoode Hall.

Chief Justice Galt yesterday handed out judgment on the motion in Foster v. The City of Hamilton dismissing it with costs. The motion was to quash a bylaw of the City of Hamilton giving to the Toronto H. & B. Railway Co. a bonus of $275,000.

A motion to add Contractor Hill a party defendant in the actions against the City of Toronto, arising out of the collapse of the Dundas-street bridge, was argued yesterday and judgment reserved. A motion will be made in single court this morning to wind up the Austin Mining Co. (Ltd.). The petitioner is R. Blackburn of Ottawa, a creditor to the extent of $225.

Mr. A. J. Parker yesterday commenced an action against John Gillespie of this city to have delivered up to him for cancellation a promissory note made in 1891 for $5500 payable three months after date. The plaintiff also asks for an injunction restraining the defendant from dealing with the note.

Proceedings were commenced yesterday to restrain Messrs. McCarthy & Co. from paying over the moneys received as the result of the suit between Contractors Conmee & Maclennan and the C. P. R. Co., till certain claims of sub-contractors are settled.

Father O'Reilly Buried.

The remains of the Rev. Father Michael McC. O'Reilly, who died in St. Michael's Hospital on the 17th inst., were interred in a substantial brick vault under the altar of the Virgin in St. Joseph's Church, Leslie-street, at 10.30 a.m., in the presence of Archbishop Walsh and upwards of 50 bishops and priests of the archdiocese of Toronto. Among the laity present were Mayor Fleming, Ald. Lamb, Leslie, Small, etc., also upwards of 1000 citizens of all ranks and creeds, the deceased clergyman being universally respected. Dean Harris read the mass, Father Kilcullen acted as deacon and Father P. Kiernan as subdeacon. The fathers of the city parishes constituted the choir. Archbishop Walsh preached an impressive sermon. He paid a glowing tribute to the deceased and spoke in warm words of the grand work he accomplished during his life. The pallbearers were Fathers Ryan, Morris, Teefy, Jeffcott, Gibney and Moyna.

Will Kill Consumption.

The Norwegian cod is destined to kill consumption. It has always been known that its oil, when properly prepared, contains all the potent elements for rebuilding wasting tissues in the human body. The difficulty has been to conserve the energies of the oil in its refining, and this has only been accomplished by the manufacturers of "Miller's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil." All who suffer with lung troubles, and of course all who are threatened with consumption, should take it. In big bottles 50c and $1.00, at all Drug Stores.

Banquet to D'Alton McCarthy, M.P.

A banquet in behalf of the citizens of Barrie has been tendered D'Alton McCarthy, Q.C., M.P., at the Town Hall, Barrie, on Wednesday evening, the 25th January, at 8.30 o'clock, which invitation the hon. gentleman has accepted.

After addressing the convention at Stayner, on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. McCarthy will proceed to Barrie to attend the banquet.

Through Wagner Vestibule Buffet Sleeping Car Toronto to New York via West Shore Route.

The West shore through sleeping car leaves Union Station, Toronto, at 4.55 p.m. daily except Sunday, arriving in New York at 10.10 a.m. Returning this car leaves New York at 5 p.m., arriving in Toronto at 10.25 a.m. Sunday leaves Toronto at 12.50 p.m.

Six Oils.—The most conclusive testimony, repeatedly laid before the public in the columns of the daily press, proves that Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil—an absolutely pure combination of six of the finest remedial oils in existence—remedies rheumatic pains, eradicates affections of the throat and lungs, and cures piles, wounds, sores, lameness, tumors, burns and injuries of horses and cattle.

Smuggling Cloaks.

Special officer McCloy of Toronto has returned from Windsor, where he waited upon a number of citizens charged with smuggling cloaks from Detroit. The list of offenders numbers 40 or 50.

A Great Mistake.

Why do you pay 20c. for a package or a pound of bad Baking Powder when you can buy the Borwicke for the same price? Proven by Dominion Government to be absolutely pure. 135

A SHOCKING SIGHT.

What Two Frenchmen Saw in Dahomey While Reconnoitering.

Shortly after the battle in which the French soldiers in Africa finally put the Dahomeyans to rout a couple of reconnoitering Frenchmen, turning down a by-path leading to the high road, suddenly saw the gleam of the barrel of a rifle. One of them hastily put up his carbine and was about to fire when his comrade's exclamation caused him to take a second glance at the object. What they saw was enough to make a toughened savage shudder. It was the sentry of death! A ghastly grinning skeleton, impaled on a sharpened pole, with its feet skewered, and with its gun fastened in hideous mockery to give the effect of a challenging outpost, greeted the sight of the horrified soldiers. From the make of the rifle it was easy surmised that this victim was one of the French prisoners that had fallen into King Behanzin's clutches.

A very striking example of King Behanzin's shrewdness is related by some Catholic missionaries who went to Dahomey and persuaded the King to remove and destroy a number of his fetishes. The missionaries, thinking their labors ended, were about to depart. The King was disappointed and spoke to them:

"I have listened to your speeches and demolished my fetishes. You have given me nothing in return. Before you leave I now command that you bring out and show me your own god, of whom you relate such wonders, that I may set up his image in the place of my lost fetishes."

What could they do? It was out of the question to convert the King to their belief in an invisible god, but at the same time they were forcibly impressed with the importance to satisfying his demand, as their personal safety was in peril should they refuse. So they managed to obtain some more or less dilapidated images of the Virgin and of the saints, and these are now holding the place of honor among the miscellaneous collection of fetishes in the King's circle of divinities.

An Extraordinary Romance.

The Vienna correspondent of The Daily Telegraph writes: A very extraordinary case has been heard and decided in the Palace of Justice at Vienna, which reminds one of Pope's "January and May," only that the parties in this case did not bring their differences into a court of law. Along the corridors of the Palace of Justice a blind man was gently led by two attendants, beyond whom a charming young lady, beautiful beyond compare, followed, leaning on the arm of her lawyer. Suddenly she uttered a gentle scream, fainted, and fell into the arms of her advocate. All this took place in the corridor. A few minutes before the case had been decided and judgment pronounced dissolving the marriage of the young beauty with the blind man, whom she had wedded two years before.

The details of the case are extremely interesting and contain more than one moral. In 1790, Herr A., who is stone blind, inserted an advertisement in the journals setting forth his age, infirmity, occupation and resources, and expressing his desire to find a suitable partner for life. Among the numerous candidates who were "willing," Herr A. selected Miss O., an uncommonly handsome young lady, who was 20 years his junior. During the honeymoon the delighted bridegroom was sorely afflicted to learn from his better half that she had married him for his money, and a few days later she disappeared from the house, taking with her 7500 florins. According to Austrian law, theft on the part of a husband or wife is punishable only if the aggrieved party prosecutes, and Herr A. waived his right and became reconciled to his young wife again. After this everything went on most smoothly for nearly a year, until the husband discovered that he had been deceived in a way, which, if narrated in a novel, would appear absolutely incredible. Two, and sometimes three or four, afternoons every week Frau A. left home for five or six hours at a time not only without the permission, but without the knowledge of her husband; indeed so little suspicion had he of the fact that he could have sworn she was at home, for he actually conversed with her during the time she was away. The manner in which the clever lady arranged this trick of ubiquity was this: She purchased the services of a "double," who invariably took her place whenever she wanted to go out. This was a needy young woman of her own age, with a voice resembling her own and a form and figure differing very little from hers, whose instructions were to reply as laconically as possible to the blind man's questions and to ask him none. On these afternoons Herr A. found his "wife" very taciturn and "snappish," but, like a philosopher, he bore with her caprices and was patient and unsuspecting. One day, however, a friend called on Herr A., and in the course of conversation asked after his young wife. The young "wife" was at once summoned to his presence to do the honors, and when the proxy appeared in her place the scene that followed was indescribable. Frau A. was summoned next day by the infuriated husband and condemned by the court to one month's imprisonment. The proxy was likewise punished with all the rigor of the law, and now the last act of the drama has been played out in court, where the marriage was dissolved.

A letter to the faithless wife was read during the proceedings, in which the following curious passage occurs: "I bitterly deplore this marriage, which was the most terrible blunder I ever committed, both by reason of the difference of our ages as also of the stone blindness with which I was afflicted when I agreed to it."

Elected Their Officers.

The Irish Catholic Benevolent Association, No. 1 of Canada, and 45 of the United States, has elected the following officers: President, P. Shea; first vice-president, George Newberry; second vice-president, C. J. Gorman; master of ceremonies, J. Devoy; recording secretary, D. S. Coran; financial secretary, H. P. Skelton; assistant financial secretary, F. J. Piggott; treasurer, J. H. Barber; tyler, P. Harrington; marshal, M. O'Rourke; assistant marshal, John Brennan; trustees: D. Harnett, James Dowling, Thomas Long; Executive Committee: D. Harnett, Robert Scollard, James Dowling, Owen Hickey, John Clark, James Sullivan, George Newberry.

The Medicine for Liver and Kidney Complaint.—Mr. Victor Auger, Ottawa, writes: "I take great pleasure in recommending to the general public Parmelee's Pills, as a cure for Kidney and Liver Complaint. I have doctored for the last three years with leading physicians, and have taken many medicines which were recommended to me without relief, but after taking eight of Parmelee's Pills I was quite relieved, and now I feel as free from the disease as before I was troubled."

They Struck Financial Snags.

The creditors of James Brand, the insolvent boot and shoe dealer of Embro, met yesterday afternoon in the office of J. D. King & Co. The statement showed liabilities of $3600 and assets of $3400. Mr. Brand made an offer of 55 cents on the dollar, payable in 2, 4 and 6 months. This the creditors refused to accept, and an adjournment was made in order to give him time to increase the offer.

George Smith, boots and shoes of Dunnville, has assigned to W. D. Swartz.

W. E. Kirbey, bricklayer of Orangeville, has assigned to J. M. Bennett.

Mr. Thomas Bell of Messrs. Scott, Bell & Co., proprietors of the Wingham Furniture Factory, writes: "For over one year I was not free one day from headache. I tried every medicine I thought would give me relief, but did not derive any benefit. I then procured a bottle of Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery, and began taking it according to directions, when I soon found the headache leaving me, and I am now completely cured."

THE SHAH OF PERSIA.

He Is Imperious, But Greatly Respected by His People.

The smallest detail is submitted to the Shah of Persia, and is not decided except upon his authority. His ministers disavow all initiative and tremble at any executive responsibility. Imperious, diligent and fairly just, the Shah is in his own person the sole arbiter of Persia's fortunes. All policy emanates from him. He supervises every department with a curiosity that requires to be constantly appeased, and his attention, both to foreign and domestic politics, is constant and unremitting.

There is a consensus of opinion that he is the most competent man in the country and the best ruler it can produce. Nor will anyone deny him the possession of patriotism and of a genuine interest in the welfare of the nation. It is no mean criterion of the strength and also of the general popularity of the Shah that he is the first Persian monarch who has ventured to leave his dominions and journey in foreign and infidel lands, not as a conqueror at the head of an army, but as a friendly visitor, if not as a volunteer tourist.

The immense amount of money spent by the Shah in the purchase of furniture and curiosities in Europe also excited a feeling of discontent, and his second tour was unquestionably unpopular among his subjects. That he was able to venture upon a third is a proof of the absolute security of his position, but it is also due to the sentiment which he has taken care to diffuse among his subjects that the princes of Christendom vie with each other in anxiety to entertain so great a potentate, and squabble for the honor of his alliance.

The Telescope of the Future.

[Alvan Clark in The North American Review.]

For centuries men studied the heavens more or less successfully without the aid of telescopes. Gradually, however, the standard of observation was raised, but with the invention of the telescope a tremendous advance was made. Hitherto, men's observations were confined to the limits of ordinary vision. Not a single observation could be obtained beyond it. With the advent of the telescope, however, the horizon of knowledge was greatly enlarged even at the outset. Then came the desire for greater power, and to obviate the difficulty in the single lens system, long, unwieldy instruments were constructed. Still further advances were made possible by the invention and use of the double achromatic lens, by means of which the aberrations could be corrected and the telescope reduced in length to a convenient size. Then another difficulty presented itself—to procure discs of glass which would be free from veins and striæ, and at the same time homogeneous. Even toward the close of the last century it was impossible to secure suitable pieces of glass of more than six or seven inches in diameter, and these were of a very inferior quality. When, in 1825, the Dorpat refractor of 9½ inches aperture was constructed it was considered a masterpiece, and it was considered the limit had been reached.

Gulland, however, has made better glass possible, and Fraunhofer better workmanship. As a consequence there were constructed in 1845 two object glasses of 15 inches aperture. But this limit was again surpassed when we succeeded in procuring discs for an 18½-inch glass, which were figured and sent to Chicago. Then followed the 26-inch lenses of the Washington and McCormick observatories, the 30-inch of the Pulkowa, and finally the great 36-inch lens of the Lick observatory. It must be remembered that the ground had been disputed inch by inch, and that with each succeeding advance the limit of successful glass melting was thought to have been attained. Even quite recently a noted optician, speaking of the possibility of obtaining discs larger than 36 inches, said it appeared to him that the chances of obtaining 40-inch discs in the present state of the art were remote. And yet there are now in my manufactory two remarkably fine discs of 40 inches diameter ready for figuring. Who then shall set the limit to this phase of the art, considering the great possibilities of scientific improvement and advance of the present day, in view of what has been already accomplished?

New Books at the Public Library.

Barrie, Holiday in Bed and other sketches; Westall, Princes of Peele; De la Rame, Syrlin; Willard, Kin-do-Shon's Wife, an Alaskan story; Underwood, Quabbin, the story of a small town; Freeman, Story of Sicily; Hoddard, South Sea Idyls; Hiorns, Metal-coloring and Bronzing; Blissard, Ethics of Usury and Interest; Blades, Books in Chains; Brewster and Humphrey, England and Its Rulers; March, Holiday Wanderings in Madeira; Robinson, Memoirs of Jane Cameron, female convict; Bishop White, Life and Times by Julius H. Ward (Makers of America); Holyroyd, Yorkshird Ballads; Palmer, Perfect Gentleman; Frith, Romance of Engineering; Bankson, Slide Valve Diagrams; Repplier, Book of Famous Verse; Bunner, Rowen "Second Crop" Songs; Oliver Wendell Holmes, Dorothy Q., a Celebrity; Betany, History of Judaism and Christianity; Black, Every-day ailments and accidents and their treatment at home; Chernilo, Queer Stories from Russia; Mitchell, Study of Greek Philosophy; Tytler, Morning Mist; Carpenter and Joiner, by various experts; Noldeke, Sketches from Eastern History; Rae, Children of the Poor; Frederick Douglass, Life and Times, edited by G. L. Ruffin.

Allotting Aldermanic Seats.

The aldermanic seats in the Council Chamber were allocated yesterday afternoon. The duty devolves upon the chairmen of the respective committees. Ald. Crawford, Saunders and Orr were present, and the first named acted as chairman. Ald. Lamb was given Ald. Shaw's seat, while the latter was moved one seat north into No. 2. Ald. Bell appropriated Ex-Ald. Graham's seat and Ald. Crawford was allotted that formerly occupied by Ex-Ald. Score. Ald. Stewart will take Ex-Ald. Foster's chair and Ald. Lynd steps into that of Ex-Ald. Atkinson. Ald. Davies was allotted the chair occupied last year by Ald. Orr, who moves up alongside Ald. McMurrich. Ald. Hewitt takes the seat vacated by Ald. Stewart, and Ald. Murray and Frankland will sit on either side of the entrance. Ald. Hill will occupy Ex-Ald. Macdonald's seat and Ald. J. E. Verral that of Ex-Ald. Gowanlock.

For the Children.

The board meeting of the Children's Aid Society in Confederation Life chambers yesterday was well attended, and the proceedings showed that the members were fully alive to the needs of unfortunate children. The separate apartments for children at Police Headquarters, which the society has urged so strongly for the last 15 months, are now nearly ready. The three truant officers, whom the Public School Board and Police Commissioners decided should be appointed in accordance with the School law, commenced their duties this week.

California or Mexico.

The Wabash Railway have now on sale round trip tickets at very low rates to southern points, including Old Mexico and California. The only line that can take tourists via Detroit through St. Louis and Kansas City and return then via Chicago and (vice versa) finest equipped trains on earth, passing through six states of the Union. Spend a winter in Mexico, the land of the Aztecs and Toltecs, finest climate and scenery in the world and older than Egypt. Time tables and all information about side trip at new ticket office, northeast corner King and Yonge-streets. J. A. Richardson, Canadian Passenger Agent, Toronto. ed

GREAT ANNUAL SALE OF OVERSHOES AND RUBBERS.

Over 6000 cases of Ladies', Gents', Boys', Misses', Youths' and Children's American and Canadian Overshoes and Rubbers will be offered at from 25 to 40 per cent. less than Rubber list prices.

Gents' Felt Buckled Overshoes, sizes 6 to 7, 75c per pair. Gents' Goodyear Rubbers 40c, all sizes. Ladies' Rubbers 15c, 20c and 25c.

Store Closes at 6 p.m., Excepting Saturdays.

135

GUINANE BROS'

MONSTER SHOE HOUSE,

214 YONGE-ST.

WITCHCRAFT IN RUSSIA.

Brutal End of a Woman Suspected of Having the Evil Eye.

[From The London Daily News.]

A few days ago 11 persons were charged before the Criminal Court at Moscow with the murder of an old woman in the village of Snamenskoe. Darya Vasillieva, a destitute widow, aged 75, besought alms from a neighbor, Lukeria Ivanovna, who alleges that while her son was handing bread to the mendicant, the latter cast upon