

The Planet

B. STEPHENSON, Proprietor.

ENGLAND'S NATIONAL SINS.

Rev. Dr. Carman is not alone in asserting that Britain is being punished for her sins. It is difficult to see the connection between cause and effect in most of the sins referred to. As for others, it may easily be admitted they are capable of bringing about any nation's downfall. The worst of these is political corruption. Its only and certain result is always an incapable officialdom, and no army can succeed in a difficult enterprise which has only public rottenness at its back. However, in Great Britain, as far as can be judged from this distance, the system is not corrupt, but simply obsolete. As the London papers allege, the War Office's methods, practices, prejudices, etc., are out of date and must go.

In dealing with the subject of national sins, the London Christian enumerates a number and declares that for them "God is chastening his people." It says:

"In self-confidence, in making haste to be rich in making drunkenness easy and in honoring drunkard-makers; in gambling prevalent among all classes; in increasing contempt of God's Day of Rest; in the wicked opium traffic; in providing for carnality in the army at the cost of the bodies and souls of men and women; in cruel neglect of the poor; in defying God's precept that 'we who are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak,' and not to please ourselves; in permitting them to be housed so that decency is impossible, and with less care for their health and comfort than for those of cattle or dogs; in the loose and lewd speech; allowed in society; in the leaven of pride, fullness of bread, and abundance of idleness; in indecent plays, and their degrading associations; in contemptuous forgetfulness of our forefathers, martyred to secure the liberties which we enjoy; in a shameful defiance with pagan papal-jam which tortured, hanged and burned them; in adultery and divorce among the rich, and promiscuous living among the poor; in a state of society treading in the decadent footsteps of ancient Greece and Rome—in all this, there is no reason why God should permit the reverses we have suffered!"

All these sins may be deplorable, but we cannot, off-hand, see why they should lead to British reverses in South Africa.

Thirty-five dollars a month is said to have been the wages paid to a young man employed in a private bank as accountant, cashier, general clerk, and altogether in such a position of trust that it is alleged to have been possible for him to rob the bank of \$8,000 or \$10,000. The joint influences of such low pay and such tempting opportunities to steal are not favorable to honesty.—The Mail.

Do you know it always strikes us that this cry about low wages inducing a trusted employee to steal is the greatest rot. If a man is a natural thief and he gets the chance he will steal. If he is not, naturally dishonest you could leave millions in his care and he would never think of touching a penny.

The Detroit Free Press of Friday has a cartoon representing John Bull as a cripple on Spion Kop and trying to give a ghastly grin. It dubs this "a lame laugh." This sneer will no doubt please the F. P.'s Fenian readers, at least those of them who can read. Why loyal Canadians persist in supporting this sheet when, if they must have an American paper they can get the Detroit Tribune or News, one cannot imagine. The latter papers, if they do not favor Great Britain, at least do not pander to the prejudices of the lower elements of the American slums.

BIG BIRD OR BIG LIAR.
Waterbury, Conn., Globe.

A New York man claims to have shot a crane up in the Adirondacks that had 45 trout in its stomach, none of which weighed less than a pound. Next!

A NEW BEGINNING.
Ottawa Free Press.

The Baltimore American states that the purposes of the British is "to drive Oom Paul from the Psalms back to Exodus." To Genesis would probably be more appropriate. Everything will have to begin anew.

JOHN IS COMPELLED TO START UP HIS MILL IN ONTARIO.
Hamilton Herald.

Having decided to go into the lumber business at Collingwood, John Charlton, M. P., of Tonawanda, N. Y., may eventually become reconciled to the view that Ontario's timber resources were not intended by Providence to be utilized chiefly by enterprising Americans.

THE SKELETON IN GREENWAY'S CLOSET.
London News.

The revelations of Greenway's rottenness recently made by Hugh John Macdonald surprise no one who is familiar with "burly Tom's" record. His

"Want of Watchfulness

Makes a Thief."

Many cases of poor health come from want of watchfulness. But if you keep your blood pure no thief can steal your health.

The one effective natural blood purifier is Hood's Sarsaparilla. It never disappoints.

Impure Blood.—"My wife suffered with pain and distress from an affection of the throat caused by impure blood. She was almost in despair when she turned to Hood's Sarsaparilla. Six bottles of this medicine completely cured her." JOHN WICKHAM, Galt, Ont.

Scrofula.—"Hood's Sarsaparilla has cured me of scrofula. I was weak and debilitated but it made me strong and well. After a severe cold had catarrhal fever. Again resorted to this medicine and it cured me." SARAH E. DAWSON, Annapolis, N. S.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
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Hood's Pills cure liver ills; the non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

first reached parliament from Huron by running as a Tory, having sold himself to the Grits, and when elected delivered the goods.

A BLUFF TO TIDE OVER THE BY-ELECTIONS.

Dominion.

The Chatham Banner says "The Ross Government is one of action not of intention." As there has been no action, presumably there was no intention of appointing a commission to investigate the West Egan election frauds.

THE BIRTHPLACE OF BURNS.

Col. R. B. Ingersoll.

Though Scotland boasts a thousand

Of patriot, king and peer,

The noblest, grandest of them all

Was loved and cradled here;

Here lived the gentle peasant prince

The loving, better king

Compared with whom the greatest

Is but a titled thing.

'Tis but a cot roofed in with straw,

A hovel made of clay;

One door shuts out the snow and storm,

One window greets the day,

And yet I stand within this room

And had all thrones in scorn,

For here, beneath this lowly thatch,

Love's sweetest bard was born.

Within this hallowed but I feel

Like one who grasps a shrine

When the glad lips at last have touch-

ed

The something deemed divine;

And here the world through all the

years,

As long as day returns,

The tribute of his love and tears

Will pay to Robert Burns.

To speak of suppressing liberty be-

cause of its abuses, is to threaten to

uproot the vine because there are

drunkards.

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OF REAL INTEREST.

An old man named Anton Kain, who died recently in an Australian almshouse was found to be worth \$8,000,000.

Charlotte comes from the old English word charly, meaning a dish of custard, and charlotte russe is simply Russian custard.

Dried orange peel allowed to smolder on a piece of red hot iron or on an old shovel will kill any bad odor in existence and leave a fragrant one behind instead.

Very fine razors are made at the present day, but no finer steel than that contained in the Damascus swords and knives which the ancients used several thousand years ago.

Sir William Preece, the distinguished English authority on sanitation, foresees a time when we shall all be foremen as to how long we shall live.

The Odeon Theatre, Buenos Ayres, is heated by electricity. This is not the first theatre in the world to be so heated, but very few large public buildings have been warmed in this manner.

The French statistician, Dr. Livrier, says that half of all human beings die before 17, that only one person in 30,000 lives to be 100 years old, and that only one person out of every 1,000 lives to be 60.

The Long Island Railroad has issued a notice to its employees instructing them not to address a woman as "lady," but as "madam." The President of the Long Island Railroad is a Harvard man.

Lieut. Maury has calculated that if an inch of rain fell over a fit of the surface of the Atlantic, it would mean an addition to its volume of 360 million tons of water, and that if the same amount of water evaporated from the ocean, it would leave 16 million tons of sea-salt.

Pigs were imported in New Zealand by Captain Cook, about 1,770, and soon becoming wild, increased to a remarkable degree. A century later wild pigs were so abundant in the flax thickets of the province of Tarnaki, on the North Island, that a hunter could shoot fifty in a single day.

A San Francisco photographer, who bought a camera of a stranger, became somewhat suspicious, and tested the instrument by taking four pictures of the man. Subsequently it was ascertained that the camera had been stolen, and the pictures made easy the apprehension of the accused person.

Canals, and particularly ship canals, are costly undertakings. The Suez canal cost \$100,000,000, the Manchester ship canal \$90,000,000, the North Sea canal \$37,500,000, the North Holland and the Corinth canals \$15,000,000 each, while the partly completed Panama canal has swallowed up over \$250,000,000.

The only place where "black diamonds" are found is in the Brazilian province of Bahia. They are usually found in river-beds, and brought up by divers. Others are obtained by tunneling mountains. The largest specimen ever found was worth \$20,000. These stones are nearly as hard as genuine diamonds, and are used in pointing tools.

Sir Arthur Sullivan was once asked where he was able to compose best, and under what circumstances his ideas flowed most freely. "There is no place," he said, "where I have so many inspirations as in a railway carriage. There is something in the rapidity of the motion, in the whirling of the wheels which seems to excite the imagination and supplies material for a host of harmonies."

Light travels fully 6,000,000,000 miles in a year, and even the most modest guesses as to the parallax of stars make it thirty-five light years. Pritchard's estimate in 1887 was ninety light years, but he has since modified his figures. Hence, if one will write two hundred and ten and add twelve ciphers thereto he will have the number of miles which the most conservative authorities believe intervene between the earth and the pole star.

There was once an excellent young man who was so good natured and so sorry for plain and unadorned girls that he always selected them as partners in a dance. At last one fine day a whole row of girls who were holding up the west wall of a ball-room averted their faces, and with indignant refusal refused his advances. Too late he discovered that the young ladies he had asked to dance had found out what motive inspired his attentions, and that notice from him inferred that nobody else wanted them.

The London Athenaeum is authority for the report of the discovery of another reputed Rembrandt in Amsterdam. The "find" was made by Dr. Bredius on accompanying to the church the Polish archbishop, Count G. Mycielski, who is staying at the place for the purpose of collecting materials on the life and works of the Polish painter, Christopher Lubinietzki. Dr. Bredius offered 15,000 florins for the picture, which represented a beautiful youth of twenty years of age, and is supposed to date from about 1632. His offer was declined.

FEMININE OBSERVER.

The bicycle face is nothing to the golf foot. Have you observed it? An ink stain on the finger is worth two on the paper.

When a woman begins to grow stout she spends half her time asking her friends if she is as fat as some other ponderous individual.

No child living really enjoys a game in which there is no shouting.

It does not follow that the men who stand outside of hotels are spending either money or time there.

Many gowns for autumn and winter are decorated with a border band of cloth, plain or embroidered. The cloth employed is very thin and fine.

Bohemianism is apparently another term for untidiness and imperiousness.

Such a whiff one lives in who tries to combine charitable work, society, and business all in their daily routine.

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ABOUT GLACIERS.

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Friday evening the third in the series of the Star Lecture Course at the C. C. I., was presented and well up held the reputation of encouraging nothing but the best and most wholesome of programs. Friday night's was as follows:—

Orchestra—Apollo Mandolin Club.
Vocal solo—Sunshine—Miss Elda.
Idyl. Enchore—Oh where, tell me where.

Recitation—Absent-minded Beggar—Miss Crerar. Enchore—A Snowflake.
Recitation—Reply to Miss Crerar—Miss E. Barassin.

Vocal solo—Miss Murr y.
Lecture—The Ice Age of Canada—Prof. P. Coleman.

Orchestra selection—Apollo Mandolin Club.
Vocal solo—Sing Sweet Bird—M. a.
Idyl. Enchore—Oh where, tell me where.

Vocal solo—Ora pro nobis—Miss Murray.

Pantomime—Maud Muller and the judges. Recitation by Miss Barassin.
Pantomime—Edna Dennis, Pearl White, Jessie Paterson, Cora Lee, Geoffrey.

Orchestra—Fred Sheldrick, Harry Pritchard, Maud Muller.

Accompanists were Miss Lillian Pratt and Miss Evelyn McLean.

THE LECTURE.

Mr. Wilson Taylor, B. A., of the C. C. I. staff, introduced the lecture of the evening, Prof. P. Coleman, of Toronto University and school of Practical Science.

We have before us said the lecturer a very cold subject and a very serious one as the indications point to a zero weather before morning. Even in a sub-tropical climate such as you have here snow is occasionally seen. Now we are all acquainted with the manner in which the first fall of snow, or the first snow, is a very delicate work.

All of us at one time in our lives have made snow balls. The light snow is taken up and packed very firmly together until it becomes very hard. Great pressure is brought to bear on the snow in the hands and it really becomes a ball of ice. This same change takes place in the regions of the mountains at the rate of thirty feet a year, and we might be led to imagine that this would in time increase the height of the mountains. Such is not the case, however. The weight of the snow above changes the snow beneath into ice. Usually we are accustomed to think of ice as hard and brittle solid, but it is really quite flexible. All are familiar with the change one summer will effect in a lump of peat. In the spring it will be a large, hard lump. By the end of the summer it will be found to have

adapted itself to the shape of the ground much like a pancake yet retaining the appearance of a solid. It is the same way with this ice formed under the snow. It changes to the shape of the ground on which it rests. Now suppose this ice has been formed in a place where we could have a glacier. Then we have a glacier, moving slowly but surely down to its outlet, carrying solids on its surface weighing many tons. These solids are often immense boulders, and are used as a tool by the glacier for grinding its way slowly down the mountain side. In crossing a glacier care must be taken to avoid the crevasses. These are holes in the ice varying in size at the top and tapering to a point at the bottom. A man has been known to fall into one of these crevasses and become wedged at the bottom. Fifty years later the frozen man has been delivered at the outlet. The glacier in its course collects great quantities of rock and other debris and deposits it at its mouth. This is called boulder clay.

CANADA'S GLACIER AGES.
The proofs that a glacier leaves of its past presence in a country are the polished surfaces of the rocks and the boulder clay. These are very plentiful in Canada, especially in Toronto. During the ice period snow on the Pacific coast to enormous depths. This gradually spread eastward to the Atlantic and as far south as Ohio, covering 4,000,000 miles. The glaciers of the Pacific were remnants of this period. Canada was then one great white waste, extending from the Arctic far into the United States.

Eventually the climate changed and the ice thawed. As the ice retreated to the northeast the rivers were dammed in that direction, consequently all the rivers flow in that direction. During this breaking-up period all this region was covered by a lake. Did you ever stop to consider the extraordinary arrangement of lakes in this part of Canada? During the ice period the section between Toronto and Lake Huron was a valley and the outlet of an enormous glacier. The boulder clay from this glacier made a dam there, to which we are indebted for the beautiful Muskoka district. Then when the breaking-up period came, the water was forced to find an outlet to the St. Lawrence by way of Lake Erie. Prior to this Erie was just a little lake by itself.

Let us look at some of the causes advanced by scientists in explanation of the ice age.
If the land be elevated 7,000 ft. above the sea level you have a region of perpetual snow. Now, the channel of the St. Lawrence River is found to extend 3,000 ft. at least below the level of the sea. As the ocean does not work at its bottom this could only be done by a river. Hence, East America must have been at least 3,000 ft. higher than it is at present. Whether it was the 7,000 ft. or not we are not prepared to say.

Another theory is, that as the earth's crust is not very thick it sank to the sea level with the weight of snow and ice. After the weight is lifted the rebound will begin, and some contend that this is just what is happening.

Another theory is the astronomical one. The upholders of this theory contend that when the period arrives for us to have winter, when the sun is in the far foot of the ecliptic, then we have an ice age.
The latest theory is that carbonic acid acted as a blanket on the earth

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