

# The Chatham Daily Planet.

VOL. XII

CHATHAM, ONT., FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 1903.

NO. 35

JANUARY SALE

## Do Your Cotton Buying Now.

To give greater impetus to our January Sale we made a special trip to Montreal and were fortunate enough to secure a big shipment mill ends of Shaker Flannels, Bleached and Unbleached Cottons, and Bleached Sheetings. This lot has been on sale for the past few days, and enormous quantities have been sold, but the original quantity was so large that we still have a splendid lot to offer you. The prices are in good useful lengths of from 5 to 10 yards, and in buying them you effect a saving of at least 25 per cent

### MILLINERY

Ladies' Ready-to-Wear, Felt and Camel's Hair Hats in the Latest New York styles, and in every desirable shade of Navy, Brown, etc., regular prices are \$1.25 to \$2.75 each, on sale to clear at

50c. Each.

### FURS.

We have an excellent assortment of Fur Storm Collars, Capelines, Collar-ettes, Ruffs, Boas, etc., and the prices for Saturday will make them especially interesting. Qualities are there, and only parts of the prices:—

\$3.50 Storm Collars for \$ 2.50  
8.00 Capelines for ..... 6.00  
30.00 Capelines for ..... 19.00  
25.00 Boas for ..... 17.00

If you have put off buying your furs you have the advantage of low prices, and you have the longest portion of the winter yet before you.

### BLANKETS.

11-4 Double bed size Shaker Flannel Blankets in Cream and Grey, with Pink and Blue borders, a special purchase of mill seconds, on sale very special, at

90c. a Pair.

### CARPET ENDS.

Sample ends of Tapestry and Brussels Carpets, 1½ yds. long, just the thing for rugs, in excellent designs, on sale at per price,

40c., 60c., 70c.

Rug fringes to match at 10c. and 12½c. a yard.

### LADIES' and MEN'S UNDERWEAR REDUCED.

Ladies' winter weight ribbed vests, fine soft finish, reg. value 50c., on sale for

39c

Men's heavy fleece-lined shirts and drawers, fine soft finish and neatly trimmed, reg. price 75c. a garment, on sale for

56c

Reductions in same proportions run through the underwear stock.

## THOMAS STONE & SON.

## The Swagger Young Man

Will be pleased with our  
**\$3.50**  
**\$4.00**  
and  
**\$5.00**  
**SHOES**



They are the swellest and most satisfactory shoes produced by any manufacturer. The styles are just right and not a freak of fashion omitted, and the price is as low as the best grade can be sold. The young man with the desire to wear elegant shoes can be satisfied to his entire satisfaction. Box Calf, Enamel and Patent Kids and Patent Leathers. Come in, Mr. Good Dresser.

## TURRILL THE SHOE MAN

PHONE 248

## TRUSTY TOOLS...

Are the mechanics' best friends. We talk "test tempered steel," all the time, for you cannot keep a good edge on a poorly tempered tool. Our tools cost no more than the other kind.

## Morton's :- Hardware :- Store

KING STREET

## WHAT ARE THE FACTS CONCERNING OIL OPERATIONS IN RALEIGH?

There is Only One Well in the Field From Which Petroleum Has Been Shipped—Others are Idle.

### HAS THERE BEEN AN ORGANIZED ATTEMPT TO DUPE THE PUBLIC?

Strange Stories are Told and Imaginary Strikes and Yields Reported Day by Day—Sarnia Paper Charges that Press is Subsidized—Visit of Planet Representatives to the Fields and Their Investigations.

In response to repeated requests for the facts in connection with the Raleigh oil fields, two Planet representatives yesterday travelled carefully over the whole acreage and visited the various scenes of operations.

Unpleasant stories have circulated of late concerning alleged manipulations of some of the oil companies. It has been said that the companies had a scheme on foot to the injury of the farmers and of possible investors. The Sarnia Canadian, in a strong editorial, charges that certain of the press have been subsidized to boom the field and operations, apart from all considerations of what the facts warranted. An effort, it is alleged, is being made to secure the land and money of the farmers and other prospective investors upon erroneous and untruthful reports of the field.

Locally much force has been added to this charge by the action of a local paper, the News, erstwhile the Banner and Banner-News, which has, for a couple of months past, filled its columns day by day with startling stories under big black head-lines announcing new strikes, great gushers, enormous yields, etc., etc., when investigation has shown that there was no possible foundation for them, that they were totally untruthful and wholly imaginary. These reports must do harm, whether they are merely paid advertisements or organized attempts to dupe the public into investing—in either case.

As far as The Planet is concerned it is anxious, as a journal devoted to the public interests, that the facts shall be secured and published without fear or favor. On two occasions this journal has been approached with stories of "new strikes" and "gushers," but declined to publish them, because investigation showed them to be without any foundation in fact. These stories have, however, been published elsewhere and their contents circulated as largely as possible.

There is only one well in the Raleigh oil fields from which crude petroleum has been shipped. The only hole that can be called a producing well is Gurd's Gusher, and even it is not a producer just at present. The reason given is that the pumping machinery was not heavy enough to obtain the best results from the well. There was a strong flow of water and the machinery wasn't heavy enough to cope with it and make the well a profitable producer. Carpenters were engaged strengthening the wood work on the pumping machinery. It didn't look as if things were being rushed at all and it looked very much as if there was no hurry for the repairs to the machinery. There is a rumor that the Gusher has to lie idle for several days at a stretch while the oil collects and that the well will not pump straight ahead. This latter is only a rumor and may or may not be true. Experienced oil men have come to the conclusion that the oil field around Gurd's Gusher is very small. Wells have been sunk all around the Gusher and only one has proved at all successful. The hole put down by Steele and Beringer on the farm of John Boyce is the only well, outside of the Gusher, that gives even the promise of being a paying venture. This well is reported to be a small well. It has not yet been tested for any time, but it looks as though it would be a well that will pay to operate and that is about all that can be said about it.

Showings of oil have been secured in the Corryell and Gage well on the John Pardo farm, a mile east of the Gusher; in the Armstrong well on the Mike Broadbent farm, a quarter of a mile east of the Gusher, and on Peter Jenner's farm, on the Middle Road, a little over two miles north of the Gusher as the crow flies. None of these wells are producers. They have just given a show of oil and this has given some persons an opportunity to madly wave their hands and cry that about fifty gushers have been struck. The Planet has no reason to run down the Raleigh oil field and it is not doing so. Only the facts are given. Two Planet representatives visited the field yesterday. At the Corryell well on the Pardo place, 13th concession, they were preparing to shoot the well again. This well had already been shot once.

The Imperial Oil Company have ab-

andoned the well which they put down on the farm of Andrew Broadbent, near Buxton, on the Middle Road. A strong flow of gas was struck in this well, that was all, so far as can be learned, and the information is reliable. The Imperial Oil Company have also abandoned the well put down on the Dixon farm, lot 16, 13th concession.

Steele and Beringer have a small well, as has been said, on the Boyce farm on the 13th. They are not pumping it. The flow is small and its capacity has not been tested. This is the only well outside the Gusher. The Raleigh Oil Company are putting down a well on the farm of William Jenner. This well is on the Jenner sideroad in the 13th concession. The Dominion Oil Company and the Raleigh Oil Company are not the same.

James McCort's drilling rig is sinking a hole on the farm of George Jenner, in the 13th concession, about a quarter of a mile south of the Corryell well.

Nothing is being done on the Walker farm, where Mr. Corey, of Petrolia, put down a hole. The rig is standing idle. A strong flow of gas was struck at the top of the lime in this well. This well promises to be a dry hole.

Dr. Fairbanks was found at the Gusher. The doctor probably knows as much about oil and oil wells as any man who has been in the field. He says that the well sunk by Fairbanks and Carmen on the Wilson Jinks farm near the Lake Erie siding is a dry hole. A strong flow of gas, good enough for household use, was found at the top of the lime but the oil was not located. Dr. Fairbanks says that he believes that there is a genuine oil field in the vicinity of the Gusher, but the field is small.

When The Planet representatives visited the farm of Peter Jenner on the 12th concession line, north side, they found the Imperial Oil Company's men pumping the water from the hole they had just completed. There was a slight showing of oil in the water. That was all. The water pumped from the well was of a dark slaty grey color. A strong flow of gas was struck in this well and the gas is being used for fuel in the boiler. The formation and strata seems to be all right. The only thing that seems to be wanting is the oil itself.

Many conjectures have been made as to the amount of crude petroleum taken from Gurd's Gusher. A wild guess appeared in print in a local paper within a week stating the output of the well at 14,000 barrels. One of the owners, although he refused to make any statement as to the real capacity shown by the well, said that the report crediting 14,000 barrels to Gurd's Gusher was grossly exaggerated. "The well has done very good and we have no fault to find with it," said the gentleman, "but it has not done anything like the work that reports credit it with doing. We are only sorry that it hasn't. No. 1 am not in a position to tell just what the well has done."

The first oil well to be put down in Harwich, in the neighborhood of the Raleigh fields, is being sunk on the farm of Robert Boyce, on the road between Charing Cross and Blenheim, about an eighth of a mile from the Gravel road on the south side. Ernest & Amsden, a Detroit firm, is putting it down. The hole is just a new one and the drillers say they have drilled down 110 feet. Ed Chaplin is drilling the well.

The full text of the editorial which appeared in Wednesday's issue of the Sarnia Canadian is as follows:—

A few days ago there appeared in the Toronto newspapers a displayed advertisement which was read with keen interest in this vicinity. The advertisers, under the name of the Dominion Oil Co., announced that they had acquired interests in the Gurd Gusher and surrounding land in Raleigh township, and invited the public to send money to purchase stock of an issue of \$850,000. For the past two weeks these advertisements have appeared in the Toronto, Hamilton and Montreal papers, making certain definite statements of oil output, claiming the Gurd well to be good for \$300,000 a year, and setting forth a variety of data showing that rich dividends would be netted by persons investing in the stock, which they claim "will realize profits equal to if not greater than any industrial enterprise ever placed before the public." To convince incredulous ones, a special dispatch to the Globe is printed, headed "Another Gusher," bearing a Chatham date line. This dispatch, which actually appeared in the Globe, gives particulars of a number of rich strikes in Raleigh township. It has since been copied into the news columns of other papers which carry the Dominion Oil Co.'s advertisement, and is being energetically used by the concerns

as an integral part of their advertising matter.

How much of real foundation in fact there is for the Globe's associated press account of the condition of things in the new oil district in Raleigh, with its glowing statements of the discovery of additional "gushers" and its assertion of the immense productivity of the new field, may be inferred from the following letter, dated Tilbury, Ont., and signed by James Wade, driller, and W. Luke, oil expert, which appeared in last Saturday's issue of the Globe:—

"You state that there are at present five wells producing over 25 barrels per day. We have always looked on the Globe as a paper that always told the truth, but in the future we will not be able to do so. Now, we will wager any amount of money you wish to wager that there is not a well in Raleigh Township that will produce one barrel per day, outside of the Gurd Gusher, and its flow is rapidly diminishing. There are a lot of oil experts in Raleigh, and when they see such erroneous statements in your paper they cannot in future place confidence in your paper."

Within the last twenty years Ontario people have lost millions of dollars in all sorts of projects, from Northwest colonization schemes to Rossland gold mines and California oil companies, and they have lost most of it by putting faith in the advertisements of these projects in the city papers. If the Globe desired to protect its readers it would either take measures to see that its dispatches were genuine; or if it were not certain of their genuineness, it would take measures to see that they were not made use of to produce erroneous impressions. In the same issue of the Globe in which the above quoted protest of Messrs. Wade and Luke appears, the "gusher" dispatch is permitted to appear as part of an advertisement, with such weight as the name of the newspaper lends it. The other Toronto papers appear to be almost equally to blame in giving such matters prominence without investigating them.

It is time the newspapers of the rest of the Province expressed the disapproval with which right thinking people view the policy of certain Toronto papers in filling their columns with advertisements and prospectuses of joint stock companies of the standing of which they appear to know or care nothing. The press of the towns and smaller cities sacrifices thousands of dollars each year by refusing this kind of advertising, and the public has a right to demand a similar spirit of decency from the Toronto papers, which receive a far greater measure proportionately of public support.

### A SAD CASE

John Curtis, in whose interests papers were served on the city hotel-keepers, was arrested Wednesday evening on the charge of being drunk. When Curtis was put on the Indian list and he appeared to be squaring away, his mother gave him a check for \$200. The money was going fast when Jos. Kime and Tom Slater happened to run across Curtis. They reported the matter to the police, and Officer Dolsen gathered him in. Curtis had his hand full of five-dollar bills and was displaying his wealth to a crowd of bar-room soaks and leeches who crowded around him. The grafters were quite angry and indignant when their pray was taken away by the police officer. At the police station Curtis was found to have just \$171.10 left out of his \$200. Curtis is a hard working, industrious man. His one fault is drink. Judge Houston remanded him till the 26th inst.

### NATURAL GAS

The proposal to Mayor McKeough and the members of the City Council to submit a project for supplying Chatham with natural gas—announced exclusively in The Planet two days ago—will be presented in a formal manner, within a short time, by Mr. Brown, of Buffalo, who is the promoter and has the matter in hand.

Water Commissioner W. D. Sheldon, who introduced Mr. Brown to local authorities and this morning that Mr. Brown was now out of town, but that the proposal would be submitted in definite form upon completion of the promoters' plans.

### AN ARTFUL BUTLER.

Planned and Frustrated an Alleged Burglary.

New York, Jan. 23.—The house of Augustus D. Juilliard, in "the millionaire district" of West 57th street, was supposed to have been entered on the night of January 15 by burglars to the number of not less than three, armed and masked. Pistol shots aroused the neighborhood, and when the police arrived James Reilly, the second butler, was guarding the house, revolver in hand. The Juilliard silverware was strewn about the floors, and handsome gowns were scattered here and there, as though in hasty flight. The Juilliard jewels had been overlooked. Some damage had been done by the bullets, but the police searched in vain for signs of blood. Later on they became convinced that it was "an inside" job. Yesterday they arrested Reilly, and he confessed that he had arranged a "fake burglary," so that he might be complimented for his bravery and receive the emoluments thereof. Included in the confession is an acknowledgment by Reilly that he had stolen many articles of value from the house of Peter Whitney, where he had been employed, also as second butler. Reilly forged letters of recommendation in Mr. Whitney's name, which aided him in securing employment with Mr. Juilliard, and is held now on the charge of forgery as well as that of grand larceny.

### NATURALIZATION.

Plea Advanced by Counsel for Colonel Lynch.

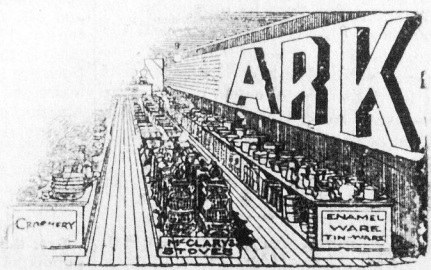
London, Jan. 23.—The plea for Colonel Lynch in the continuation of his trial on the charge of treason did not lack ingenuity, and it was argued with a breadth of view in the interest of British and colonial subjects living abroad, and desiring to connect themselves with the countries of their adoption. It was, in brief, that he was protected by the naturalization laws, a man being entitled to become an alien at any time. The Attorney-General, by a close construction of the naturalization laws, found it easy to reply, and the Lord Chief Justice was not impressed with the quibbling of the defence. The readiness with which Col. Lynch had resumed British citizenship in becoming a candidate for Galway was strong proof that he had not taken a serious view of the naturalization process in the Transvaal.

The infant daughter of John Battstone died Wednesday. The funeral took place yesterday at two o'clock from Ringold to the Dolsen burying ground.

## Rubbers AND Overshoes

OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.. CHEAPEST IN CHATHAM...

## PEACE & CO'Y



THE FAMOUS ACTIVE RANGE does its work satisfactorily with less fuel than any other range in the market. Are provided with Duplex grate for coal, also an extra grate for wood. The Famous Active Ranges are made in four sizes. You will save money by purchasing at "The Ark."

## H. MACAULAY - 89 King St.