

THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Early in December the tunnel from New York to Brooklyn will open to traffic.

The "All Night Bank" is to open in Chicago on April 1st. Scoffers think the date was well chosen.

The Chicago City Council have voted to double the saloon license fee, making the rate \$1,000 instead of \$500.

Fifty years ago Africa lay in unexplored darkness. Now there are 2,400 missionaries, with six times as many native helpers.

Official figures show that there are 17,000,000 children in Russia between the ages of six and fifteen who are not getting any education.

The extraordinary fall in values of South African mining shares during the past thirteen months has resulted in a loss of over £65,000,000.

The popularity of the golf cap, says the "Tailor and Cutter," is affecting the sale of hats, and there is nothing like the old-time demand for felts and silks.

At the time of Trafalgar the capital value of the British navy was £10,000,000. In 1902 it was £100,000,000. Now the cost of each vessel approaches £2,000,000.

The death in South Africa (from blood-poisoning, resulting from being struck on the knee by a cricket ball) is announced of Lieut. Dr. Gordon Mackay, eldest son of Dr. Mackay, Aberfeldy.

Both Lord Minto and Lord Kitchener have expressed complete satisfaction with Mr. Morley's decision on the Indian army administration question. It is believed the new scheme will come into operation in April.

The most up-to-date method of advertising in Glasgow is not by motor car, but by a couple of oxen drawing a covered van. Judging by the crowd following in their wake most of them had never seen oxen in harness before.

The Blue Book on life insurance has just been issued, showing that the people of the British Isles are carrying \$4,709,308,630 in policies held by ninety-six companies. This huge sum does not include the figures of the colonial and foreign companies.

Whether to spell Argyll like that or with a final e troubles many. One steamer has "Argyll" on the bow and "Argyle" on the stern. Five other steamers have the final l and two the final e; but there is the well-known "Argyle" street, Glasgow.

Australia produces about as big trees as California. A giant in Australia has been named King Edward VII by the government of Victoria. A tablet proclaiming its royal dedication has been affixed to its trunk, which has a girth of 37 feet at the base.

The Duke of Connaught is one of the most experienced horticulturists of the day. When at home at Bagshot House the duke busies himself almost every day in his garden. He lays out the beds with his own hands, and has quite a remarkable knowledge of botany.

The degeneration of the British race physically has been a good deal assumed upon insufficient evidence, but no one can deny that the drunkenness of mothers must increase the number of faulty citizens. Poverty and drink bulk largely in bringing about race degeneration.

At the monthly meeting of the United Free Presbytery of Paisley on the 6th inst. Principal Hutton was congratulated on his prospective election to the moderatorship of the general assembly, and on his being the recipient of the degree of D.D. from Edinburgh University.

Mr. Carnegie has sent the Dalton-in-Furness Council a stinging letter. Some time ago he advanced the council £3,000, and a central library and two branches were built. The council applied to him for a further donation to cover extra expenditure. He emphatically declines, and says there is too much of a mechanical "Go to Mr. Carnegie and get the money" as a matter of course about this attitude.

SPARKLES.

Miss Doolittle was giving an elaborate description of a blacksmith, preparatory to teaching her first-grade pupils the poem of Longfellow's.

"Now, children, we are going to learn a poem today about some one who works very hard. He is very large, and has great arms that can lift such heavy things!—His face is blackened with soot that comes from his fire. And he wears a dirty black apron, and he has a fire that glows red, and whenever he makes anything he puts it into this fire, then pounds it with a great hammer, which makes a clanging noise and makes the sparks fly all about. Now who can tell me what I have been describing?"

A little maid, who had listened to these vivid details with eyes twice their natural size, sprang to her feet, and said, in an awed whisper:
"The devil."

"Don't be too anxious to get a husband," said the wise matron. "Don't go around hunting for one." "Think I should just sit down and wait for one, eh?" replied the maiden. "Yes; for you'll sit up and wait for one often enough after you've got him."

"Did you tell Clarence you would cut him off without a cent if he married that girl?" "No," answered the wise father, "the idiot would marry her in spite of that; I told the girl."

"I reckon Josh 'll make his mark in the world one o' these days." "Mebbe he will," replies the father; "but I wish he'd take the hoe and put a few dints into it by way of practice."

Mrs. Brand—"I wunner whit proper by-name we cood gie oor wee Watty, sein' he's sae clever at playin' mischievous tricks?" Mr. Brand (after a minute's cogitation)—"Monkey Brand."

An Ayrshire Story—A good story is told of an Ayrshire gravedigger. Cholera was raging in the district in which he resided, and every day he had a number of graves to dig, and was fast making money. While digging a grave a friend, in passing, said:—"You're busy, John." "Yes," he replied; "but this is a useless job—it's for the wife."

Awkward—A little child was sobbing loudly in a street in Glasgow the other day when a kindly old gentleman who was passing patted the child on the head, and said:—"There, there—don't cry; be a man." Child (still sobbing)—"Hoo e-can I be a man, when I'm a la-lassee?"

"Yes," said the condescending youth, "I am taking fencing lessons." "Good," answered Farmer Cornrossel. "I allus said you was goin' to turn in an' do somethin' useful. What's your specialty goin' to be—rail, stone or barbed wire?"

No Doubt About It—A certain Mrs. Murphy who keeps lodgers had one who had the curious name of Mustard. One morning he was having porridge for breakfast, and, as it was too hot, he put it out on the window-sill to cool. Unfortunately it slipped over the window, and landed on the top of a neighbor's head. The enraged neighbor went up to the house and demanded an explanation of the outrage. The landlady, remembering about her lodger, replied, "Oh, that's Mustard." "Tell name o' yer lees, Mrs. Murphy; it's rale Scotch parritch" was the haughty reply.

Australia has no orphan asylums. Every child who is not supported by its parents becomes a ward of the State, receives a pension, and is placed in a private family, where board and clothes are provided.

HEALTH IN SPRING.

Nature Needs Assistance in Making New Health-Giving Blood.

Spring is the season when your system needs toning up. In the spring you must have new blood, just as the trees must have new sap. Nature demands it. Without new blood you may have twinges of rheumatism or neuralgia, occasional headaches, a variable appetite, pimples or eruptions of the skin, or a pale, pasty complexion. These are sure signs that the blood is out of order. A tonic is needed to give new energy. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are the best tonic in all the world. They make new, rich, blood—your greatest need in spring. They clear the skin, drive out disease and make tired, depressed men and women bright, active and strong. Mrs. Chas. Masson, Yamachiche, Que., proves the great value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in building up people who have become weakened and run down. She says:—"In the winter of 1905 I was very much run down and lost flesh rapidly. My blood was poor. I suffered from indigestion, severe headaches and general debility. In this condition I decided to give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a trial, and thanks to this valuable medicine I am again enjoying perfect health."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure all the ailments due to poor blood or shattered nerves. That is why they cure anaemia, rheumatism, neuralgia, kidney trouble, indigestion and the secret ailments of women and girls. Sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

NO RAILWAYS THEN.

The era of stage coaches in Britain extends from early in the seventeenth till about the middle of the nineteenth century, but the date of first starting can only be ascertained approximately. There is record of a grant in 1610 of a Royal patent to run coaches for hire between Edinburgh and Leith, but their use must have been very restricted.

By 1640, however, stage coaches had come to have a practical share in the ordinary means of travel. An English writer in 1649 says:—

"There is of late such an admirable com-moiousness, both for men and women, to travel from London to the principal towns of the country that the like hath not been known in the world, and that is by stage coaches, wherein anyone may be transported to any place, sheltered from foul weather and foul ways, at the low price of about a shilling for five miles."

The outside fare from Glasgow to Edinburgh was 10s, other parts of the kingdom being covered at similar rates, which gives an average rate for outside seats of about 3d per mile. In 1754 steel springs were first used in coaches; in 1780 glass was used instead of the leather curtains hitherto in use; in 1784 His Majesty's mails were first carried in coach. About 1816 the macadam system of road-making greatly accelerated the speed, and from this to 1836 was the golden age of coaching, the regular service of coaches then plying being:—54 in England, 30 in Ireland, and 10 in Scotland. Then came the railway.

THE SOURCE OF SUCCESS.

The strong character creates opportunities. Columbus did not wait for a modern steamship to discover the New World. No one and no condition of affairs could discourage him. It is the same at all places and all times. The great soul rises above his surroundings. To the strong there is no impediment. Helen Keller, blind, deaf, and dumb, found her afflictions no insurmountable barrier to success. Happiness, success, content all come from within. The outside world neither makes nor mars.