

JUST NOW

is the time to get that room papered cheaply—before the rush of the busy season commences. See our remnant also new goods.

E. N. HUNT, 190 Dundas Street.

To Whom She Said "Yes."

"What a pretty cottage!" was Miss Streby's first exclamation. "Is this little girl your sister? And how are you? Not too busy, I hope, to go with me?"

"Unfortunately, no—I am not busy at all," Edna replied. "But don't think my answer rude. I mean that mamma, who always spends this one day in the week at home, has been obliged to go out; and, losing her society, just as we had planned to be so happy together, has made me cross and idle."

"And not able to settle to anything else," said Miss Streby, with a sagacious nod. "I know the feeling. How lucky it is that I have arrived just as you're nothing better to do than help me! Put on your hat, will you? and come at once. Our horses are soon ready if they're kept standing, and Rifles was too busy to drive me, so I'm on honor to get home again without any disasters."

"But where do you want me to go?" asked Edna, glancing doubtfully at the pawing, snorting animals.

"To fifty places; but I can explain all that as we go along. No, don't look doubtful. I'll not upset you, and your sister will spare you, I'm sure, if I promise to come some other day and give her a long country drive."

Lotty, who was rather glad than sorry to escape the long chapter of history Edna was inflicting on her, nodded assent, and ran off at once to her dolls, of which, being a shy, peculiar child, she was fonder than of the very few playmates her somewhat isolated dwelling enabled her to have.

And Edna, always willing to oblige, hurriedly donned her outdoor dress, and in a very few minutes pronounced herself ready to accompany Miss Streby.

"Now, may I know where you are taking me," she said, when, after a little plunging about, the restless steeds permitted themselves to be guided in the direction of the village street.

"That depends on you," was the reply. "I came down here to order in stores for the garrison, and could get scarcely a thing I asked for. In some articles I had exhausted the supply last evening and others are only to be had when ordered. The butcher, who is also the grocer, only kills beef once a week. Fish must be procured from Alderby, and for eggs, fowls, cream, butter and cheese, I am directed to the farm houses round about. Now, where is round about? When I inquired which way I had better take, Mrs. Butcher—Mr. Butcher was out pig-buying—got into a fog. I might go to Smith's farm if I liked, but she wasn't sure whether the supply was better there. Or I might try Brown's, but their fowls were always terribly poor, and as for them Jones's—But I didn't stop to hear any more, for it had just popped into my head that this slow, stupid woman, here we are at the cross roads. Which one am I to take?"

Her brisk proceedings almost took Edna's breath away; but after very brief consideration, she had decided where the Strebys were most likely to get what they needed. Edna Streby's bonny face was well known at most of the farm houses around Eastham, for she was a good walker, and a winning manner inherited from her mother—always so gay and so gracious—made the old women and children her friends wherever she appeared.

With a little aid and advice from her, Miss Streby transacted her business satisfactorily, and turned her horses' heads homeward, with the carriage filled with provisions, and a regular supply promised to the household at most of the farmers' wives. The Beeches by the farmhouse, where whom her companion had introduced her. She had proved herself such an adept at bargaining that Edna laughingly expressed a little surprise.

"Lor' now, does it strike you as odd," said Miss Streby, laughing too. "You see, I like buying, but I know no reason why I should pay away more of pa's money for an article than it is worth. We never run bills; it's always 'How much is it?' and 'here's the cash.' But I once heard somebody say that we were a queer family; and perhaps it's true."

"How did you pass the night? Has your furniture arrived," were the questions Edna now put to her.

"The night? Oh! we got on very well. The carelessness reply. "The old woman came home soon after you left us, and when she had got over the fright papa's scolding gave her, she was quite useful—found us some delicious home-baked bread, and lent us a feather bed for me; and we made her sit up with us and tell us all the old ghost stories she could remember, or pa spoiled the effect of the most exciting snoring his loudest in the middle of it."

"And the furniture?" queried Edna again. "I felt quite uncomfortable when the wind howled toward morning, to think of you all in that empty, desolate house."

"Lor' now, did you? Why, we had a jolly fire, and were comfortable enough. Lin went into fits of laughter when she woke at daybreak and looked around her. She said she never saw human creatures sleeping in such ridiculous attitudes before. But we jumped up none the worse for it, except one of the twins. I put her to bed on a

wide shelf, and she fell off and bruised her nose."

"But your furniture?" asked Edna, for the third time.

"Oh, that came in sight just as I started, so we shall be able to give you your luncheon on a table, instead of spreading the cloth on the floor, as we did at breakfast time. No, indeed, you were not going to leave me yet. Ma wants to ask you something, and made me promise not to go back without you."

So Edna had to keep her seat till they arrived at The Beeches, where they found confusion worse confounded. Huge wains were drawn up in front of the house, and workmen, under the direction of Rifles, were toiling up the staircases with heavy chests of drawers, etc. A buxom cook—who, with half a dozen more servants, had just arrived in the roomy carriage of their employer—came out to greet Miss Philip and carry off the contents of the wagonette. The maids ran to and fro trying to reduce to something like order the chaos around them; and to make the turmoil greater, the younger Strebys were dancing a sort of war dance around a fat, placid baby, the last born, the only boy, who sat in the arms of his nurse, chuckling and crying at the worshippers, to their intense delight.

Edna looked round for Mr. Streby; but, cigar in mouth, he had sailed forth to have a chat with a man who had offered himself as gardener. Mrs. Streby was reclining on a pile of cushions in one of the bay windows of the drawing-room, doing nothing but play with the rings on her plump fingers, and smile at her daughters whenever one of them rushed in to announce some discovery, put up her cushions, and fly off again. There were no noises around her that would have distracted some matrons—hammering and knocking, lumbering of heavy feet overhead, a crash of glass down below, and presently a shrill scream, so startling to Edna that she offered to go and ascertain what had occasioned it.

"Thank you, my love, but I don't think I need trouble you," said Mrs. Streby, calmly. "It isn't baby's voice; I rather think that it is my Priss, our housemaid; she is nervous, poor thing, and is always fancying that she sees a mouse or feels a spider. It was annoying till we were used to it, but an excellent servant, and a little brandy generally brings her to."

Edna then consoled with her on the confusion that reigned around, but was answered in the same placid strain.

"Ah! yes, I suppose the house does look untidy, but we shall get it settled by-and-by, I daresay. Pray sit down. Ah! I forgot that there are no chairs unpacked; do have one of my cushions, unless you prefer the window-seat."

"Thanks; but is there nothing I can do for you?—to assist, I mean, in arranging the rooms. I shall be so pleased to be of some use."

"You are very good-natured, my love," said Mrs. Streby, leaning back to look up into the pretty, animated face of her visitor; but there really isn't the least occasion for you to tire yourself. The servants are here, and they will do all that is required. Not today, perhaps; we must give them time, poor things! but in the course of a week or two everything will be in its place, I daresay. Have you seen baby?—she is somewhere about, I've no doubt. I should like you to see our only son."

Yes, Edna had caught more than one glimpse of the heir of the Strebys; sometimes borne on the shoulders of one of his elder sisters, as they wandered about the house watching the workmen, sometimes tucked up under the arm of the more energetic Priss, as she bustled away to point out the place for some piece of furniture; then, for a little while, the object of dispute with the twins, who struggled for him till any other infant would have quailed under the force of their combined onslaughts; but beyond seeing his features and converting his mouth into a round O, Master Streby bore the pulling and lugging to which he was subjected as if it were second nature.

The last time an opening door enabled Edna to glance into the hall; he was there, and had been squeezed into a basket, and propped up with a hassock, that the young lady, who, by dint of greater strength, had gained possession of him, might the more conveniently feed him with sugar-plums and bites from a raw apple.

[To be Continued.]

A DAUGHTER'S STORY

She Tells How Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills Cured Her Mother of Nervousness, Sleeplessness and General Debility

The people of London and surrounding country are daily having fresh evidence brought to their notice of the power of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills to cure such complaints as palpitation, throbbing of the heart, weak or irregular pulse, dizzy and faint spells, nervousness, sleeplessness, to head, anaemia, pale and sallowness of complexion, female complaints and weak, run down condition of the system. Never before has such proof been presented of the efficacy of any remedy, and the confidence with which those speak who have been cured by Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, has established them securely in the estimation of the public.

Recently Miss Margaret Brown, 627 Colborne street, London, brought to our attention the facts in connection with her mother's case. This is her statement:

"My mother has been afflicted with nervous and general debility for a long time. She suffered a great deal with insomnia, and found it almost impossible to sleep.

"I went to the drug store and got a box of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, which she took, and derived so much benefit from them that I bought another box for her. They have done her a wonderful lot of good, making her nervous system much stronger, giving her restful sleep, and removing many other symptoms which previously distressed her."

"I can truly say that these pills are a great remedy for any one suffering from weak nerves, general debility, sleeplessness or heart trouble."

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50c a box or 3 for \$1.25, at all drug stores, or sent by mail. T. Milburn & Co., Toronto, Ont.

Tourists to Friedrichsruhe eagerly pick up all the acorns they find there, cherishing them as relics of the Iron Chancellor.

A DINNER PILL.—Many persons suffer excruciating agony after partaking of a hearty dinner. The food partaken of is like a ball of lead upon the stomach, and instead of being a healthy nutriment, it becomes a poison to the system. Dr. Parmentier's Vegetable Pills are wonderful correctives of such troubles. They correct acidity, open the secretions and convey the food partaken of into healthy nutriment. They are just the medicine to take if troubled with indigestion.

THE HURON AND ERIE

Loan and Savings Company.

The thirty-fifth general annual meeting of this company was held at its office in London, Ont., on Wednesday, Feb. 8, 1899. Present: Messrs. F. P. Betts, P. Mackenzie, V. Cronyn, C. Morton, G. F. Jewell, J. W. Morrison, H. E. Gates, T. A. Browne, Hume Cronyn, Dr. Eccles, F. E. Leonard, John Labatt, J. W. Little, G. A. Somerville, Dr. H. Arnott, J. M. McWhinney, and others.

The president, Mr. J. W. Little, took the chair, and the manager, Mr. G. A. Somerville, acted as secretary. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved, after which the report and financial statement were submitted as follows:

REPORT.

The directors of the Huron and Erie Loan and Savings Company beg to submit herewith their thirty-fifth annual report, showing the results of the business of the company for the past year, as summarized in the balance sheet to Dec. 31, 1898, duly audited.

The net profits for the year show an improvement over last year's results, due mainly to reductions made in interest on borrowed capital. After defraying the expenses of management and all other charges, and writing off anticipated as well as actual losses, the balance available for distribution is \$168,762.52, the following disposition of which has been approved by the

Dividends, 9 per cent per annum, and income tax thereon	\$128,636.76
Addition to reserve fund	30,000.00
Applied in reduction of office premises account	5,000.00
Addition to balance of unappropriated profits carried forward	5,125.76
Total	\$168,762.52

As heretofore no investments have been made by the company outside of Western Ontario. The applications for loans have been scrutinized with the usual care, and only such have been accepted as were considered desirable after examination and report by the Company's inspectors.

Throughout the year the demand for money on mortgage has been fairly good, but at declining rates of interest. The amount of new loans effected during the year, including mortgages renewed for a further term, was over \$1,500,000.

The property and greater activity apparent in almost every department of business are observable also in an increased demand for farm property, generally at improved prices. Borrowers have met their payments very satisfactorily, and the real estate held by the company, exclusive of office premises, is taken into account at only \$10,800. This sum includes all properties remaining unsold which have come into the possession of the company by foreclosure, failure to obtain purchasers under power of sale, or otherwise.

Your directors desire to bear testimony to the very efficient manner in which the manager and other officers of the company have discharged their respective duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. LITTLE,
President.
London, Ont., Jan. 28, 1899.

Statement for the Year Ending Dec. 31, 1898.

PROFIT AND LOSS.

To dividend No. 68, 4 1/2%	\$53,000.00
Dividend No. 69, 4 1/2%	52,000.00
Income tax	2,636.76
Interest on deposits	\$41,743.74
Interest on sterling debentures	52,852.21
Interest on Canadian debentures	60,135.07
Interest on Canadian debentures accrued but not due	\$14,829.02
General expense account	\$17,557.15
Office expenses, including directors' fees and auditors' salaries, solicitors' fees, taxes on office premises, etc.	6,558.84
Commission on loans	6,283.33
Land inspection	4,785.65
Commission and other expenses on sterling debentures	1,822.44
Losses on real estate	\$36,625.91
Written off office premises	2,110.42
Transferred to reserve fund	30,000.00
Balance	22,553.70
	\$379,753.51

By balance brought forward	\$17,427.04
By balance from office building	361,454.01
By balance from office building	3,714.25
Profit on sterling exchange	505.36
	\$379,753.51

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

Liabilities to the public:	
To deposits	\$1,263,552.26
Sterling debentures	1,292,552.82
Canadian debentures	1,549,596.12
Interest accrued but not due	35,110.43
	\$4,241,812.63
To the shareholders:	
To capital stock paid up	\$1,400,000.00
60th dividend, due Jan. 3, 1899	63,000.00
Reserve fund	750,000.00
Unclaimed dividends	43.38
Balance	22,553.70
	\$2,235,597.08
	\$6,477,410.71

Assets:	
By cash value of mortgages	\$6,119,034.46
Less amount retained to pay prior mortgages	30,626.66
Real estate on hand	\$6,088,407.80
Office building	10,800.00
Cash value of debentures and government insured stock	288,520.00
Cash in office	3,714.25
Cash in banks	200,927.16
	\$173,261.36
	\$6,587,492.18

G. A. SOMERVILLE, Manager.

We hereby certify that we have carefully audited the books and accounts of the Huron and Erie Loan and Savings Company for the year ending Dec. 31, 1898. The cash and bank accounts have been audited monthly; the postings and balances of all the company's ledgers examined quarterly; and we find the whole correct and in accordance with the above statements. We have also examined the company's securities and find them in order.

GEO. F. JEWELL, F. C. A.,
THOS. A. BROWNE,
Auditors.

London, Jan. 26, 1899.

The president, in moving the adoption of the 35th annual report, said: "I have much pleasure in congratulating the shareholders on the continued prosperity of the company. Ever since the organization of the Huron and Erie in 1864, there has been a steady advance year by year the directors have been able to show a satisfactory improvement in the company's position, and this report will compare very favorably with any previously presented."

"After providing for the usual dividend of 9 per cent per annum, and for all ascertained and probable losses and outlays of every kind, \$5,000 have been written off the office building, about \$5,000 added to the balance carried forward, and \$20,000 placed to the credit of the reserve fund, which now amounts to \$750,000, or over 55 per cent of the paid-up capital."

"The policy of the careful inspection of all loans by the company's own officers has been continued, and all applications for renewals, as well as for new loans, have been rigidly scrutinized, less than 40 per cent of the new loans considered by the board having been accepted."

"The company has now only eleven mortgages over \$10,000, the total number being 3,688, averaging \$1,554.03 each. "The arrears of principal and interest amount to less than 1 1/2 per cent of the money invested, and the real estate on hand stands at \$10,800."

"The rate of interest paid on deposits and debentures has been considerably reduced and a very satisfactory feature is the large increase in Canadian debentures, an evidence of the high standing of the company where it is best known."

"Early in the year your directors purchased a block of city of London 3 1/2 per cent debentures maturing in about 25 years. These securities are readily saleable in financial centers abroad, as well as in Canada, they constitute a valuable addition to the immediately available assets of the company."

"The question of the amalgamation of the Huron and Erie with some other company or companies has lately received some attention in the newspapers. It may therefore be well for me to state that this matter has never been discussed by the board, and that they have neither received nor made any proposal respecting amalgamation with any company in London or elsewhere."

"Another interesting topic has been the company's dividend. Your directors have frequently been asked whether they expected to be able much longer to maintain the present rate. Heretofore the board have not spent much time in discussing the prospects of the company, nor have many attempts been made at the annual meetings to forecast the future, rather have the directors bent their energies to secure the best possible results, taking the shareholders very fully into their confidence, thus enabling them to judge of these matters for themselves, and there seems to be no good reason for making a change in our methods. The shareholders may rest assured that every item in the assets has been taken at what may be called a 'hard' valuation, and that no account of any kind is carried in the company's books without making what the directors consider an ample allowance if there appears to be the slightest probability of loss."

"I have nothing further to add, but will be glad to answer any questions."

"I now beg to move the adoption of the report."

The vice-president, Mr. Philip Mackenzie, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. He congratulated the shareholders upon the excellent nature of the year's business. A comparison of the annual reports would show that the earning power of the shareholders' money had been about one per cent greater this year than last.

Mr. Charles Morton expressed pleasure at the fact that the company had not amalgamated with any other institution. The present report, he thought, could not be improved upon.

On motion of Dr. Eccles, seconded by H. E. Gates, the usual vote of thanks to the president, directors, manager and officers of the company was adopted.

Mr. Frank E. Leonard, in acknowledging the vote, stated that the directors and management had all worked together in full accord, with an earnest desire to produce the best results for the shareholders, and he felt convinced that everyone interested in the company would be highly gratified with the statement presented.

Mr. V. Cronyn, in responding to the vote of thanks, just adopted, remarked that the success of the company for the past year had rested from the faithful discharge of the management in carrying out the policy long since adopted by the board, viz., a thorough inspection in the first instance, following by reinspection and counter-inspection from time to time of all properties mortgaged to the company; further, the amount of arrears due and of lands fallen into the company through mortgagors' default being kept at a minimum, thereby ascertaining and writing off losses with the least delay, and lastly, never over-estimating assets.

But least the shareholders might be led from the very favorable report submitted, to expect too much in the future, he would emphasize what the president had said as to the increase of profits derived from the reduction of interest on the company's borrowings and point out that the beneficial effect of such reduction being more rapid in operation than the depreciation of the rate of interest received on loans, the result would be that, as present loans matured and were renewed at a reduced rate of interest, such abnormal profit would cease.

Messrs. G. F. Jewell and Thos. A. Browne, having been appointed scrutineers, reported the following gentlemen elected as directors for the ensuing year: Messrs. J. W. Little, Philip Mackenzie, Prof. Wm. Saunders, F. E. Leonard, V. Cronyn and John Labatt.

The subsequent meeting of the board Mr. J. W. Little was elected president, and Mr. Philip Mackenzie vice-president.

Minard's Liniment Cures Dandruff

The mansion formerly occupied by Madame Elizabeth, the sister of Louis XVI., is offered for sale in Versailles.

The electric light plant in Long Beach, Cal., is managed by a woman, Mrs. Iva E. Tutt, who is superintendent and principal owner as well.

Persic Dog Wash completely destroys the thousand insect pests that make a dog's life miserable, such as fleas, lice, ticks, parasites, insects, etc. It strengthens the skin, cures mange and kindred skin diseases, and makes the coat glossy and silken.

Acts as a tonic on sickly, depressed animals, leaving them fresh and in good spirits.

At all druggists.

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Today and Tonight

we will clear out a line of 25 Big Boys' Cape Overcoats, all wool, regular values \$7, \$8 and \$8.50. On Friday and Saturday you take your choice of this lot for

\$3.00

25 Men's Beaver Overcoats, velvet collars, regular value \$7. You take your pick for

\$4.75

OAK HALL,

154 Dundas Street, London.

ALFRED TAYLOR, Manager.

FREE WATCH

One Day's Work

We give this fine watch and also a Chain to every customer who orders two dozen packages of Exquisite Perfumes at 25c each. Send your order to-day, and we will forward the watch, perfume and our Premium List. No money required. Sell the perfume among your friends, return money, and we send the watch, prepaid. This is a genuine American Watch guaranteed a good timepiece. Mention this paper.

Home Specialty Co., 606 Victoria St., Toronto

TRIPLE TRAGEDY!

Occurs in a Fashionable Hotel in Denver, Col.

A Prominent Attorney and a Young Widow and Her Son the Victims.

Denver, Colo., Feb. 11.—Henry P. Rhodes, a prominent young attorney of this city, who for eight years prior to 1897 was deputy district attorney here, died at St. Luke's Hospital Thursday morning as the result of wounds inflicted by himself last Tuesday afternoon. At 10 o'clock Thursday night Mrs. Olga Lavrenius, a young Russian widow, understood to have been Rhodes' fiancée, shot and instantly killed her 10-year-old son and then sent a bullet through her own brain. The tragedies of Tuesday and Wednesday both occurred at the Arno, a fashionable hotel where Rhodes and Mrs. Lavrenius have boarded for several months.

Mrs. Lavrenius attended Rhodes at the hospital until his death, which she took with seeming composure. Thursday night, after her little son was asleep in bed, she shot him through the head and turned the weapon upon herself.

Rhodes was a Kentuckian, belonging to one of the best families in that state. Mrs. Lavrenius was a beautiful woman 33 years old and highly accomplished. She was a nihilist, and with her husband was several years ago sentenced to life imprisonment in Siberia. Five or six years ago they were pardoned by the czar and came to this country, locating first in Chicago; but four years ago coming to Denver, where Lavrenius became a student at the Denver Medical College. Two and a half years ago he died of Bright's disease.

They are said to have belonged to a wealthy family and have always received liberal remittances from Russia.

A Generous Offer.

We are authorized to offer our readers, prepaid, a free sample of a never-failing cure for catarrh, bronchitis, irritable sore throat, influenza, and such throat and nasal diseases. There is no mystery about Catarrh, though its effect is magical. Ointments and washes cannot reach the diseased parts, and have thus proved useless. But Catarrh is carried by air directly to the diseased part, and is like a breeze from the pine woods. Write for free sample to N. C. Poisson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

Jewels to the amount of \$180,000,000 have been imported into this country in the last 25 years.

There is not a more dangerous class of disorders than those which affect the breathing organs. Nullify this danger with Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil—a pulmonary, of acknowledged efficacy. It cures soreness and lameness when applied externally, as well as swollen neck and crick in the back; and, as an inward specific, possesses most substantial results.

The present system of musical notation, was invented in the eleventh century.

Kidney Bladder Trouble.

There is no more serious menace to good health in the present age than kidney disorders, and it's an appalling fact, but a true one, that four-fifths of the country's people have the taint of this insidious disease with them. Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills cure all kidney disease.

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HAVE YOU Sore Throat, Pimples, Copper-Ulcers in Mouth, Hair-Falling? Write Cook Remedy Co., 1,687 Masonic Temple, Chicago, Ill., for proofs of cure. Capital \$100,000. Worst cases cured in 15 to 35 days. 600-page book free.

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AN ABSOLUTELY PURE SOAP. IT'S THE WASH-ERS' Premiums For All.

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Up-to-Date Laundry

All work done by hand and done up in any style to suit you. Parcels called for and delivered.

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