

## The Planet

A. STEPHENSON, Proprietor.

## EXTENT OF FAMINE IN INDIA.

The famine in India extends over a territory of 500,000 square miles; in other words, an area four times greater than that of the British Isles. To give one an idea of the extent of the scourge, some figures are submitted herewith of the total population of the famine-stricken provinces and of the persons aided. It will be, besides, very evident, that all the starving people have not been helped, and that those relieved receive only insufficient aid. Following is a table which will illustrate the distressing conditions prevailing in India:

Provinces	Population	Persons Aided
Bombay Sindh	20,000,000	950,000
Punjab	9,000,000	175,000
Central Provinces	12,000,000	1,441,000
Bihar	3,900,000	285,000
Agroha Werwara	1,000,000	107,000
Kajputana	12,000,000	337,000
Central India	8,000,000	83,000
Bombay Native States	6,000,000	333,000
Baroda	2,500,000	63,000
Northwest provinces	500,000	3,000
Punjab Native States	500,000	3,000
Total	75,400,000	3,784,000

Cable advices tell us that the Indian government, though doing its utmost, is utterly unable to cope with the ever-increasing distress. As this is said to be the most prosperous year Canada ever enjoyed this country ought to be in a condition to render substantial aid.

## RATHER SMALL.

It is not often that a great family journal and only superior local advertising medium feels called upon to take the Banner or anything which appears in its columns seriously. It comes difficult to regard it as anything but a newspaper joke, but for once we feel called upon to take it like a Dutch uncle.

Now, the directory tells us that our esteemed local contemporary is a newspaper. It may or may not be; that, of course, is purely a matter of opinion. But for the purpose of this article we'll say it is. That being the case, a newspaper is published with the object of being read. We assume, therefore, the Banner is read by somebody, if only its own staff. If it were not it would not be published. Hence, its importance is to be measured just by the number of people who peruse it, and even if that number be very limited, still, as long as it is read by anyone at all, there is some degree to the harm it can do or the good it may accomplish. This being the case we now come to what we want to say about our misguided contemporary.

If there is one society in the world that is doing a Godly, heaven-sent work, it is the Red Cross. Other societies do good too, but it is the Red Cross that goes where blood flows and strife rages, to succor the wounded, aid the sick and comfort the dying. Thousands of unfortunate victims of shot, shell and steel, owe their lives to the unselfish devotion of the Red Cross volunteers. Whenever the horrors of war are worst, the heroes of this society are present to minimize them. Whenever human passion shows its most debased side the Christian workers of the Red Cross are present to bring out its best. It matters not of what nation the victim is, he may be Christian or pagan, he may be a sick man in a field hospital, or a dying soldier, still under fire of the enemy, yet the arm of the Red Cross is long enough to reach, help and aid him, if it be only to pillow his head for the last agonizing gasp.

Now, while all of us are not wanted as nurses and assistants at the front in this work, the aid of all is necessary to carry it off on a scale to do the most good. Money is necessary, and plenty of it. The credit of the people of all nations, he said, they have recognized the merits of the Red Cross, and have liberally supported it. From Dan to Bethsheba, from the Klondike to Rio Janeiro, from Hong Kong to Topeka, you will have heard work to find one individual who has not a good word to say for the Red Cross Society—that is to find anyone except our friend the Banner.

For the purpose of helping on this grand, noble, self-sacrificing work, as it is now being conducted in South Africa, a number of ladies and gentlemen of this city went to much time and trouble to get up a concert. They worked without stint and without hope of reward except that which their generous consciences would give to a good deed well performed. But while they asked nothing for themselves the least they were entitled to at the hands of their fellow citizens was some recognition of their noble devotion to a cause that would appeal to its great soul almost to a man without a soul. They worked, they labored and they succeeded, and this is the recognition they received from what purports to be a newspaper and is commonly known as the Banner:

"A concert was given in the Grand

## "Durability is Better Than Show."

The wealth of the multi-millionaires is not equal to good health. Riches without health are a curse, and yet the rich, the middle classes and the poor alike have, in Hood's Sarsaparilla, a valuable assistant in getting and maintaining perfect health. It never disappoints.

**Scrofula.**—Three years ago our son, now eleven, had a serious case of scrofula and erysipelas with dreadful sores, discharging and itching constantly. He did not help for weeks. Several physicians tried but in vain. Sixteen months later, three months' treatment with Hood's Sarsaparilla made him perfectly well. We are glad to tell others of it. Mrs. DAVID LAIRD, Ottawa, Kansas.

**Nausea.**—"Vomiting, spells, dizziness and prostration troubled me for years. Had neuralgia, grew weak and could not sleep. My age was against me, but Hood's Sarsaparilla cured me thoroughly. My weight increased from 125 to 145 pounds. I am the mother of nine children. Never felt so well and strong since I was married as I do now." Mrs. M. A. WILSON, 1829 3rd St., Washington, D.C.

**Eczema.**—"We had to tie the hands of our two year old son on account of eczema on face and limbs. No medicine even helped until we used Hood's Sarsaparilla, which soon cured." Mrs. A. VAN DYKE, 123 Montgomery Street, Paterson, N.J.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is the only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

**Hood's Sarsaparilla**  
Never Disappoints

Opera House last evening under the auspices of the Red Cross society.

Shame!

SHORT OF SOLDIERS.

Contrary to general expectation, the war talk, which has been universal for the past year or two has not had the effect of inducing increased martial ardor among the citizens of the French capital. This condition of affairs is doubtless traceable to the same cause which is believed to have disastrously affected the conscription this year. The total number of conscripts drawn shows a reduction of nearly 15,000, as compared with last year. This noticeable drop has caused some uneasiness in France, and efforts are being made to account for it in as satisfactory a way as possible.

The fundamental cause of the diminution is doubtless due to the stationary state of the population, but it is also a fact that there has been a special cause at work this year. The medical examination of the conscripts has been far more severe on this occasion than for several years past. In 1894, Gen. Mercier, alarmed at the dwindling of the annual contingent, ordered the military medical boards—the counsels de revision, as they are termed—to pass men who, though they would not be fit to make active soldiers, might yet be utilized for duties that do not involve actual fighting. Their presence in the ranks would, thus set free a number of men capable of going to the front, but whose occupation would make them non-combatants in the event of war. There have since been complaints that some of the men passed as the result of Gen. Mercier's instructions suffered in their health as a consequence of their incorporation.

## Grand OPERA HOUSE

Thursday, March 29th

MATINEE and NIGHT

The Edison Biograph Co., Showing Actual Battles of the

British-Boer War.

The Canadian Contingent Embarking for South Africa.

The finest moving picture ever shown in Chatham.

PRICES—15c, 25c and 35c.

Children's Matinee After School—Admission 10c.

## GRAND OPERA HOUSE

One Night Only

Saturday, March 31st

LINCOLN J. CARTER'S

Thrilling and Romantic War Play

"Chattanooga"

"A Play that is good for the North and South."

Starting in its Realism!

Novel in its Construction!

Picturesque and True to Life in its Rendition!

"An Engine and Tender running away from the Audience at the rate of 60 miles an hour."

THAT CAVALRY CHARGE!

Prices 25c, 35c, 50c, and 75c.

Minard's Liniment is used by Physicians.

Chatham, March 24.

FALL WHEAT ALL RIGHT.

Robert Wilson, of the Harwich town line near Charing Cross, was in the city today. He said that although the wheat fields had been covered with ice even to such an extent that the school children were able to skate to school across the fields for a radius of several miles, still in his opinion the wheat was uninjured. The ground beneath was frozen, and the wheat had no growth in it. Last year the wheat had been winter killed as the result of a similar snow storm, but the conditions were somewhat different. In December, 1898, while the wheat was still growing, there was a heavy fall of snow, which melted, and the frost formed a crust over the wheat. As a result the wheat was smothered and killed, many fields last year having to be ploughed up. Mr. Wilson bases his assertion that this year's crop is not injured on these facts and corroborates what he says

A few thousands voted out of that vaulted five million surplus Mr. Fielding talks of to relieve the starving millions of India, might convince the country that the parliamentary sessions are productive of something besides unseemly wrangles.

The pre-eminence of Ireland as the soberest of the three kingdoms is maintained by the latest statistics compiled by Dawson Burns for his annual letter to the Times on the national consumption of alcoholic liquors. Poor Ireland has been wrongfully accused of various faults from time to time. One of the most persistently alleged for generations has been the fault of addiction to drink. But year by year since the statistics of the national drink bill were first compiled the figures have shown that people in Ireland drink less than their neighbors.

Mayor Rumball, of London, has received a letter from Henry Y. Richardson, of England, in which the writer states that he has come into possession of a tomahawk, bearing the name "R. W. Soper, London, Ont.," and this legend cut in the steel head, "Tecumseh, the hero of Upper Canada, who fell in the midst of the fight with this tomahawk, at Moraviantown, River Thames, Ontario, October 5th, 1812, aged 44 years." What Mr. Richardson wants is information regarding R. W. Soper or his successors with a view to obtaining information that may prove the truth of the legend. Mr. Richardson may put it down for granted that he has been goldbricked on that tomahawk. As Tecumseh's body was never found it is hardly likely his tomahawk turned up. Whoever put the inscription on Mr. Richardson's tomahawk was not even well posted, for the date is just a year out.

## THE PARSON'S PRAYER.

Since it is on the authority of Dean Hole that the following amusing story is told, it may be reproduced without hesitation: A young man was appointed curate in a rural district in Yorkshire, which is also a great sporting centre. He was approached one day by one of the churchwardens and asked to include the name of "Nancy Lee" in the prayers. Three weeks later the C. W. told him, "Nancy Lee, is she dead?" asked the curate, "Dead? Oh, no," was the reply. "She's won the steeplechase, that curate, adds the name, became a power in the parish." Family Herald.

A curate new to Yorkshire came. The sinners to exhort. His congregation had the name. Of being four and a half. Those who were, kindly wishing to perfect his education. Advise, post up, and put him through Duty's initiation.

"From long, stiff sermons please deliver." The wardens did advise. "Our people very much prefer those of a smaller size." "And now, that's all, but, by the way, a good idea I would be. If, when your humbly kneel to pray, You'd mention Nancy Lee."

Their kind advice, forgetting not, With times of wail and woe, As, gaze ye upward, ye be shot, This flowery prayer aloft, Let her, her weakness see, Defend and care for thy hand-maid, Thy servant, Nancy Lee.

"Be unto her a kindly light, Help her to see the goal in sight, So when with glorious goal in sight, And victory in view, With enemies all overthrown, And by her Master blessed, Her task complete, and struggling Will enter into rest."

Upon the faces of his flock, The curate saw with a slight shock His words had great effect; The majority appeared well pleased, Some had expressed a wish to kneel, The head church warden loudly sneezed.

Looked up, and sweetly smiled. On the second Sunday morning Before he did begin, His congregation warning, To avoid all wicked sin, The warden to the vestry came And said, "The Lord did heed, So of earnest prayers for Nancy Lee, We have no further need."

"Did Nancy through her illness pull, Or, did her spirit flee?" "Improvement is impossible, She better could not be, 'Twas not for health, for peace, nor We wanted you to pray." The curate with abated breath Heard the church warden say, "Why, bless you, sir, she did desire, Her rivals to defeat, But never once did she aspire, In Heaven the Lord to meet, Nancy can never get up there, To that exalted place, She's not a woman, but the mare, That won the steeplechase."

Chatham, March 24.

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## Our Native Herbs THE ESSENCE OF NATURE

Nature's greatest remedial agents concentrated in tablet form. A remedy whose efficacy is marvelous for all complaints arising from a disordered Stomach, Liver, Blood and Kidneys. Every box is registered by number and contains a guarantee. If you are not cured the purchase price is refunded. Sold by all druggists or sent by mail. 200 days' treatment \$1.00. Prevents disease as well as cures it. OUR NATIVE HERBS is also sold in powdered form.

ALONZO O. BLISS CO., 232 St. Paul St., Montreal, Can.

from the fact that the wheat that was under the ice is fresher looking and more healthy than that on the knolls and high ground.

## Sentenced to Death.

"You are in the last stages of Consumption and cannot live more than a month," were the words of doom heard by Mrs. Rosa Richardson, of Laurel Springs, N.C., from her doctors, "but she began to use Dr. King's New Discovery," writes R. L. Daughton, of that place, "and was wholly cured by it. She is now a stout, well woman." Its supreme cure for desperate diseases of throat and lungs. Infalible for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, Croup, Whooping Cough, Guaranteed bottles 50c and \$1. Trial bottles at A. I. McColl & Co's drug store.

## TELEGRAPH NEWS.

The Brazilian Minister to the Court of St. James, De Sousa Correa, was found dead in bed.

A Government resolution to abolish the Legislative Council was defeated in the Council by a vote of 5 to 17.

R. M. Wanser, founder of the Wanser Sewing Machine Company, died in New York, aged about 80 years.

The Duke and Duchess of York are planning a visit to Canada as soon as the war is over.

Brandon "Independents" have called a convention for March 29th to name a candidate for the Commons.

The trial of the alleged murderers of Governor Goebel at Frankfurt, Kentucky, is being held in a court room guarded by soldiers.

The little town of Kushkaron on Kootenay Lake was entirely destroyed by fire. Only two buildings were left standing, and the people of the place are destitute.

Octave Blais, a shunter on the Grand Trunk, was killed while working in the yards at Point St. Charles. Falling underneath the moving train, his legs were cut off above the knee.

Arthur E. Laing, the young man charged with stealing \$1,800 from George Lawton's private bank in St. George, pleaded guilty in Brantford, and Judge Hardy sentenced the prisoner to three years' imprisonment in Kingston Penitentiary.

John Cavanagh was acquitted at London, Ont., of the charge of murdering his mother, Chief Justice Meredith taking the case from the jury. This was largely due to the fact that the doctors could not positively say the woman was beaten to death.

The Irish members of Parliament have decided that in the interest of national unity it is advisable to summon a convention of the Irish people, including representatives of the clergy, all public bodies and the Nationalist organizations, etc.

Chatham, March 24.

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## MONEY TO LOAN.

Money to Lend

At 5 and 5 1/2 per cent.

ON LAND MORTGAGES.

Privileges to pay off.

J. W. White Barrister

King Street W. at Chatham

## ..Money to Loan..

ON MORTGAGES

At 4 1/2% and 5%

Liberal Terms and privileges to borrowers.

Apply to LEWIS & RICHARDS,

Barristers, Etc.,

Old Fellows Temple, King St., Chatham

## MONEY TO LOAN

4 1/2, 5 and 5 1/2 %

First and second Mortgages, Notes and other

Securities

R. A. Murphy

Northwest's Block Chatham, Ont.

## TENDERS WANTED

Scaled Tenders, marked "Tender for Church," will be received by the undersigned up to March 30th, 1900, for the several works required for the erection of a new Presbyterian Church at Thameville. The plans and specifications can be seen at my office. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

S. STEWART, M.D., Sec'y Building Committee, Thameville, March 16th, 1900. d.w.d.

## Tenders Wanted.

Whole or separate tenders will be received for the erection and completion of a R. O. Church at Woodlee, for Rev. Father Hodgkinson, P. P., up to and including Wednesday, April 4th, 1900. Plans and specifications can be seen at the R. O. Presbytery, Woodlee, Ont., or at the office of Harry J. Powell, Architect, Stratford, Ont. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Successful tender will be required to give good and sufficient bonds for the performance of the work.

H. J. POWELL, Architect

## Notice to Contractors.

Bulk or separate tenders will be received up to 12 o'clock, noon, Wednesday, April 4th, 1900, for the erection and completion of three veneered brick residences and one veneered brick convent.

On each of these buildings there will be stone work, brick work, plumbing and slating.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Tenders to be left at the Architect's office by the time specified above.

JAMES W. CARSWELL, Architect, Market Building, Chatham, Ont.

March 24th, 1900. td

## NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Scaled, bulk or separate tenders will be received at the office of the undersigned architect, addressed to Joseph Cadotte, Esq., Secretary, up till 12 o'clock a.m. of Saturday, March 24th, 1900, for the erection of a new School House, in School Section No. 4, Township of Dover. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

JOSEPH WILSON & SON, Architects, Chatham, Ont.

CHARLES FRY, Chairman, JOSEPH CADOTTE, Secretary, Trustees, THEODORE CARROLL, Architects, Chatham, Ont.

Plans and specifications at office architect.

73-td

## IT PAYS TO

The Best

PUPILS OF

The Canada Business College

Chatham, Ont.

are ever in demand by business houses.

Among those who have recently secured good positions are the following:

Geo. Carroll, Steno and Book-keeper with Double True Brake Co., Buffalo, N.Y.

Henry White, Book-keeper with W. R. Housman & Co., Cleveland Ohio.

Allice Couzens, as Steno., Richmond & Backus, Detroit.

Ruth Adams, Steno., Windsor Paint and Varnish Co., Windsor.

Fred Carter Steno., M. C. Ry. Office, St. Thomas, Ont.

These, with 130 others of our pupils, have taken good positions since July last. Does it not pay to attend the best?

The present is one of the best seasons for taking a start. No Easter vacation. Pupils may begin at any time.

For Catalogue, address,

D. McLachlan & Co., Chatham, Ont.

A: Bay City, Mich., Daniel J. Trombley, convicted of the murder of his wife, was sentenced to imprisonment in Jackson State Prison for life.

## The Chatham Loan &amp; Savings Co.

INCORPORATED A.D. 1881.

CAPITAL \$1,000,000

Money to Lend on Mortgages

Persons and others wishing to borrow money on mortgages at best rates should apply personally and see agents and times, and secure other advantages by dealing directly with this company. Interest allowed on deposits of 1 and upwards. Depositors are paid 3 to 5 years, interest half yearly.

J. P. CARDINER Manager.

## I AM HERE AGAIN.

WITH McCONNELL'S

Specials for Saturday

THE 24th

We Will Sell For Cash

1 lb. cans of Baking Powder..... 12c

(usual price 15c)

Granulated Sugar, per lb..... 8c

Sweet Biscuits, fine flavor..... 25c

3 lbs for..... 15c

Fresh Lemons, per doz..... 15c

Just in a good Coffee in fancy cans..... 25c