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London Advertiser

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40TH YEAR. NO. 17062 THE ADVERTISER, LONDON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1903. PRICE TWO CENTS.

DUCKING WITH A LIGHTHOUSE

Keeper at Bay Chaleur Gets Unexpected Windfall.

WILD FOWL CHARGE THE GLASS

Migratory Birds Confused by Flame Fall On the Balcony by the Dozen.

Gaspe Basin, Bay of Chaleur, Nov. 26. — The keeper of the lighthouse at the point has ducks for sale. It is not unusual at this season for him to pick up an occasional dead mallard on his little gallery, where it has fallen after knocking its life out against the heavy glass front of the lantern. But during the thick weather of the past few days whole flocks of migratory birds have been lured to their death by the beacon lights.

Just as the twilight was darkening one afternoon, such a disturbance was made that the lighthouse on duty thought it wise to investigate, and climbing up to the fender, found the pathway covered with struggling birds injured by their fight against the glass or fending irons. He was busily engaged in wringing the necks of the ducks, when he received a severe blow on the head from the leader of another flock which was making for the fatal glass.

The speed with which a wild duck travel makes such a blow a rather serious matter, especially for the duck. In this case the first bird was followed quickly by the succeeding members of the flight, and to avoid the incomers, the man found it necessary to lie down flat upon the small balcony.

There he found abundance of work to be done in gathering in and making sure of the ducks which rained down upon him. For some minutes he was unable to move, as the flock was very large.

When at last he judged it wise to stand upright he was literally knee deep in dead and dying birds. Just as he was descending by the outside ladder, he received a paralyzing shock upon the side of his face which considerably hastened his steps.

He was considerably disturbed when he had entered his living room to find that his face was bleeding from a very serious cut some five inches long. The doctors think that the wound was caused by the sharp bill of some large member of the gull family temporarily blinded by the bright light.

After supplying all local needs the lighthouse man still has dozens of ducks for sale, but he has decided against gathering up his game at night time hereafter.

The new gas buoys in the main channel, which shed a beautiful white light of intense brilliancy, have proved to be of great attractiveness to the brant, which are just now on their pilgrimage. If a flock of these magnificent game birds chances to pass within sight of one of the floating lights, it almost invariably drops down close to it to spend the night.

Sometimes the flock dash against the wire guards with such force as to break their necks, and the fishermen have picked up as many as half a score of the brant after a fall or hail or snow at nightfall. It is becoming customary for some of the younger men to sail out after dark to the vicinity of a buoy, and take pot shots at the great flocks of the birds which cluster there.

One of these gunners reported to the newspapers that he had killed thirteen brant at one shot, and that a friend had secured nineteen at once at one of the buoys. It is certain that more have been brought in this year than ever before, and probably because they fly so near the water. The acetylene signals promise to be much more dangerous to the lives of migratory birds than ever the fixed lights which annually cause their destruction in great numbers.

THE KERT SHOOTING

A Witness for the Crown Charged With Perjury.

Montreal, Nov. 26. — In the recent trial here of Max Kert, son of a railway contractor, on the charge of murdering George Greenleys, by shooting at Bouf De Lisle, the principal witness for the crown was Louis Bouret. Bouret is now undergoing trial on a charge of perjury.

The shooting took place close to a cabin used by railroad laborers for sleeping.

Bouret swore he saw Kert deliberately pull a revolver and shoot Greenleys, while standing outside the cabin. Several other witnesses swore the revolver was discharged in Kert's hands, while he was inside the cabin, and took effect in the victim's body after passing through the thin boards of the shanty. In several other details, the crown witnesses' story differed from others who were at the scene of the tragedy. Bouret's story was under suspicion from the time it was told.

COUNTESS EUSTON DEAD

She Figured in a Sensational Divorce Case.

London, Nov. 26. — The Countess of Euston died in London from bronchitis Tuesday. The countess, who was on the variety stage when she was married, in 1871, successfully fought a suit to nullify her marriage, brought by the Earl of Euston, eldest son of the Duke of Grafton, in 1884. The case was regarded as one of the most extraordinary ever heard in the divorce court here. The earl petitioned for a declaration of the nullity of his marriage, on the ground that when he married Kate Walsh she had a husband, named Cooke, alive. The successful defense of the countess was that the man with whom she had gone through the ceremony of marriage before she married the Earl of Euston already had a wife living, so that she was free to marry the earl.

SETTLED OUT OF COURT

Disputants in Stock Broking Case Reach a Settlement.

Montreal, Que., Nov. 26.—Some weeks ago a seat on the stock exchange was purchased by Mr. Reginald Meredith, of Meredith, MacLaren & Co., of this city, and Ottawa, the price paid being $15,500.

The firm's intention to apply for membership was delayed on account of an action entered by Robert Meredith & Co., stock brokers, claiming $6,000 for alleged violation of contract, and injury to business, the plea being that the defendants had broken an agreement not to compete with Robt. Meredith & Co., when they bought out the other firm's Ottawa business.

It is now announced that the action has been withdrawn, the matter being settled out of court by the defendants.

A CLUBMAN SHOT

Was Endeavoring to Protect Lady From Attack.

San Francisco, Nov 26.—Major W. J. McClung, a well-known broker and clubman, was shot and probably fatally wounded last night at the Palace Hotel by Alec Garnet. The shooting took place in the rooms of Mrs. Lillie Hitchcock Coit, who is famous as the only woman ever actively connected with the local fire department. In pioneer days she ran to fires with the firemen and was later elected a member of a company. Garnet was her business agent in minor matters, and Mrs. Coit had a disagreement with him a few days ago that resulted in his dismissal from her employ. Major McClung, who is an elderly gentleman, was visiting Mrs. Coit last night, when Garnet appeared in an intoxicated condition. He drew a revolver and attempted to shoot Mrs. Coit, when McClung attempted to save her and received the bullet intended for the woman.

THEY DISCUSSED CANADA'S FUTURE

Ontario Speakers at a Boston Club Banquet.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S POLICY

And Imperial Federation the Main Topics—Harvard Man Against Retaliation.

Boston, Mass., Nov. 26. — "The Chamberlain plan of protection and preferential tariffs and how it may affect Canada and the United States," was the subject of discussion last night at the annual meeting and banquet of the Canadian Club at the Hotel Vendome.

The dining-hall was appropriately decorated with Canadian and United States flags.

John A. Cooper, of Toronto, the first speaker, gave an historical review of the relations of the Imperial Government with Canada and their bearing on trade policies. He said the Canadians had no desire to break away from their relations to the crown, but wished to end their subjection to the British Cabinet. Mr. Cooper stated that the colonies want representation in the Imperial Parliament or in the Imperial Council.

E. N. Foss, of Boston, declared that any statement of imperial federation which excludes the United States, can have only limited success.

W. F. Cockshutt, of Brantford, Ont., said that instead of reciprocity with Canada it would be better to wait until Chamberlain's policy was adopted and formulate a reciprocity treaty with the British Empire.

The last speaker was Prof. Sumichrast, of Harvard, who spoke against the policy of retaliation. He said the loss of Canada to Great Britain would mean its absorption by the United States. He said Chamberlain's policy would never find the support in Canada that it had already found in South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

BRITAIN, RUSSIA AND THIBETANS

St. Petersburg Journal Says England Wants to Grab Land of the Buddists.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 26.—The newspapers here regard the British expedition to Thibet as an attempt to stir up a movement in China, under cover of which the powers will increase their spheres of influence, and they appeal to China not to permit the empire to be deprived of Russian intervention, which saved it on other occasions.

The Novoe Vremya, in a recent article, declared that if the British succeeded in carrying out their plans, Thibet will be in their hands, as they will always be in a position to threaten Lhassa, and if they gain control of the holy land of Thibet, 500,000 of Buddhists will regard Great Britain as being the most powerful country in the world. The Novoe Vremya adds: "While it is impossible for the weak Thibetans to prevent the British crossing the Himalayas it is quite probable for others to compel the British to stop by creating a slight diversion in some direction disagreeable to the British politicians."

THEY GAMBLE ON LIVES OF MEN

Remarkable System of Life Insurance Unearthed.

JERSEY'S GRAVEYARD SALOONS

Man Who It Is Alleged Purchased Houses Out of the Lives of Young Men.

New York, Nov. 26.—The grand jury of Hudson County, now in session, will take up the trafficking in insurance policies on the lives of young men in Bayonne, which has been carried on by some of the Bayonne saloonkeepers, apparently with such ill effect on the lives of the insured. The grand jury, for which Prosecutor William H. Speer's detectives are now making an investigation, wishes particularly to solve the question: How can a man's life be insured without his knowledge? The solution of that question may lead to indictments.

Not a day passes, now that the insurance scandal has become public property, without fresh revelations about the "graveyard insurance" and its effects on the population of the little Jersey town. Yesterday the family of William Kirkpatrick, who died only three days ago, and whose funeral took place yesterday afternoon, entered formal protest against the payment of a $2,000 insurance policy on Fitzpatrick's life, held by Michael Caroll, a saloonkeeper, whose place the young man frequented.

Fitzpatrick's folks say they learned only when he was dying, and then only from current gossip, of the existence of the policy. They asked the sick man how there happened to be such a policy held outside his family, and he said he never heard of such a policy. This again raises the question, which the insurance company has not yet succeeded in answering, how a man's life can be insured without his knowledge.

Another case which came to light yesterday is that of Thomas Hayden, who died on Oct. 6, of kidney disease superinduced by alcoholism. It is the general talk in Bayonne that both Carroll and Doyle, the saloonkeeper who holds the policy which the murdered Dick Galvin repudiated before his death, had Hayden insured. He was found unconscious in the street in front of Caroll's saloon, and died in two hours. He, like the rest, was a young man.

How profitable is this betting on young men's deaths, apparently with the certainty of winning somehow, is the astonishing feature of the matter. Driscoll, the saloonkeeper who died about six months ago, and whose existing policies were previously canceled by the insurance company, after it had held a sort of investigation and had discharged several agents, was a poor man, running a little groggery a year or so before his death. About that time he realized the possibilities in "graveyard insurance," and began to get insurance on the young men who frequented his place.

When he died the returns had been so good that he owned clear of debt his saloon, four substantial houses in a good section of Bayonne, and was building a fifth. He said frequently that it was the insurance he carried on his patrons that kept him in the liquor business.

The story is told that the license and good-will of a saloon which changed hands about a month ago sold for $500. The insurance policies which were an annex of the business were valued at $3,000, and the two went together for $3,500.

Some of the policies were shared in a sort of partnership by the keepers of men's boarding-houses and the saloonkeepers whose places the boarders frequented. Whatever the method, the result was the same. As far as can be discovered, only a small proportion of the deaths of the hundreds of young men, healthy when insured, were due to violence. Kidney trouble and kindred diseases, all complicated with alcoholism, were responsible for the rest. The insurance traffic has been so general that when one of the saloon habitues died the first question asked about him was: "I wonder who has got him?"

KILLS ALASKA PIGEON

Bird With Silver Band About Neck Shot in Missouri.

Columbia, Mo., Nov. 26. — While out hunting, Will Johnston, of Columbia, saw a strange bird overhead, flying as straight as an arrow toward the southeast. He fired and a beautiful homing pigeon of unusual size and of peculiar bluish color fell at his feet. Around the neck of the bird was a silver band, on which was engraved these words: "For you alone. H. L. E., 12, Fort Selkirk, 1903."

The bird was evidently from the Klondike regions. It was of such unusual size that the bird authorities at Missouri University could not at first classify it, but reference to books clearly identified it as a carrier pigeon of the larger variety. The pigeon was perhaps highly valued, as the silver band was evidently manufactured and engraved for the purpose.

Baronetcy for Ritchie.

London, Nov. 26.—King Edward has conferred a baronetcy on Lord Mayor Ritchie in commemoration of his recent entertainment of King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Helena of Italy at the Guildhall.

Lucky Baby Vanderbilt.

New York, Nov. 26. — Wm. H. Vanderbilt, 2 years old, will have cause to remember the Thanksgiving season of 1903, when he grows up, if reports be true. The second anniversary of the baby's birth will be celebrated by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred G. Vanderbilt, tomorrow. It is said Mr. Vanderbilt will commemorate the event by placing $1,000,000 to the credit of his firstborn.

ELECTION TALK

If They Are Held It Will Probably Be in February.

Ottawa, Nov. 26. — Somebody stuffed Ald. Champagne with the information that the elections had been fixed for Jan. 21, and within a very few minutes the whole city was going with the report. A similar game was put up on La Presse of Montreal, which announces the elections for Jan. 28. There is no decision in the matter yet, but one is expected in the course of another week. If the elections are held this winter February may be the chosen month.

HIT BY DOUBLE-HEADER

Fatal Railway Crossing Accident Near Sterling.

Stirling, Ont., Nov. 26.—About one-half mile east of this village, at Rosebush Crossing, last night a double-headed freight train collided with a single rig, driven and owned by John Thomas Bateman, of the township of Rawdon.

Mr. Bateman was killed outright, as was his horse, while his buggy was completely demolished.

CHICAGO NEWSIES HAVE A FEAST

Five Thousand Boys Fed as They Never Fed Before, Thanks to Isaac Woolf.

Chicago, Nov. 26. — Seventy-eight of Isaac Woolf's employes took care of 5,000 newsboys last night, and fed many youths as they were never fed before.

Each year has increased the number of boys at the Thanksgiving dinner given by Mr. Woolf, and this season for the 21st feast, the First Regiment armory was engaged. It was here that 3,500 visitors had almost as much pleasure as the boys, while again and again the long tables were filled and emptied.

When the newsboys' plates were emptied they were filled again, and when they had eaten all they could their pockets were filled with fruit. At the door they were welcomed and when they were through they were told if they could eat any more they could come in again. The boys were served at twenty long tables, seating 1,000 persons. Mr. Woolf gives the annual dinner in memory of his own boyhood life as a newsboy in London and in observance of a vow he made at that time. The last dinner cost $6,000, and the supplies included 520 turkeys, 250 large bunches of bananas and wagon-loads of baked goods.

DEADLY PERCUSSION CAPS

One Boy Fatally and Another Seriously Injured by Them.

Chicago, Nov. 26.—One boy has been fatally and another seriously injured by the explosion of a box of percussion caps, which they had found in a vacant building. Herman Schuhrke, 9 years old, was bending over the box when the explosion occurred and the sight of both his eyes was destroyed and his face and body badly mutilated.

Arthur Schuhrke, his brother, aged 8, was standing behind him and escaped with a laceration of his right arm and leg and severe burns. The police are making an investigation of the affair. They believe that dynamite also may be concealed in the building.

ALLEN STRIKES OIL

The American Novelist Has Become a Millionaire.

Austin, Tex., Nov. 26. — James Lane Allen, the novelist, suddenly has become a millionaire through the chance investment of a few hundred dollars in the Texas oil fields. The land was worth less than $5 per acre and was practically of no use except for pasturage. A few weeks ago a gusher oil well was found at Batson Prairie, within a mile of Allen's land. The new oil field has been the scene of the wildest excitement since then, and a town of 1,000 people has sprung up at Batson Prairie. It is said Mr. Allen could sell his entire tract at $3,000 per acre, but that he is holding it for $15,000 an acre.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Tomorrow—Snow Flurries.

London, Thursday, Nov. 26.
Sun rises..7:24 a.m. Moon rises..12:31 p.m.
Sun sets...4:46 p.m. Moon sets...11:45 p.m.
Toronto, Nov. 25—8 p.m.

The weather keeps decidedly cold from Manitoba to the Maritime Provinces, and heavy gales have blown all today in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It is turning much milder in the western portion of the Territories.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Calgary, 14—38; Qu'Appelle, 6—22; Winnipeg, 28 below—4 below; Port Arthur, 4 below—10; Parry Sound, 2—18; Toronto, 13—24; Ottawa, 10—12; Montreal, 14—22; Quebec, 10—16; Halifax, 28—34.

Thursday, Nov. 26—8 a.m.

FORECASTS

Moderate to fresh north to northwest winds; fair and decidedly cold today and on Friday; local snow flurries.

Temperatures.

Stations.	8 a.m.	Min.	Weather.
Calgary	26	18	Clear
Winnipeg	10	—16	Cloudy
Parry Sound	2	2	Cloudy
Toronto	6	6	Clear
Ottawa	4	4	Fair
Montreal	6	4	Fair
Quebec	6	4	Cloudy
Father Point	16	12	Cloudy

WEATHER NOTES.

The weather continues decidedly cold from Ontario to the Maritime Provinces, but although in Manitoba and the Territories the cold wave has generally moderated, no change is indicated elsewhere just at present.

Local temperatures: Wednesday—Highest, 36°; lowest, 13.5°.

JAPAN ROUSED AGAINST RUSSIA

Premier Katsura Says He Is Unable to Guarantee Peace.

A WAR WOULD BE POPULAR

Preparations for a Campaign Are Most Complete—Russian Garrisons Increased.

London, Thursday, Nov. 26.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Tokio says that an English correspondent recently interviewed Viscount Katsura, the Prime Minister, who was represented as taking a very peaceful view of the situation. The Premier, who has now seen a summary of the interview, declares that he spoke to the correspondent in a sense contrary to that of the interview, saying that he was unable to guarantee a peaceful settlement.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, referring to the recognition by Russia of Japan's hostile feeling, declares that Russia is determined in no case to modify her policy. He quotes a foreign diplomatist as confirming the statement already cabled that Corea is the crux on which everything depends, and as saying that it can be assumed that Russia's interference there will induce Japan to make any sacrifice to oppose her.

Bennett Burleigh, the Daily Telegraph's special correspondent at Tokio, cables that the report that Japanese warships had been dispatched to intercept two Russian warships bound for Port Arthur is untrue. He says the report probably originated in the detention of a Russian merchantman in a civil suit for damages. He adds that the situation remains serious owing to the tardiness in the negotiations between Japan and Russia, and that there is intense feeling among the populace against Russia's persistent aggressions and breach of engagements. There is great activity at the arsenals and in naval circles.

The Pekin correspondent of the Times, referring to Admiral Alexieff's much-boomed review of the Russian forces at Port Arthur in October, when, according to a statement telegraphed to President Roosevelt and others, 76,000 men were inspected, says that while it cannot be denied that the Russian garrison in Manchuria has been largely increased and is daily growing, it is a fact that the warlike preparations are hurried, very incomplete and less advanced than the world is asked to believe. Japan alone is apparently not deceived. The review occurred within the rails of the race course, which is a mile and a quarter in circumference. The Japanese present estimated the total number of troops present at 15,000. Now authentic information has been received that they numbered 21,000. Admiral Alexieff's exaggeration is regarded as indicating uneasiness in view of the completeness of the Japanese preparations, which many observers believe will, should occasion to take the field arise, astonish the world. The total Russian force in Manchuria is 32,000 men. It is being raised to 50,000.

The Tokio correspondent of the Times says that the situation has not improved. Japan's minimum proposals, which were submitted to Russia in October remain unanswered. The silence is producing a bad effect, and it is feared that unless an agreement is reached before the opening of the Japanese Diet on Dec. 6 the situation may possibly be carried beyond diplomatic control.

O'BRIEN IS DETERMINED

Will Stick to His Resignation From Irish Party.

Dublin, Nov. 26.—William O'Brien, in a letter to John Redmond, the Irish leader, while acknowledging the sincerity of the recent resolutions of the Irish parliamentary party, and the directory of the United Irish League, declines to withdraw his resignation as member of Parliament for Cork or to resume his connection with Irish politics.

A DAUGHTER'S FAITH

It Won a Kansas Judgeship for Her Father.

Washington, Nov. 26.—"Dear Papa: "I see the papers say that some people have told the President that you drink and play cards. If I were you, I would go to the President and tell him that you don't. I think that he would believe, as I do."

The above letter was responsible today for the nomination of John C. Pollock for the federal judgeship of the Kansas district, while the senators and representatives from that state were assembled at the capitol taking fruitless ballots to decide whom to recommend for the appointment. It was a bitter fight and the Kansas delegation was more than surprised when it learned that the President had decided the matter himself.

The letter was written by Judge Pollock's little daughter from her western home. Judge Pollock showed it to some of his friends, one of whom quietly pocketed it and took it to the White House. When the President read the missive the childish scrawl interested him. After a few moments' thought he evidently decided that the daughter's faith should not be shattered, and he disposed of the matter by calling out to his secretary:

"Loeb, send in Pollock's name for that Kansas judgeship."

Pardoned Girl Bigamist.

New York, Nov. 26. — Margaret Jane Familton swooned again today when the jury at Long Island City found her guilty of bigamy. When she had been restored to consciousness Judge Moore said to her: "You have been a foolish girl, but I don't think you are a bad woman. I will suspend the sentence. Now, go back to your father and your home and be a good girl."

Immediate steps will be taken now seeking the annulment of her marriages.

WILL BANQUET THE TOWN

Gov. Foraker's Clerk Returning to Ohio a Millionaire.

Cincinnati, Nov. 26. — Senator Foraker has just received an invitation to a banquet, at which the other guests expected constitute the entire population, men, women and children, of a town.

Fifteen or twenty years ago, when Foraker was governor of Ohio, George A. Baton was a clerk in the governor's office in Columbus. Beaton's home then was in Athens, Ohio. Since then Beaton has removed to New York and become a millionaire. He intends to return to his old home next June, in the week of the commencement exercises of the Ohio University, and he will celebrate his homecoming with a mammoth banquet.

All persons living within the city's limits are to be his guests, and he wants his former chief to be one of the party.

FOUR BURNED TO DEATH

At a $300,000 Blaze in an Omaha Business Block.

Omaha, Neb., Nov. 26. — Four men were burned to death and property loss amounting to $300,000, is the result of a fire today in the wholesale grocery house of Allen Bros., at Ninth and Jones streets. In addition to the big five-story building occupied by the Allen brothers, that occupied by the Pacific Storage Company, adjoining, was also consumed, together with most of its contents.

The fire is presumed to have originated in the furnace room of the Allen building. The buildings were filled with the most inflammable class of material. The firemen who were killed were working about 40 feet inside the Allen building when the floor above unexpectedly collapsed, imprisoning the men with no chance of escape, and with no possibility of their comrades rescuing them. Their bodies were not even recovered.

BRITAIN'S SHIPS ARE GATHERING

An Unusual Concentration of Cruisers in West Indies.

OBJECT LESSON TO VENEZUELA

May Be Intention of Admiral Fawkes —A Demonstration of British Force Desirable.

New York, Nov. 25.—The Evening Post has the following from its London correspondent: An unprecedentedly large concentration of modern British war vessels is about to be made in West Indian waters. Hitherto the British admiralty has refused to follow suggestions for such a concentration, when they have been made by naval officers, for fear of exciting American opinion. This difficulty is now, apparently, considered negligible.

A cruiser squadron under Rear Admiral Sir Wilmot Fawkes leaves shortly for the West Indies, where it will join in maneuvers with the British North American squadron under Vice-Admiral Sir Archibald Douglas. During the cruise the squadron will be brought up to its full strength, being increased to six new armored cruisers of great power and 23-knot speed. It is believed that the concentration will coincide with an American display of strength in the same waters, though the British concentration was arranged a month ago for British naval purposes. Recent occurrences at Panama and the approaching decision in the Venezuela arbitration, with a possible desirability of a demonstration of British power to quicken Venezuelan acquiescence, will inevitably give it a political appearance.

3,000 Miles On Foot.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 26.—A family of ignorant Siberian peasants recently arrived on foot, after traveling 3,000 miles in six months, at Tomsk, Siberia, with a wagon filled with a supposed fortune in gold. They found on arrival at the mint that the value of the treasure was $10.

CHANGES IN THE MILITIA DEPT.

An Economical Move—New Military Secretary Appointed—Officers Shorn of Powers.

Ottawa, Nov. 25. — A militia order issued today defines the duties of the respective sub-departments of the department. Under the new regulations the adjutant-general and other important officers are shorn of a number of the powers they formerly exercised. They are to be undertaken either by the general or the military secretary, Lieut.-Col. Smith. The general officer commanding, in addition to being the principal adviser of the minister on all military questions and being responsible for the preparation and maintenance of plans for defense and for the organization and mobilization of the militia, is charged with the general distribution and localization of the militia and with the selection and proposal to the minister of fit and proper persons to be recommended for commissions in the militia, officers for promotions, for staff and other military appointments, and for military honors and rewards. Lieut.-Col. Smith is charged more particularly with appointments, promotions and retirements of officers and with military honors and rewards; the educational qualifications required from candidates for commissions in the militia and for promotion therein; Royal Military College examinations, including applications for admission; and the issue of military books and literatures of an educational character.

STRANGE FANTASY OF SICK GIRL

She Declares She Has Been Up Into Heaven.

TELLS OF SCENES IN PARADISE

Spiritualists Look On Her as a Wonder, But Doctor Says It Is Thought Transference.

Kalamazoo, Mich., Nov. 25. — While hundreds of spiritualists are flocking to the home of 14-year-old Mary Kidder to receive messages from dead relatives, Mary is daily growing weaker and tonight grave fears are entertained that she will not live beyond Thanksgiving, Mary has caused intense excitement here by sinking into from one to three trances daily, after reviving from which she relates remarkable tales of departed beings and scenes in heaven. To Kalamazoo men and women, unknown to herself or family, she has unerringly given names and descriptions of their departed some of whom have been dead forty years. She conveys the messages from the dead to the living of events which occurred over half a century ago. These facts are vouched for by many people not known to Mary or her family until she developed this peculiar faculty.

Mary has been suffering from spinal and nervous trouble for some time. Last July curvature of the spine developed. Dr. Frederick Shillito incased the body in a plaster cast. Last Monday the cast was removed and an hour later the girl's body became rigid, her eyes dilated and the most strenuous efforts failed to arouse her. Dr. Shillito was summoned and found the girl in a trance.

Two hours later Mary awoke. She told amazing stories of the visions while in the trance.

Shillito says she is suffering from catalepsy and that unless she ceases having these fits she may die. He gives a possible explanation of her stories through thought transference or unconscious suggestion of those in the room with her. Spiritualists refuse this, however, and look on her as the direct mouthpiece of God. The girl has always been of a religious turn of mind, though the family is not addicted to peculiar beliefs. Mary said tonight:

"I can't tell when a trance is coming. It just strikes me suddenly. I lose control of my body and seem to be carried up—up—up. The air seems soft and fans my face. I fly through clouds and then suddenly I know I am in heaven. About me stretches a great city, but there are no houses or streets. Beautiful white-robed angels are singing and talking and sailing through the air. I am flashed through two immense white pearly gates and then the whole beauty of the place is before me, with colors of every hue and description and the most beautiful music I ever heard. I seem to know all the people there and they seem to come to me and talk. They are all so happy. Jesus came to me a few days ago. I knew Him at once, His face was so kind and His touch so soft. He talked to me for a long time and made me happy. But always in the vision appears a tall spirit, who hovers over me a minute, then takes my hand and we travel down—down—down, until a river appears. Then I wake up and mother, father and all these people are here."

INSURED FOR $1,000,000

American Floating Dock Insured With London Firm.

London, Nov. 26. — The new floating dock, which is to be built at Baltimore for the use of the vessels of the United States navy at Cavite has been insured in London for a sum approximating three-quarters of its value, which will be about $1,000,000. The insurance was placed by Willis Faber & Co., one of the biggest marine insurance firms in Lloyds, though the insurance is hardly of a marine nature, consisting only of what is called builders' risks. This covers all risk from the time the construction is begun until the big sheil is finished, except for the risk of launching. The principal danger will be from fire, hence the premium is small as compared with the rate paid for vessels subject to perils at sea.

This is one of the largest insurances ever effected on a floating dock, although the underwriters' risk does not reach the total sum insured until the dock is finished. The Havana Dry Dock Company's floating dock is insured here for $800,000, and the new pontoon dock now under tow for Port Natal, which is valued at $550,000, also is insured in London.

COLOMBIA CLOSES PORTS

Department of Bolivar Cut Off From New Republic.

Colon, Nov. 26, 8 a.m.—The text of the decree closing the ports of the department of Bolivar reached here today. It prohibits until further notice all traffic or business between the ports in that department and the "rebel department" of Panama, and says: "The department of Panama, having declared itself free and independent, and having taken up arms against the national Government in an effort to destroy Colombian integrity, dignity and honor, Colombia required the employment of such measures as are indispensable for the punishment and suppression of the rebels. The acts closing the ports mentioned is taken by the Government of Bolivar independent of the Bogota Government. Bolivar can do all she considers necessary for the defense of the state, and among the measures which the legitimate ends of war warrant is the depriving of the enemy of resources and the free traffic of commerce."

The decree provides also that neutral vessels having called at Panama ports shall be refused admission to ports of Bolivar.