

Dry Goods

Thibodeau &amp; Jacques

Millinery

## SPRING GOODS.

GINGHAMS AND PRINTS.—Just placed in stock a very complete line for spring wear, 10c & 12½c.

WHITE AND GREY COTTONS, LAWNS AND CAMBRICS at close prices.

LACES AND EMBROIDERIES in great variety.

Thibodeau & Jacques.

## LETTER BOX

WHO WAS ROBIN HOOD.

To the Editor of The Planet:

Citizens of Chatham have probably good reason to be interested at the present time in the doings of the famous Robin Hood. It is a household word and the great show will hold the boards at the Grand Opera House on Thursday and present to a Chatham audience under distinguished patronage of Lord Dundonald and officers of the 24th Regiment, the play of Robin Hood.

Now, Mr. Editor, in looking over some papers I find the following from the pen of R. B. O. York. The oldest reference to Robin Hood, I believe, occurs in Langland's "Vision of Piers, the Plowman," an allegorical poem of the fourteenth century, which contains the lines:

I cannot partill in paternoster,  
As the Priest it singeth  
But I can rymes of Robyn Hode,  
And Randolf Erl of Chester  
But of our Lorde or our Lady,  
I have nothing at all.

Other writers of the same and the following century, refer to plays, ballads and songs relating to Robin Hood, but it is not until the latter part of the sixteenth century that we have any detailed account of his life, when a manuscript now in the British Museum, informs us that he was born in the days of Henry II. about the year 1160, and flourished during the reigns of Richard I, John, and part of Henry III., dying through the treachery of the priors who allowed him to bleed to death while undergoing phlebotomy on the 14th December, 1247, at Kirkless Priory, between Halifax and Wakefield, Yorkshire, where he was buried under some trees a short distance from the house, a stone being placed over his grave bearing an inscription.

Later writers make him of noble descent, and even give him the title Earl of Huntingdon; and the zealous, if imaginative antiquary, Dr. Stukeley, has actually given him an elaborate pedigree, showing his descent from distinguished ancestors. It will be noticed that most of the Robin Hood ballads depict their hero as a good yeoman who, while loyal to the King, has a strong antipathy to Bishops and Monks, as representing ecclesiastical pride and arrogance, from which he is said personally to have suffered, while the poor Knights and the landless

and distressed generally he is ever represented as a friend and benefactor.

Of the ballads and songs relating to Robin Hood now remaining the lengthiest is that known as "A lytell geste of Robyn Hode," which is divided into eight "vnttes" or parts, dealing respectively with Robin Hood's kind behavior to the distressed Knight, Sir Richard at the lee, Little John's despoiling the sheriff of Nottingham, Robin Hood and the Monk of St. Mary's Abbey, York; Robin Hood's shooting at the tournament of Nottingham, and his laughter of the "Proude Sherife" with the subsequent visit of the King, and Robin Hood's return to York-shire and death at Kirkless Priory.

Other old ballads of fifteenth and sixteenth century date in their present form are "Robin Hood and the Potter," "Robin Hood and the Beggar," and "Robin Hood and Guy of Gisborne." Besides these there are some thirty old poems and songs still preserved, among which are "The Jolly Pinder of Wakefield," "The Curial Friar of Fountains Dale," "The Noble Fisherman,"

## Central Drug Store

O. H. GUNN & CO.

Chatham, Ontario.

How many mothers there are to-day who are anxiously watching their little ones, fearing that they haven't sufficient strength to battle with the diseases of this life. If mothers only knew the value of "FERROL" (The Iron-Oil Food), they would cease worrying and build the little ones up by giving them "FERROL," which is as easily assimilated as cream, and children like it.

SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK  
FERROL (the Iron-Oil Food) \$1.00

## Rubber Goods

Our Stock is Complete  
Call and Inspect...

## We're More Particular

About the fit than our customer himself. We consider our reputation staked on every suit and overcoat we make. That's why we're sure we can satisfy you. That's why we ask you to give us your trade. We know that if you do patronize us you will always be able to say:—  
"Am thoroughly satisfied with my clothes."

W. N. Morley & Co.

## Fountain Pens.

We keep a full assortment of the celebrated  
**PARKER PEN** With all the Up-to-Date Improvements  
Give the lucky curve a trial.

**CENTRAL DRUG STORE**  
C. H. GUNN & CO., Chatham, Ont.

wherein Robin has an interesting adventure at sea off Scarborough; "Robin Hood and the Bishop of Hereford," the scene of which is in Merry Barnsdale; and "Robin Hood's death and burial at Kirkless Priory," as already mentioned.

There are also fragments of old May-day plays wherein the chief characters are Robin Hood, Little John, Will Scarlett, George A. Green, Much the Miller's Son, Friar Tuck, and Maid Marian, the whole forming a repertoire of medieval manners and customs amongst the people which it is difficult to surpass.

In this, our spacious Isle, I think there is not one, But he of Robin Hood hath heard and Little John; And to the end of time the tales shall never be done Of Scarlett, George A. Green, and Much the Miller's Son, Of Tuck, the Merry Friar, which many a sermon made, In praise of Robin Hood, his outlaws and their trade. —Drayton.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for your valuable space.

SUBSCRIBER.

## DISTRICT DOINGS.

### THAMESVILLE

The Carnival of Entertainers play in our Opera House Tuesday night, and it is to be hoped the house will be packed, as the company is a good one.

### TILBURY

Feb. 2.—Miss Minnie Dusty, of Windsor, spent Sunday with her parents here, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Dusty.

Mrs. W. T. Poole is visiting friends in Chatham.

Never in the history of our town has the place been so flooded as it was yesterday. Many houses were made islands, fires were extinguished in basements, and there were no services in the Methodist and Presbyterian churches, the high water making it impossible to gain an entrance.

Miss Grace Green, of Essex, was the guest of Miss Lucy Bengtson yesterday.

The anniversary services in St. Andrew's English church yesterday were well attended and very successful. Rev. Mr. Dobson officiated at both services, Rev. Prof. Burgess being unable to come owing to the bad weather. Miss Gourlay, of Windsor, a pleasing contralto singer, gave two exceedingly well rendered solos at the morning service, and also one in the evening. A feature of the musical part of the evening service was a selection by a male quartette composed of Messrs. Laird, Kippen, Lewis and Campbell.

A section of the plan for Friday night's production of the great opera Robin Hood in Chatham is being reserved for Tilbury visitors.

### BLENHIM

Feb. 8.—Supplementary meetings of the East Kent farmers will be held in the Town Hall, Blenheim, on Friday, Feb. 12th, 1904, at two p. m. Addresses will be given by the chairman and the following delegates:—Mr. D. Drummond, of Ottawa, subject, Dairy Stable, Construction and Ventilation; Mr. Robert Thompson, of St. Catharines, subject, Swine Breeding, Feeding, etc.; if the meeting wishes Mr. Thompson can talk on Poultry Raising for boys and girls. The delegates are practical farmers and the best information may be expected from them.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Carnagan and son leave this week for their home in Missoula, Montana. They have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Ford for the last two months.

Mr. Peter Haggart is quite sick with fever.

The Blenheim council of the Royal Templars will hold an open meeting in the basement of the Methodist church on Tuesday, to-morrow evening, at eight p. m. All members are urged to be present, and all others who can be present will be made welcome.

A section of the plan for Friday night's production of the great opera Robin Hood in Chatham is being reserved for Blenheimites.

## THE STAGE

"All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players."

### ANNOUNCEMENTS.

At the Chatham Grand—  
Robin Hood, Feb. 11.  
"A Ragged Hero," Feb. 16.

### TO-NIGHT.

The best number on the Star Course is promised at the Grand.

The Grand Opera House will be packed to-night, as already nearly every seat is gone from the plan.

The Carnival of Entertainers, assisted by the world-famous McGrath Brothers, give the program, which is the fifth number on the O. C. I. Star and People's Popular Course.

Vernon, the ventriloquist, appears in one part, and has his art reduced to perfection; Mme. Vernon, with her exhibition of thought transfer, red; the McGrath Bros., musicians; Mrs. Athol Mowery, the well-known reader; Mr. William T. Houston, character delineator, humorous impersonator and musical imitator.

With such artists as are just mentioned the performance to-night will be a huge success.

## SEATING FOR ROBIN HOOD

Plan for Dundonald Night  
Opens To-morrow Morning  
at Brisco's.

Reserved Seats for the Second Night are Selling Fast in the Neighboring Towns.

Robin Hood bids fair to run for two tremendous nights—Thursday for Chathamites, Friday for the residents of the neighboring thriving Kent towns.

This morning the reserved seat plan for the second night opened with a phenomenal rush in Wallaceburg and Dresden, while a large section has been held in reserve for Blenheimites.

The very remarkable demand for seats demonstrates the exceptional interest everywhere taken in the magnificent production of this incomparable opera by local talent. From Wallaceburg came calls from Messrs. Gordon and Stonehouse, T. N. Leigh telephoned late Saturday night for a large section. From Dresden Sandy McVean telephoned on behalf of the citizens there. Several requests have also been registered for Friday evening from Blenheim, Tilbury and Thamesville, while P. W. Stone, of Merlin, has written on behalf of a reserve list of some 30 names.

In view of this demand the Regiment has decided to reproduce the splendid opera on Friday night for the benefit of the out-of-town people desirous of witnessing this great musical and scenic production. Under the direction of Adjutant Coltart the reserve seat plan was opened in the towns named for the second night this morning, a squad of officers being in charge, and the probability is that the second night plan will be well sold out by to-morrow. The prices for the second night are unchanged from those of the first production.

Thursday—Dundonald night—has been reserved for Chathamites and the plan for the first production on that occasion opens at Brisco's to-morrow morning at ten o'clock. Director G. Arthur Dewey and Stage Manager Harry Clarke are rapidly putting the finishing touches on this splendid production and everything will be in readiness for Thursday night.

## NO MAN OR WOMAN CAN HAVE DYSPEPSIA

And Still Be Agreeable, Attractive And Popular—A Certain Cure In Reach Of All.

There is nothing that will put you to the front so rapidly in the business or social world as a cheerful disposition and a pleasant appearance. Other things being equal people will go out of their way to give the fellow a "lift" who always wears a cheerful countenance. The man or woman with a cheery disposition and a sour face will always meet with an indifferent if not a chilly reception. The commercial traveler, who is the recognized business barometer, appreciates better than any one the value of this rule and governs his actions accordingly.

Dyspepsia destroys all agreeable qualities that enter into a man or woman's make-up. It is almost a human impossibility for anyone with a severe case of dyspepsia to look pleasant. The continuous, miserable, cast-down feeling is bound to make itself shown in the appearance and conversation.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are the sufferer's certain cure. They are so recognized all over the world. The cures they have brought about and the happiness they have caused and the suffering they have relieved has made their name a household word in all the English-speaking world. The reason that Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are a certain cure is that they are a natural cure. There is nothing to prevent them curing. They contain the essential ingredients of the digestive fluids of the stomach and simply do the identical work of the stomach, relieving that weakened organ and permitting it to rest and re-perpetuate. Could anything be more simple or natural? They are bound to cure. They cannot help themselves. It is just like putting a new stomach into a man—if that were possible—and letting the old one go off on a vacation. Rest is what is needed. Nature will do her own work of restoration, never fear.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are for sale by all druggists at 50 cents a box. All druggists means all druggists. They have become so necessary to the people that the druggist simply has to keep them anyway. There are other remedies that he can make much more money on if he could sell them, but he can't. He will not take chances on losing his customers, by not always having on hand a supply of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets.

### WITH NO FACE

New York, Feb. 5.—Much interest was aroused in medical circles by the official announcement that Frank Smith, private in the Ninety-eighth battery, stationed at Fort Hamilton, had lived two days after his entire face had been blown off by the discharge of a Krag-Jorgensen rifle. Smith was without part of his forehead, and had no eyes, nose, mouth, lower jaw and upper jaw. Yet he retained consciousness until the end came and answered questions by writing. How he lived is a profound mystery to surgeons.

The accident—for such Smith averred it to be—occurred last Friday.

## Not a Sensational Sale.

The statements concerning goods and prices that appear in our advertising result from sound methods persistently applied.

The old bait marking trick is unknown here. The reductions on our overcoats during this great Overcoat sale are genuine, and we have made it plain, and the people understand where we have cut prices, the principal reason being to sell all goods same season as made.

### REDUCTIONS.

\$5.00 OVERCOATS	\$3.95	\$13.00 OVERCOATS	\$10
6.00	4.95	14.00	10
8.00	6.50	15.00	12
10.00	7.50	20.00	15

Keep in mind it is not the price alone to be looked at. The thoroughly good workmanship and best ideas of our manufacturing department are put into every garment.

THORNTON & DOUGLAS, Ltd.

## WHITEWEAR SALE.

GRAY'S CHINA HALL.

NEW STOCK WHITE CHINA FOR HAND-PAINTING

12 Dozen Plates, all sizes—\$1.50 to \$3.00 Dozen.

Chop Plates, Cake Plates, Chocolate Pots, Creams and Sugars, Spoon Trays, etc.

10 Per Cent. Off All This Week.

GRAY'S CHINA HALL, King Street, Opp. Merchants Bank.

## Bargain Sale...

ALL SILVERWARE,  
CUTLERY,  
CARVER SETS,  
HEATING STOVES,  
OIL HEATERS,  
HORSE BLANKETS,  
ROBES.

All at Bargains Prices.

## WESTMAN BROS.

Big Hardware.

## Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

Smith took a rifle from a rack and it went off, blowing his face away, and severing his tongue near the roots. He stood perfectly still while his comrades rushed to join him and then motioned for a pencil and paper. "I am cold," he wrote. They put a blanket around him. Then he wrote, "I feel O. K." After nearly two days in the hospital Smith wrote, "I haven't had a drink in two days," and seemed to enjoy this as a piece of humor.

## We Don't Have To

Roast of the quality of our goods. We have been in business a long time, and the large amount of business done is proof to me that the people understand the quality.

### Our Prices Are

Six pounds broken Sodas, 25c.  
Four pounds Ginger Snaps, 25c.  
Four pounds Prunes, 25c.  
Pickles, 10c a bottle.  
Salmon, 10c a can.  
Seven pounds best rolled oats, 25c.  
Three pounds White Beans, 10c.  
Clothes pins, 1c a dozen.

### My, O My!

We have a lot of crockery still to be disposed of. Dinner, Tea and Chamber Sets, China, Lamps, and Glassware. Come and see us if you need the goods. We will make the price right.

John McConnell,  
Phone 100, Park St.

## M'KAY'S

RESTAURANT AND

LUNCH ROOMS.

### OPEN DAY AND NIGHT

With all the delicacies of the season. If in need of an appetizer give us a call. A full line of

Confectionery and Home

Pakery in Connection

Oysters in Any Style.

Lunches, put up at short notice and delivered within reasonable distance.

Willard McKay,

KING ST.

GARNER HOUSE BLOCK.

Misard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria