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LONDON, SATURDAY, FEB. 8, 1908.

A MARE'S NEST AT OTTAWA.

Mr. Sifton seldom speaks in the
House of Commons, but when he does
he speaks to some purpose. Usually
he is roused only by an attack, and
on more than one memorable occasion
he has completely discomfited his as-
sailants and had the last word.In winding-up the debate on the
timber question he countered on the
Opposition with crushing effect. Mr.
Ames and some fellow-members, aided
by the Conservative press, have been
engaged in a scandal hunt for some
weeks, and have tried to spread the
impression that the Government has
been alienating the lumber lands of
the Northwest with reckless extrava-
gance, for the profit of party favorites.
They are covered with ridicule by the
facts and figures adduced by Mr. Sif-
ton, who takes full responsibility for
the timber policy of the administra-
tion. During the past eleven years the
Government has sold only 6,400 square
miles of timber lands, in an estimated
area of 130,000 square miles of timber
suitable for lumber in Manitoba, Al-
berta and Saskatchewan alone. Mean-
while, outside this area, timber, mostly
spruce, has been growing on 522,000
square miles in these provinces, and
can be cut once in twenty years. The
total annual growth is estimated at
12,440,000,000 feet, and if half of it
were cut there would be an annual
growth outside of sales of 720,000,000
feet. In one period of three years the
previous Government alienated 20,000
square miles of timber lands to satis-
fy the demands of 100,000 people. The
present Government alienated 6,400
square miles to satisfy a population of
600,000.Timber property in the Northwest,
Mr. Sifton declared, had appreciated
in value less than other property be-
cause the supply was so great. An
enormous quantity came in from the
United States free of duty and there
was an illimitable supply in British
Columbia, where timber limits were a
drug on the market. The 6,400 square
miles sold by the present Federal Gov-
ernment had realized \$31 per square
mile, while from 1883 to 1905 the
Province of Quebec had sold 26,500
square miles of similar territory at
\$5.16 per square mile, or within a
few cents of the price obtained for
limits in the northwest, many of
which are nearly inaccessible and of
doubtful value. In addition to \$528,878
in timber limit bonuses, the Laurier
Government receives \$30,000 per an-
num for ground rent, and 50 cents for
every thousand feet of timber cut.The speeches of Mr. Sifton and Mr.
Turrieff (East Assiniboia), in conjunc-
tion, absolutely discredit the former
administration, and vindicate the pres-
ent. Mr. Turrieff showed by the records
that the Conservative Government
gave away 23,987 square miles to sen-
ators, members of the House of Com-
mons, and party friends, who paid
nothing for their rights. The Opposi-
tion made an ill-chanced effort of fighting
ground when it attacked the Laurier
Government on this issue. The tim-
ber policy of the past eleven years has
been in shining contrast to that of the
previous eighteen.COAL PRODUCTION AND CON-
SUMPTION.As a producer of coal, Canada stands
second among the British over-seas
dominions, its output in 1906 amounting
to 8,117,000 tons, against 9,983,000 tons
for India. As compared with the out-
puts of the five chief coal-producing
countries of the world, however, our
showing is modest. A statement re-
cently issued by the British Board of
Trade shows that the United States
still leads all countries, its production
in 1906 being 369,572,000 tons. The
United Kingdom comes second, with
251,668,000 tons; Germany third, with
134,814,000 tons; France fourth, with
122,622,000 tons; and Belgium fifth, with 23-
222,000 tons. The figures for the United
Kingdom, the United States and Ger-
many, are records. A falling off was
shown by France, while Belgium's pro-
duction remained stationary. Each of
the five countries shows an increase in
production since 1898, that of the
United States being 151,295,000 tons,
of Great Britain 30,974,000 tons, Ger-
many 22,292,000 tons, France 1,431,000
tons, and Belgium 1,214,000 tons.This steadily increasing drain on the
coal resources of those countries must
tell in the course of time. Every now
and then we hear prophecies of the
complete extinction within a certain
period, of the coal supply of the United
States. Meanwhile, the coal deposits
of Canada, which are believed to be al-
most limitless, have been scarcely more
than touched. It is not impossible that
the time will come when this country
will supply the world with much of itscoal, as it is certain to furnish it with
a vast amount of its wheat.As regards consumption of coal per
head of population the board of trade
statement does not give the figures for
Canada, but an estimate places the
average at about 1.5 tons. The United
States for the first time leads in con-
sumption, the amount being 4.30 tons
per head. Great Britain comes second
with 3.99 tons, followed by Belgium
with 3.17, Germany with 1.94, France
1.28, Austria-Hungary 0.41 and Russia
0.17. Canada's comparatively small
consumption is no doubt largely ac-
counted for by the fact that hydraulic
power, which here is probably greater
than in any other country, is so large
a factor in our industrial progress. In
view of recent and the possibility of
future development of our water
power, Canada's consumption of coal is
hardly likely to increase rapidly.

OLD AGE PENSIONS FOR CANADA.

The labor member for Nanaimo, B.
C., Ralph Smith, may have caused
some surprise by advocating old age
pensions for the rich as well as the
poor, but his position is logical, if it is
taken for granted that an old age pen-
sion system is desirable. Mr. Fielding
agreed with Mr. Smith that if pen-
sions were granted they should be
given to all persons over the age limit,
regardless of their circumstances, be-
cause the pensions would bear the
stamp of charity if they went to one
class alone. Mr. Fielding, however,
pointed out that a universal system
would involve a grave financial prob-
lem. The last census showed that Can-
ada had 270,000 persons 65 years of
age and over. At \$150 a year, the cost
of the system would amount to about
\$40,000,000, or an addition of 60 per
cent to the annual expenditure of the
country. No doubt Sir Wilfrid Laurier
had the financial aspect of the question
in mind when he expressed the opin-
ion that pensions should be paid only to
persons in need, if pensions were paid
at all.In New Zealand and Australia, a
person must have lived 25 years in the
country before being entitled to a pen-
sion. Such a restriction in Canada
would much reduce Mr. Fielding's es-
timate, if pensions went to everyone
who had reached the age of 65. The
number of beneficiaries would be small
if only persons in need of support
were included, but a system which
discriminates between the poor and
comparatively well-to-do is open to
some objections. There would have to
be a great deal of inquisitorial ma-
chinery for ascertaining the incomes of
applicants, and there would be tempta-
tions to concealment and evasion, in
order to procure the benefits of the
scheme. Necessarily many would be
disqualified by reason of their thrift.
The suggestion of charity in such a
plan would be absent from a univer-
sal system, under which every citizen
of age limit would receive an allow-
ance from the state as a right. This
would be the ideal method, but it is too
costly to be practicable at present.Many commercial travelers and
railroad men feel that they have
qualified during the past week for
Carnegie medals.The reduction of newspaper post-
age between United States and Can-
ada to the old rate will be good news
to the Canadian old boys across the
border. Now is the time to re-sub-
scribe.The Dominion Government has come
to the rescue of western farmers by ad-
vancing nearly \$3,000,000 for seed grain.
The security is perfect and the money
will be repaid this year. This timely
aid has brightened the outlook for the
western provinces.The women's suffrage movement is
not nearly so active in the United
States and Canada as it was some
years ago. In the meantime it has be-
come more vigorous than ever in
Europe. Perhaps the women of Amer-
ica think they will lose some of their
privileges if they get their rights.One result of the timber debate has
been to demonstrate that the former
Federal Government parted with vast
tracts of timber land for nothing,
whereas the present Government has
parted with a small area for the mar-
ket price. The Opposition has itself
to blame for inviting the comparison.

A TIP.

[Chicago News.]
Never do any worrying today that can
be put off till tomorrow.

WEIGHT ON TEACHERS.

[Hamilton Times.]
Oh, yes! It will be a "brighter educa-
tional day" for the Ontario teachers when
on them is placed the onus of passing on
pupils in professional and other courses
without examinations—that is, of course,
if the teachers are infallible, and the
parent and pupils are all models of justice
and consideration. But, if not—!

A MINUTE MONSTER.

[Washington Star.]
The grafter hath no terrors
The burglar seems benign,
Man's various crimes and errors
Like radiant virtues shine.
Compared to deeds which now and then
Provoke our grief profound,
We live in fear and trembling when
The grip germ goes around.

MISCARriage OF JUSTICE.

[Toronto Globe.]
It is comforting to observe that if jus-
tice has failed in its aim, it has done so
not by the negligence of its officers, but
by the inability of the people, them-
selves, to rise to a great occasion. It is
impossible to escape the conviction that
the jury could not rid their minds of thefact that they were trying a young mil-
linaire. If he had been a Bowery tough,
to which type Thaw is morally assimilat-
ed, they would have had little trouble in
fixing his crime. The admirable features
of the case were the fairness and able dis-
charge of his unpleasant duty by Mr.
Jerome and the impartiality of the judges
on both occasions.

GETS SOMETHING NEW.

[Philadelphia Press.]
"What's that crank in 38 kicking
about?" asked the hotel clerk.
"He's complaining that everything's too
old and shabby," replied the bellboy. "He
wants everything new."
"All right. Begin by giving him those
new stiff towels."

TOO CONSCIENTIOUS.

[Washington Star.]
"You wrong me," said Plodding Pete,
"when you say I ain't willin' to work.
I'm jes' dyin' to work."
"Then what's the trouble?"
"I'm too conscientious. Whenever I git
a job, I'm so anxious to fill it well dat I
git stage fright."

THE ONLY WAY.

[Montreal Star.]
The course pursued by the Laurier Gov-
ernment in this matter was the only
course commensurate with our dignity as
a nation, with our vital interests as a
white people, and with our responsibil-
ities as a member of the British Empire.

TOLD THE SECRET.

[Exchange.]
"I don't see how you always manage to
have a good time wherever you go,"
growled the pessimist.
"That's easily explained," rejoined the
optimist. "I take it with me."

MR. CHURCHILL AND FREE TRADE

[Toronto Star.]
No man in British public life has a
greater power of direct statement or a
more robust eloquence than Mr. Winston
Churchill. Speaking a few days ago at
the Free Trade Hall, in Manchester, he
declared that free trade preserved the
state from corruption and commerce from
monopoly. There is the whole faith of
the free trader, and the secret of the de-
votion of a great multitude of the British
people to the free trade idea.

WHEN.

[S. E. Kiser.]
When war drums throb no longer,
And greed is out of style;
When every rogue is punished,
And vice is always vile;
When fortunes gained unfairly
Bring neither glee nor pride;
When art has been exalted
And selfishness is died;
When liberty no longer
Is but an empty name;
When virtue is triumphant
And unreason is a shame;
When strong men shall not proudly
Regard the weak with scorn,
Then worth may be rewarded,
Although it blows no horn.

NEEDED ONE FOR USE.

[Exchange.]
"Say, pop," said the tourist's little boy
in London, "why does that soldier
wear an eyeglass over one eye?"
"So's he kin use 'other one to see
with," Mr. Scorpall answered kindly.

THE GOOD OLD TIMES.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.]
"It's disgraceful to be poor,"
"I can remember a time when it was
no disgrace to be rich."

HOW HE GOT IT.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
"Do you get paid by the word or by the
line?" asked the innocent young thing.
"Generally by the foot," answered the
poet, who was in the habit of carrying his
poems around and reading them to the
editors.

IN A NUTSHELL.

[Bystander, in Weekly Sun.]
Thaw is not sworn by paid experts into
the insane asylum. By paid experts he
will presently be sworn out of it. He will
then walk the streets of New York as a
privileged murderer. Such is the power
of wealth.

UNANIMOUS.

[Judge.]
Dad—I wish I could be a little boy again
like you, Willie.
Willie—I wish you could, dad—only
littler, of course.

NO LADY.

[Ottawa Citizen.]
Such boastfulness on the part of Our
Lady of the Snows will drive us to the
conclusion that she's no lady.

OUT OF PLACE.

[Toronto Star.]
A Windsor man has swallowed a den-
tist's bill. This seems to be a clear case
of filling the wrong cavity.

HARDLY ANY.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]
There isn't
Much bliss
In a tale.
Phone kiss.
—Birmingham Age-Herald.
There's little
To please
In a postage
Stamp squeeze.

FULLY QUALIFIED.

[Philadelphia Press.]
"He's talking now of becoming an ac-
tor,"
"Why, he hasn't any qualifications, has
he?"
"Oh, yes; a friend of his died recently
and left him a fur-lined overcoat and
high hat."

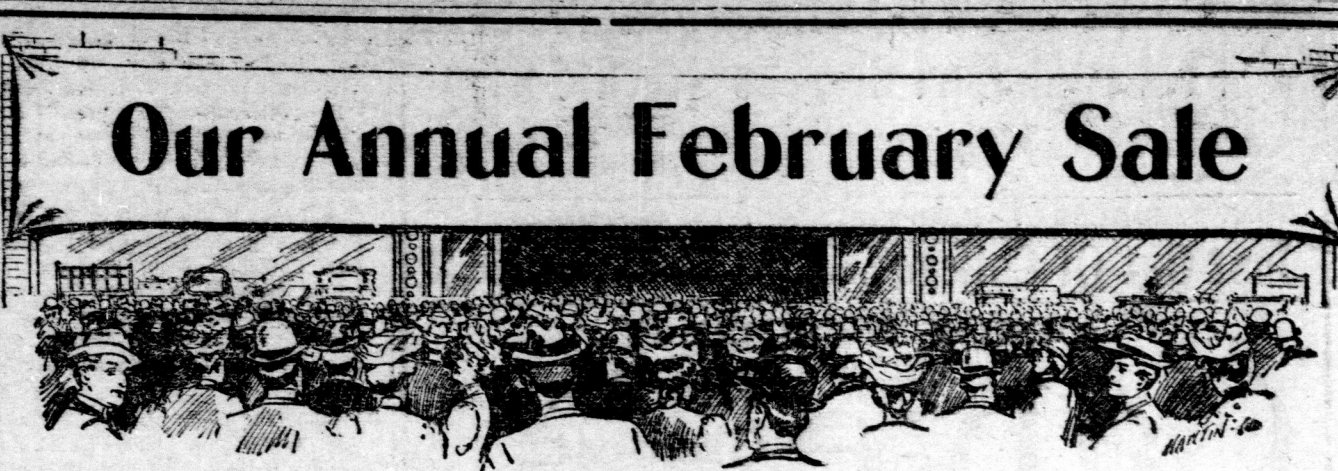
SHE UNDERSTOOD.

[Chicago News.]
The Widow—The what to interest a man
is to talk about what he is most interest-
ed in.
The Maid—But I soon tire of talking
about the man I am talking to.

TO WHET HIS APPETITE.

[Philadelphia Ledger.]
A convict of a western prison had been
extremely refractory, and different means
were tried, without success, to break his
spirit. One morning the superintendent
said to the warden:
"That scoundrel, No. 213, is behaving
worse than ever. Put him on bread and
water."
"But he is already on fast diet," replied
the warden.
"Then keep it up and give him a cook
book to read."

CASE FOR SYMPATHY.

[Chicago Tribune.]
Woman of the House—A big, strong fel-
low like you ought to be willing to work
and earn his own living.
Languid Laureolot—That's what ails me,
ma'am. Me muscles is all right, but me
will power is all gone.You
Spend
Carelesslya sum of money every
week that would be
enough to provide
protection for your
family, in case of your
death, or provide an
income for you in
your old age. You
fritter away what
would insure you, and
be a safeguard to
your loved ones.That thought should
be sufficient to make
you write at once for
information about
our policies. Our
Reserve Dividend
policies provide a
remarkably satisfac-
tory method of
assurance for men of
moderate income.
Endowments are
obtainable at ordi-
nary Life Rates.LONDON
LIFEInsurance Company,
London, Canada.
GEO. MCBROOM
INSPECTOR
J. F. MAINE
SUPT. INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.THE LAWYERS ON
LAW REFORM BILLThey Say That It Will Greatly
Increase the Business of
the County Courts.Toronto, Feb. 7.—The resolution re-
garding law reform which the Govern-
ment has announced its intention of
introducing into the Local Legislature
next Tuesday is naturally a subject of
conversation in legal circles. At Os-
goode Hall today the opinions of a
number of leading counsel regarding
the matter were obtained."The most important change pro-
posed and the one which would un-
doubtedly have the most far-reaching
effects is that increasing the jurisdic-
tion of the county and district courts,
and giving to these courts, if both
parties consent, the same power as the
high courts possess, whatever may
be the nature of the action or the
amount involved."Will help Outlying Districts.
"More particularly in the outlying
districts will this provision be a great
boom. Take North Bay, Cobalt, or the
 Soo, for instance. I am quite certain
that by far the larger number of cases
in these districts that are now dispo-
sed of in the high court would be ad-
judicated upon by the local judge, and
generally speaking, with satisfaction
to the parties. The litigants will sim-
ply say to each other, 'Our local judge
is a good, square man, and is well
qualified to settle the matter in dis-
pute, so we'll let him do so.'"Expeditious and Cheaper.
"Then such a change would make a
vast difference in the matter of doing
away with unnecessary costs and ex-
pediting the reaching of final decisions.
The high court and appellate courts
would be much relieved, and the pres-
ent delays in the hearing of actions
would be greatly decreased."There is one thing, however, in
which a great change would have to
be made, which is not mentioned in
the resolution, and that is in the selec-
tion of district and county court
judges. Unfortunately at present,
from various causes, the standard is
by no means as high as that governing
the high court judges. It will un-
doubtedly become necessary to raise
this standard if the measures outlined
in the resolution become law. The
position of a county court judge will,
with these changes, become a more re-
sponsible and honorable one, and, in
fact, should be a stepping-stone to the
high court bench.Larger salaries would have to be
paid to these judges. The result of the
combined influences would, I am sure,
be that positions on the county court
bench would be more sought by the
leaders of the bar."Another prominent barrister, who,
however, did not care to have his name
appear, said:
"I do not personally think it a particu-
larly wise move to increase the
jurisdiction of the county judiciary as
at present constituted."Another solicitor said: "I am of the
opinion that it will have the effect
of increasing the practice of the coun-
try lawyers to a very great extent,
and consequently reducing the amount
of work to be done at Osgoode Hall by
the city firms. In fact I do not be-
lieve that our Toronto solicitors realize
what is going to happen if the change
becomes law. A good many of them
will have to emigrate to the back-
woods or I am much mistaken."

Our Annual February Sale

Reducing the Reduced Price

And reductions are as real as we represent. We have waded into our stocks, and without
any consideration for profits or costs we've cut the prices to a point that will make buying
irresistible for you.

We've Cut the Descriptions as We've Cut the Prices

Parlor Suites	Morris Chairs	Dressers
1 only three pieces, was \$26, for.....\$15.95	2 only, were \$6, for.....\$4	At \$5.75, former price \$7.
2 only three pieces, were \$30, for.....\$21	5 only, were \$9, for.....\$6.75	At \$13.90, former price \$20, long British plate mir- ror, swell front drawers.
2 only five pieces, were \$27, for.....\$17.75	Sideboards	At \$19, former price \$25, quarter oak or mahogany
2 only five pieces, were \$60, for.....\$45.50	At \$8.50, former price \$12	
11 odd piece, were \$6.97, for.....\$4.35	At \$19.50, former price \$25, solid oak, British plate mirror.	Metal Beds
7 odd pieces for.....\$3.35	At \$28.50, former price \$35, solid quarter oak, hand polished.	At \$29.50, former price \$35, all brass, two-inch con- tinuous posts.
Couches	Extension Tables	At \$25.50, former price \$33, all brass, bow front, two-inch post.
7 Couches, were \$16, for\$11.50	At \$5.50, regular price \$7	At \$7.25, were \$10, White with brass trimmings, eight designs.
3 Couches, were \$8, for \$5.75	At \$6.75, regular price \$9	

Watch Our Windows For Special Bargains

The
Ontario Furniture Co.
228 and 230 DUNDAS STREET. LONDON'S LARGEST FURNITURE HOUSE.AWFUL EXPERIENCE
FIGHTING DRIFTSC. P. R. Shovelers Sent To Dig
Out Express Suffered Ter-
ribly From Cold.Burketon Junction, Feb. 7.—Ninety-
two men hastily gathered by the C. P.
R. left the Union Station at Toronto, at
7 o'clock last night. In two coaches
pulled by the heaviest engines in an
attempt to reach Burketon Junction to
relieve train No. 3 of Wednesday from
Montreal, which was still stalled there.
It took 12 hours to cover the 43 miles,
and was one of the worst experiences
known on this division.Number 8 Tweed express left Toronto
5 p.m. Wednesday afternoon with 66
passengers. She was forced to pass
the night at Agincourt, and got to
Locust Hill at 11 a.m. She was still
there at 11 p.m. Thursday. The pas-
sengers were well cared for, and were
contented.Hard on Englishmen.
The trip to Burketon Junction was a
terrible experience for the shovelers,
most of whom were Englishmen,
unused to Canadian winters. Many
were unprovided with gloves, one with-
out a cap, most of them wore thin
coats and hard hats. Time after time
they were called on to turn out and
face the terrific blizzard and zero tem-
perature. Many times the snow piled
up to the height of the coach tops,
brushing the tall lights of the rear
car.At Locust Hill three trains and seven
engines with two snowplows were
waiting. Two of the heaviest engines
sent out with a plow to break the
drift would run back half a mile, would
make about 50 yards, and then have to
be dug out, back up, and then come on
at full speed again. At the third at-
tempt the plow mounted the drift,
turned completely around, and tore off
the trucks, and again rushed past. No-
body was hurt.The second plow was then used, and
managed to get through. The shovel-
ers' train followed slowly, and had to
stop frequently to be dug out.
The worst experience was just at 6
a.m. today. The train was in an ex-
posed cut, the blizzard so strong, it
was impossible to see 30 yards, and
the cold was terrible. Numbers of men
had their hands and faces so badly
frozen that they were unable to go
out again. One young man's neck was
covered with blood from frozen ears,
others cried with pain from frozen
hands and cheeks. They had no idea
what to do, and came into the warm
car. They were completely unprepared
for the cold. Hot coffee and sand-
wiches were provided by the company.
The men were usually fairly willing
to work, with some exceptions, but
suffered most severely. Many wrapped
their hands in rags.

Employees Tried Hard.

The railway employees made the
greatest efforts to keep the line open.
A gang of sectionmen were picked up
who had been at work for two hours
steadily. Train crews had worked fif-
teen hours without relief. As the im-
mense locomotives struck the drifts,
five or six feet deep, the flying snow
smashed all the glass in the left side
of the cab and sifted in clouds
through cracks in the doors of the
coaches.

Drift Eighteen Feet High.

Near Locust Hill a drift eighteen feet
high was cut through. Time after timeWOMEN STOP
ROBBERS' WORKTheir Screams Arouse Neighbor-
hood and \$23,000 in Bank
Is Saved.Milton, Ind., Feb. 7.—Mrs. Maria Beeson
and Mrs. David Nugent, of this place,
saved the Farmers' Bank from cracks
men early this morning, their calls for
help scaring the robbers away after they
had blown the outer doors from the safe
and were almost within reach of \$23,000
in cash.Mrs. Beeson was awakened by an ex-
plosion, and, looking in the direction of
the bank, saw the question of reduc-
ing naval expenditures much impor-
ance is attached to a strong speech
which Sir Edward Grey, secretary of
state for foreign affairs, made in the
House of Commons tonight in reply
to a suggestion from the Unionist
side that it was to Great Britain's
interest, as the greatest sea carrier
in the world, that private property at
sea should be immune from capture
and that it was England's refusal to
assent to the principle of immunity
which hindered the disarmament pro-
posal at The Hague conference.Sir Edward said that the Govern-
ment could not consistently and
with safety to the country take the
risk proposed.
"The British Empire," he said, "is
a tremendous obligation, but it might,
if we were weak, become a tremendous
temptation. At the present time we
have the good-will of the world, but
supposing the policy of immunity had
been adopted and supposing that our
navy should lose command of the sea,
it would mean not only defeat but
conquest."In solemn tones, Sir Edward con-
cluded his speech by pointing out the
possibility of invasion, urging the na-
tion to beware of acting in such a
manner as to increase the risks of war
and prolonging it indefinitely at a
minimum risk to other powers.

FEARS ANNIHILATION

England Cannot Take Chances On
Peace Measures, Says Gray.London, Feb. 7.—In connection with
recent reports of a serious difference
among the Government's supporters in
Parliament on the question of reduc-
ing naval expenditures much impor-
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which Sir Edward Grey, secretary of
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been adopted and supposing that our
navy should lose command of the sea,
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conquest."

MODEST REQUEST.

[Punch.]
Householder (to burglars)—Pray don't
let me disturb you; but when you go—if
it's not troubling you too much—would
you be so very kind as to post this let-
ter? It must go tonight. It's my burglar
insurance.

Do You Know This Man?

His appetite is voracious. He eats like a hungry lion. Yet he is lazy
and hates to exert himself. Look at his eyes—they are glassy and dull.
His tongue is coated and furred. When he gets up to walk his head
swims; if he stoops over he gets dizzy.
Is he sick? Not had enough to go to bed; but he is constipated, his
system is clogged up, his stomach is bilious and over-laden. Just one thing
to do. Take Dr. Hamilton's Pills, which loosen the bowels and flush out
all unhealthy matter. The liver is toned up, the blood is strengthened and
the stomach given assistance. You feel better the minute you take Dr.
Hamilton's Pills, because they are made to act promptly. The whole secret
of good health is solved by using this grand medicine. Good for men, wo-
men and children. Every box guaranteed, price 25c or five for \$1.00, at
all dealers.