

The Planet

S. STEPHENSON, Proprietor.

OSMAN PASHA.

Osman Pasha, whose death is announced, was 68 years old. His defense of Plevna against an overwhelming Russian force in 1877 gave Osman enormous prestige. By the entrenchments he caused to be thrown up, he resisted for four months the advance of the Russians.

In three pitched battles he overcame the finest troops of the Czar's army. July 1, 1877, he inflicted a loss of three thousand killed and wounded on his assailants. The next battle cost the Russians 170 officers and 7,136 men and the three days' stubborn assault of Skobloff later on, when the Russian Grenadiers got to within 500 yards of the trenches, but failed to pass the fatal fire zone, ended in a Russian loss of from 18,000 to 20,000 men. It was resolved to starve out the army of Osman, which originally numbered about 56,000 men, and an army of 120,000 Russians completed the investment.

At length, 45 days after the siege had been established, and 144 days after his own arrival at Plevna, Osman determined on a desperate attempt to cut his way through. The struggle was of the fiercest sort, but many hours of bayonet fighting ended in the Turks being driven back and the "Defender of Plevna" surrendered with the honors of war.

When the Sultan learned of the death of the famous general, he exclaimed, "Allah is unmerciful. He has deprived me of my honest, true friend and most valiant supporter."

NEW SOURCES OF REVENUE NEEDED.

The Ontario legislature could profitably spend some time in devising ways and means to help the incorporated cities and towns of Ontario. They are without exception, heavily in debt, the freeholders are already taxed nearly to the limit, and yet more money is required to continue the introduction of modern improvements. We want new sources of revenue, where the burden of taxation will not fall on those it falls heaviest on now. To find those sources should be the work of the legislature. It is too bad the cities and towns of the province could not get some sort of organization among themselves so as to jointly act in securing relief in some way. Lack of such action makes the M. P. P.'s of Ontario think that all that is expected of them is to attend the sessions, jangle, and vote every time their party leaders pull the string.

WHY THE LIBERALS ARE ATTEMPTING TO BLOCK THE SUGAR INDUSTRY.

Speaking on the sugar bounty question the St. Thomas Journal says: "It is extremely doubtful with the bounty-fed beet sugar industries of the United States and Germany, and the cheap production of cane sugar, if the industry can be maintained in Canada, without the highest bonus being constantly paid, and if it has to be maintained at that expense it will cost too dear. In fact the principle of a bonus of this kind is protection in its worst form. The Dominion Government has acted wisely in rejecting the proposal."

What utter rot a newspaper will talk when it is determined to look at everything through party spectacles. We can manufacture our own sugar here just as well as the Americans and Germans can manufacture it for us. But capitalists will not invest their money in beet sugar manufacture in Canada without a bonus when they can go elsewhere and get one. Yet there is no good reason why Canada should not give a bounty. It would all come back again to the people in the shape of cheap sugar. The hitch, however, to a progressive sugar policy seems to be the question of revenue. If we employed our own people making our own sugar from our own beets it would not be necessary to import sugar from foreign countries. This would mean a loss in duty to the Government of \$3,000,000 a year. This it is not prepared to stand, and the Liberal politicians and newspapers are being rallied against any progressive policy in the matter as a consequence.

Sir Richard Cartwright, Hon. David Mills and several other Dominion ministers declared that this country could be run for millions less than the late Conservative Government were paying out. At that time, four years ago, Canada was getting along on \$38,000,000. Now the expenditure is fifty millions, and yet they cannot retrench enough to spare the sugar revenue. The farming interests are to suffer and the manufacturing progress of the country is to be blocked all because the spendthrifts in power are afraid of losing one of the sources of revenue which is necessary to them if they are to keep up their present career of wild extravagance.

So far, the Presbyterian Church in Canada seems to be the only body that is making any organized effort to

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relieve the famine in India. Yet sixty-two millions of our fellow subjects are starving to death at the rate of thousands a day there.

Windsor is proceeding to put down truancy with a firm, strong hand. The evil is said to be just as bad in Chatham, but it seems impossible for us to wake up to the fact.

Another ballot box stuffer, let out on his own bail, has skipped. Yet you will find that Premier Ross will not dismiss the police magistrate at St. Thomas for his conduct in the matter. Think of releasing such men even on gilt-edged bail, let alone their own.

All the leading daily newspapers, it is said, will shortly increase the subscription price from 25 to 50 per cent. to meet the advanced price of paper and materials.—Exchange.

The above statement is incorrect so far as this great, leading journal is concerned. Notwithstanding the fact that the paper manufacturers' combine has put the price of paper up \$70 a car, it is still going to supply an eight dollar daily up to date newspaper for \$4 a year.

Revised reports of the losses on both sides in South Africa show that there is not much difference between them:

Boer losses—	2,120
Killed	1,251
Wounded	4,351
Sick	
British losses—	2,041
Killed	9,356
Wounded	
Dead of Disease	930

Lady John Scott Spottiswoode, writer of the song "Annie Laurie," is dead, at the age of 91. She was a woman of remarkable character, who clung to old-time manners and customs. Thus her coachman invariably had to ride on a postilion, a thatch seemed preferable as a roof covering, while peat fires alone lit up certain of her rooms. She was an accomplished musician, and wrote both the music and the words of "Annie Laurie." The ballad was originally written, however, was altered by her to suit the music, which she composed. She married in 1836 Lord John Montague Douglas Scott, son of the Fifth Duke of Buccleuch, who died in 1860. In 1866, under the will of her father, John Spottiswoode, she resumed her maiden name.

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JOHN'S WAY OF HELPING THE FARMERS.

The Mail.
Mr. Dryden, who has been asked to help the beet sugar industry, is going to send the farmers some samples of seed!

THE TRUST PUTS ON THE SCREWS.

The Mail.
Before the railway committee it was stated by Mr. G. M. Bowditch, freight-traffic manager of the C. P. R., that his company was forced by the Standard Oil Company to adopt its present discriminating rates on coal oil.

It had to agree to lower the rates on oil from the Standard Company's refineries in Ontario, to raise the rates to certain interior points, and to increase the rate by 50 per cent. on the oil of the trust's American competitors.

The club whereby the Standard Company forced the C. P. R. to thus change its rates was the power the former has of transporting in tank steamships.

The road had either to carry at the rates dictated by the trust or see its oil traffic taken away by these vessels. The right to carry oil in tank steamships was one of the advantages conferred on the trust by the Laurier Government.

THE IDEA OF ESTABLISHING A CANNING FACTORY IN ST. THOMAS.

The gentlemen who are interested in establishing a canning factory in this city are moving, as might be expected from their business capability, cautiously and in such a way as to secure success. The proposed subscribed capital of \$50,000 is reasonably large, and the paid-up capital decided upon, \$20,000, such as would seem to be ample for carrying on the work successfully. With plenty of capital and the securing of one or more persons of practical experience to take an interest in it, there seems to be no reason why such an industry should not be successfully operated here and prove of benefit, not only to the city, but to the surrounding country. It is true there is considerable said as to the market being at times overstocked now, but the fact that a leading canning company in the west opened a new branch last year does not seem to support this contention.

THE LONDON LIFE.

Elsewhere will be found a full report of the twenty-fifth annual meeting of the London Life Insurance Company. The statements made at that meeting must have proved very gratifying to both shareholders and policy holders as well as to officers and directors. From its inception the growth of the London Life appears to have been uniformly steady. As a result, to-day it has a substantial balance of assets to point to as a splendid guarantee of stability, and this alone must make the policy holders feel satisfied that they have made no mistake in their choice of companies with which to do business. The fact that several residents of this vicinity are largely interested in the London Life will no doubt lead to the perusal of the annual report in this issue by every reader.

THEY IGNORE THE LAW.

The report of the provincial license inspector shows that there are 21 tavern and three shop licenses in Windsor. The city's proportion of the license fees is \$3,388, and the amount of fees imposed in excess of the statutory duties is \$1,931. The amounts received by the various municipalities in North Essex are: Malden, \$131; Rochester, \$181; Sandwich East, \$504; Sandwich West, \$222; Sandwich town, \$389; Belle River, \$131; Anderdon, \$33; Walkerville, \$257; Sandwich South, \$71. The report makes no mention of the fact that the Windsor license board has granted more licenses than is allowed by law.

A Parisian Egg Forger.

An egg forger has been recently exposed in Paris. Eggs are about the last thing that one would expect to be forged, but it should be remembered that there are many collectors of birds' eggs who are willing to pay a high price for rare billings. A visitor saw this clever forger make a penguin egg which could not be distinguished from the real one that served him for a model. He made the egg of plaster of paris which he burnt and glazed. The egg was intended for a man who furnished eggs for a foreign scientific collection. It is not very difficult to impose on even experienced scientists, for among the real eggs of most species there are so many varieties that even the most practiced expert could not readily distinguish all of them. The eggs of the common flycatcher are very cheap and by chemical treatment they acquire a bluish, green, shiny color, and are then sold at high prices as the eggs of the silk tail. From common ducks' eggs are fabricated eggs on a falcon for the purpose. The pigeon and wood pigeon eggs are also transformed into rarer products of birds. Nightingales' eggs are difficult to procure and are therefore rare. They are successfully imitated by coloring larks' eggs brown. For a long time the egg forger was an assistant in a natural history museum in the provinces. There have been other cases of forgery of very rare birds' eggs, but these were only made of expensive rare eggs, and their manufacture did not constitute a permanent means of livelihood.

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Business Moods.

When a good man swears on a wet day it's more than likely the profanity comes from his feet.

The shoe that pinches spoils the temper, irritates the nerves, impairs digestion, and obscures the merry sunshine of life.

Success or failure in life often hinges upon a man's mood at critical moments, and the way his feet feel sometimes sways his destiny.

A pair of "Slater Shoes" may unconsciously save a fortune, but can't cost more than \$5.00.

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D. H. Winter

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3 cans Peas	25c
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3 cans Apples	25c
3 cans Tomato Catsup	25c
1 can Yellow Peaches	25c

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