

CHEAP RUBBER.—An artificial rubber, cheaper and as durable as the article now in use, is a thing of the near future. The new rubber is made from cotton-seed-oil, and the process for transforming the oil into rubber is so simple that the inventor fears that it is not within the protection of a patent. It is said that in the best of the new cotton oil goods there is 15 per cent of genuine India rubber.

THE BUSY BEE.—The Province of Ontario is again to be congratulated on prize-winning in the World's Fair. Sixty-one awards for various qualities of honey were made, and of these the one Province has captured twenty, leaving twenty-eight to be divided among a large number of honey-exhibiting States, and thirteen which were given to foreign honey-producing countries. Considering the position which has been so unanimously given to the Canadian cow, as well as to the Canadian bee, foreigners may be pardoned if they conclude that Canada is the veritable land of the ancient prophecy which flows with milk and honey.

THE FOUNDERING OF THE "VICTORIA."—The final verdict in the court martial held by the Admiralty Court on the *Victoria* disaster bears rather heavily on a man whose name has been little mentioned in connection with the accident. According to the court, the disaster, not of the collision, but of the sinking, was caused by negligence of the Captain in allowing the water-tight doors to remain open. Regulations will now be issued to the fleet in which special injunctions will be laid upon the Captains of men-of-war to ensure the closing of all water-tight doors and hatches when the manoeuvres to be performed are at all dangerous. The courts approve and uphold the construction of other war ships on the plan of the ill-fated *Victoria*.

IN HIS ADOPTED COUNTRY.—A curious instance of the changes which climate and environment may make in the habits and nature of animals is shown in the case of the Australian rabbit. In some parts of the Island Continent, where herbage is difficult to procure, the rabbits have become adepts in tree-climbing, and by creeping along the branches of trees to the tender new leaves they obtain an excellent subsistence. Another marked trait of the Antipodean rabbit is that he is able to swim and frequently indulges in a bath, where it would mean certain death to his British brother. It is not, however, consoling to our Australian friends to find that the rabbit is growing sturdier, saucier and more capable at the very time when they are endeavoring to banish him from the continent.

CROWDED AISLES.—The City Council of Toronto are considering carefully the reason why there is such a steady lack of observance of a most important by-law. The law provides that in order to prevent fires destructive to life, all aisles and passage ways in churches, halls and theatres, shall be kept free from camp-stools, draw seats, chairs, sofas, etc., during the occupation of the building by any assemblage. Although this provision for the safety of audiences has been law for many years, and although a heavy penalty is prescribed for offenders, yet the law has been constantly ignored, and in churches as well as in places of entertainment, the safety of the people in case of fire is not considered. Our Halifax friends will do well to consider if at all public gatherings a due regard is given to the arrangement of seats, etc., so that in case of fire a speedy and safe exit is open to the people.

UNEMPLOYED LABORERS.—Since the closing of the World's Columbian Exposition the great army of the unemployed who have had temporary occupation in connection with the Fair, have gone eastward and westward in search of employment. To add to their numbers there are some 90,000 of the laborers of Chicago who, owing to the shutting down of factories, etc., are unable to find work, and they too as quickly as possible are leaving the city in search of employment. It is now too late in the season for a general revival of mill and factory work, and even the interference of Congress cannot do much to palliate the situation of the great mass of men who are looking for work by which they may provide food for themselves and their helpless families. There seems to be every prospect of a winter season of idleness, which will leave thousands of honest people entirely dependent upon public and private charity.

THE GENUINE BRITISH CHEER.—Lord Aberdeen has been struck by the unpleasant sounds which emanate from a crowd of Canadian youths or men when the intention is that a hearty cheer shall be given. In addressing the lads of the London, Ont., High School, he commented freely upon the miscellaneous and hideous sounds which had been generally accorded him since his arrival, and he asked that the genuine British cheer, which is neither a harsh noise, a scream, or a cat-call, should be acquired by the young men of the Dominion. His Excellency has touched upon a rather tender subject, yet we cannot but admit that there is truth in his allegation—we have never learned the healthful art of cheering which is said to be one of the most effective of physical exercises, and which has doubtless also a distinct moral and patriotic value. Our chief comfort is that although we cheer badly, yet we cheer better than do our friends across the border from whom we have learned the bad lesson of making noise instead of harmony. A Fourth of July cheering is a torture not to be forgotten, and the "human noise-producer" is well assisted by the fire crackers, torpedoes, and the pea-nut vendors, who are all-important in the make-up of an American holiday. We will do well to adopt the British cheer in Canada, and we have reason to already thank His Excellency for the prompt and kindly words of criticism.

A CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP.—A most important decision has been made in the post office department at Washington, which is totally opposed to the general custom. A letter, card or parcel is now to be considered the property of the sender until the moment of delivery, and any letter, etc., may be recalled even after it has reached its destination, so long as it has not been handed to the person whose address it bears. It may be recalled by telegram from the mailing office if a speedy recall is considered necessary. As our readers well know, the ordinary idea is that the moment a letter is deposited in a postal box it becomes the property of the person to whom it is addressed, and that the postal department is the responsible body in case the letter is lost or delayed in transit. It is quite possible that if the new regulation works satisfactorily in the United States the same radical change may be made in our own postal system.

THE RIVAL SISTERS.—It is no doubt most desirable that the time necessarily spent in crossing the ocean should be reduced as much as possible, but it is to be regretted that such a craze for steamer-racing should prevail. In justice to the lives of passengers and employes a serious enquiry should be made into the practice of ocean-racing, else it is to be feared that at no distant date a horrible disaster of collision or reef-striking may occur. On the other hand, we cannot but be delighted at the fact that the record-making steamers belong to the Cunard line. Nova Scotians founded this excellent service, and Nova Scotians are employed in many capacities aboard of the boats; and it is with a genuine feeling of pride that we note that the two new greyhounds, the *Lucania* and the *Campania* have made the shortest trips ever known. The *Campania* has made the Eastern trip in five days, twelve hours and seven minutes, while the *Lucania*, in making a quick trip, covered the passage in five days, thirteen hours and twenty minutes. To the *Lucania*, however, belongs the honor of lowering the westward record, and she has accomplished the trip in five days, twelve hours and fifty-four minutes, beating the record of her sister ship by twenty-one minutes.

THE MURDERED MAYOR.—A decisive and impressive commentary on Governor Altgeld's action in freeing the convicts of the State of Illinois has been made during the last few days. Carter Harrison, the Mayor of Chicago, has been assassinated and without one word of warning summoned from this world to the next. Carter Harrison was not an especially eminent public man. His position was not similar to that occupied by Garfield or Lincoln. He was much less a mark for the malice of public or private citizens, yet he has been foully and openly murdered in his own home. The widely telegraphed accounts of this tragedy have waked up the shooting cranks in other localities. Already the lives of three prominent citizens of New York have been threatened, and it is not unlikely that there may still arise a serious crime or so. To our mind Governor Altgeld is responsible for most of the present evil. He has interfered unwarrantably with the administration of justice. He has pardoned murderers and anarchists, who are notoriously violent men. He has received a support from the lower class of his people for his action, but the murder of the Mayor will cause the tide of public opinion to run strongly against him, and it will be made clear to the Governor that the people realize that he has caused justice to be put to scorn, and under the guise of a kindness has done them the most deadly wrong in his power.

LESSONS OF THE TRAGEDY.—The terrible double murder and suicide which has saddened our city recently, has many lessons to teach us, if we will but heed them, and there are surely few rightminded people who would not submit, even at some slight inconvenience to themselves, to legislation or to civic regulation which might possibly prevent the repetition of a like tragedy. Naturally, the first thing to be considered is the case with which the death-dealing pistol may be procured and used. The law forbidding the carrying of concealed weapons is persistently ignored, and there is little effort made to prevent minors from obtaining and handling the coveted firearms. A second and most serious thought is on the quality of mind which the murderer possessed. Even allowing for a natural heritage of insanity, his brutal and inhuman conduct have proved him to be beyond doubt a man whose mind was totally depraved. The insidious process by which his mind was so changed is not altogether clear, but there can be no doubt that the reading of dime novels and of the like blood and thunder publications, had actually succeeded in perverting his entire moral nature. The appetite for reading such hurtful matter was not only established, but the taste had so grown upon him that he too had made an attempt to contribute to this low class of literature, and his published letters to his wife, as well as the autobiography on which he seems to have expended so much pains, were but the natural effect of his perverted manhood. Quantities of literature, whose aim and object is to kill or stultify the moral judgment, can be found in every city, town and village of our Province. The gay covers and telling illustrations attract the lads at once, and since there is little effort made to counteract the evil literature by supplying books of a better type, the boys naturally trip in the net which has been spread for them. If our people would but take as much trouble to flood the country with good books, as the proprietors of the penny dreadful stamp take to secure the circulation of their moral poison, there would speedily be a better living, better thinking class of young men in our Province. At some future time we hope to note for the benefit of many inquirers a number of publications which, while full of interest, incident and therefore fascinating to young people, are yet absolutely pure in their reflex moral influence.

The Worst Disease—Dyspepsia
The Best Cure K. D. C.

K. D. C. Relieves
Distress after eating.

K. D. C. Cures
Midnight Dyspepsia.

K. D. C. Restores
the Stomach to Healthy Action.