

HERE AND THERE.

THE BRITISH PENNY POST.—The penny post was established in 1840. Previous to this time letters had been charged for according to distance, penny postage for all distances within the United Kingdom being first proposed by Rowland Hill in 1837. Under the new law, postage was fixed at the rate of 1d. for letters of half-ounce weight.

THE POPE AND THE AMERICAN.—For cool assurance under all circumstances the Yankee holds pre-eminence. Mgr. Capel tells the story of a meeting between Pius IX. and a leading West-erner. A special audience had been arranged for a American of prominence. Mgr. Capel himself was in attendance on the Pope. The unterrified Oshkoshian was ushered in with due ceremony. Not at all dismayed by the surrounding grandeur, he walked right up to the successor of St. Peter, and, seizing his Holiness by the hand, exclaimed, "I am glad to meet you, Pope, because I have heard so much about you." It was the Pontiff's turn to be abashed.

A ROYAL VISITOR.—A rumor, with a semi-official tinge, is going the rounds at Ottawa to the effect that the Government have decided upon a novel scheme to counteract the growing public sentiment in favor of unrestricted reciprocity with the United States. Sir John Macdonald, it is believed, will seek to secure the adoption of a joint memorial from the Senate and House of Commons to Her Majesty, asking her to send a member of the Royal family to Canada next summer. The visit, it is expected, will create such a wave of popular enthusiasm as will put a damper on any scheme to bring about the absorption of the Dominion into the United States. The Duke of Edinburgh is suggested as the likely visitor, but it is alleged that correspondence with the imperial authorities seems to show that the Prince of Wales favours the sending of his eldest son.

THE TOLL GATE IN WAR TIMES.—The Colonels and Majors had all told their recollections of the war, and even the privates had been heard. It was the turn of the home guard. "We didn't have much blood, but we had stirring times when Morgan invaded Indiana while you were down to the front. I was only a private, but we all served with as much spirit and zeal as if we were members of the General's staff. I remember riding about carrying the tidings that Morgan was approaching. Down on the Shelbyville pike lived an old friend of mine. Riding down to his farm I called him out: 'Hello, in there!' I shouted. 'What's up?' was the reply. 'Morgan's coming. He is this side of Shelbyville. Better look out!' 'Great God!' the eccentric old farmer exclaimed. 'Is that so? Ride down to the toll-gate just below and tell the keeper not to let him through until I drive up my shoats.'"

FARMING IN MANITOBA.—Mr. J. W. Sandison, whose farms, situated near Brandon, are the most extensive in Manitoba, is at present on a visit to Scotland. When he settled in the North-West, about seven years ago, he did not possess a dollar; but so great, however, has been his success that during the past season he had 640 acres under crop, while in the coming year he will crop 1,400. He owns over 4000 acres at Brandon, besides areas in other parts of the province. He also owns twenty-two splendid Clydesdale and French horses (mostly pedigreed) for working the farm, besides a pair of beautiful blood horses kept for driving purposes. His machinery is of the latest make, and would astonish many farmers in Scotland. He employs twelve regular hands, while in harvest there are generally about thirty at work on his lands. Mr. Sandison got his first real start in 1885, the year of the Riel rebellion. His crop of oats then was fortunately uncommonly good, while the price went up to 63 cents a bushel. He is recognised in the district in which he has settled as a typical specimen of the hard-headed Scottish settler, whose steady habits and indomitable perseverance invariably lead to success.

MILITIA NOTES.

Material changes will be made in the 65th Battalion shortly. Major Dugas' appointment as Lieutenant-Colonel, to succeed Lieut.-Col. Ouimet, resigned, seems to be a settled matter. Major Dugas being senior officer of the battalion now.

The Ontario Artillery Association held its annual meeting at Toronto yesterday. The following were the principal recommendations in the report: An increase in the annual grant to the Dominion Artillery Association. As the provincial and other rifle associations receive grants from the Dominion Government, that this association should be placed upon a similar footing. The establishment of a school for field artillery at Kingston; there being only one garrison battery in the province, a semi-field and garrison school is not necessary.

An official explanation has been given in Ottawa regarding the seizure of 994 gallons of beer, consigned to Colonel Herchmer, of the Northwest Mounted Police at Regina. The beer was seized by the Mounted Police near the Manitoba boundary, because the permit did not accompany it. Colonel Herchmer, in discharging his duties as commissioner of the force, regulates the issue of beer required in the canteen kept by a civilian. Whenever a fresh supply is called for, Colonel Herchmer grants an order on the quarter-master.

The Morris Tube Gallery of the Victoria Rifles Armoury has been fully occupied since the 18th ult. putting in the annual practice of the regiment. The attendance was very fair, about 30 members from each company taking part. There are three targets in use, one Snider and two M. H., as only two can be used at the same time. The M. H. was the choice of most of the members.

No. 6 Company carries off the prize picture. This picture, a valuable "artist's proof" engraving, was presented to the regiment by Mr. A. Bishop Stewart, carver and gilder, of Montreal, and is the third challenge prize for inter-company competition, now in the possession of the Vics, the others being the Queen's Own Cup, the competition for which is always very keen, and a very handsome gold and silver shield from Elkington, London, presented by Capt. A. H. Sims, of No. 2 Company, one of the results of his visit to England last summer.

The following is the score of the winning team:

No. 6 Company—	200	500	600	Total.
Capt. Busted	27	28	26	81
Lieut. Shaw	29	26	24	79
Private Cook	32	33	27	92
Private Pope	30	19	31	80
Private Reynolds	30	22	25	77
Sergt. McCallum	28	24	17	69

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As is usual in such competitions, several of the highest scores were made by members not on teams.

A PRETTY FACE.

"The age that hath once beheld the King in his Beauty, sees in earthly things but the types of an unutterable loveliness—types which he is well content shall tade and pass away."—After Fred. Robertson, of Brihton.

A face where tender shadows fleet
Responsive to the passing mood,
Sweet memories, promises more sweet,
Nay,—certainties of endless good.

A face that courts the wildest breeze,
And woos the sun in summer hours,
Lies chequered 'neath the flickering trees,
And vies in tint with vermeil flowers.

And as some little lakelet clear
Reflects the sky's unmeasured whole,
So heaven's unnumbered charms appear
All mirrored in this single soul.

Wouldst thou have such a face? then say
Bright orisons at rise of sun,
At even song recall and weigh
Each deed the parting day hath done.

Cast out all fear and all desire;
Fear God, fear nothing else beside;
Thy life-song,—"Higher! ever higher!"
Like spray-snow on the vaulting tide.

My darling,—sun thyself in God,
His mother-comfortings, His grace,
His guidance, voice,—His loving rod,—
And enter Heaven with such a face.

F. C. EMBERSON, M.A.

1795 Dorchester St., Jan. 15, 1889.

STEWED CELERY.—Stewed celery, said to be a good remedy for rheumatism, when eaten every day, is easily prepared. Cut into strips, boil in slightly salted water, and serve either plain or with drawn butter sauce.



Fashion authorities say that large checks in men's suits will be the fashion in the spring. If the checks are in the pockets and properly signed and endorsed, the style will be gladly welcomed.

If most men could only get the world to take them at their own estimation of their value the world would soon have an enormous surplus stock on hand, and bankruptcy would stare it in the face.

Charles Lamb, one afternoon, in returning from a dinner party, took his seat in a crowded omnibus, when a stout gentleman subsequently looked in, and politely asked, "Full inside?" "I don't know how it may be, sir, with the other passengers," answered Lamb; "but that last piece of oyster pie did the business for me."

Free Medical Advice.—"Doctor," said a citizen as he overtook him on the street, "what do you do in a case of gone stomach?" "Well," replied the doctor, thoughtfully, "I've never had such a case myself, but I would recommend you to advertise for it and then sit down in a large easy chair and wait until somebody brings it back."

Driver (to quiet stranger on suburban road): "Hi, mister, jest hold that there horse's head for a minute while I get down, will yer?" Stranger (nervously): "Wh-wh-which one?" Driver: "Why, the off'un, to be sure." Stranger: "My good man, I am totally unacquainted with horses, and it is quite impossible for me to know which is the orphan."

"Vell," said Mr. Isaacstein to his clerk, as he took off his coat, "how vos peezness vile I vas oud?" "I sold a two-dollar pistil," replied the clerk. "Dot vas good, Jacob—goot." "De shentleman wanted it to blow his brains oud, continued Jacob. "Oh!" said Mr. Isaacstein, dubiously, "dot vos bad, very bad. He vould haf paid five tollars."

The New York papers are telling about seven young women all in a row who went fast to sleep during a performance of a Wagner opera. Wagner's music seldom has a soporific effect upon its hearers however completely they may fail to appreciate it. In fact, the person that can sleep during a Wagner opera might woo complete and undisturbed repose in a boiler factory.

"One moment, Mr. Sampson," she exclaimed with a distressed look as he dropped to his knees, "I have already had twelve proposals this season, and yours will be the thirteenth—an unlucky number." "True," he answered, as he rose to his feet, his face ashen; "but, oh! what am I to do?" "Wait for a week, Mr. Sampson," she answered, shyly; "then come again."

Adroit.—Aunt Penelope (who has testamentary powers): Do you know, Edith, I sometimes fancy baby will be like me. Edith (astonished into candor): Like you, Aunt Penelope? Dear me! I hope not! Aunt Penelope: You hope not! And pray why, Edith? Edith (suddenly recollecting herself in view of Aunt P.'s powers): Oh, good looks are frequently such a snare, you know, aunty.

Popular Preaching.—First preacher: "How do you manage to succeed so well among the cowboys out West?" Second preacher: "There were 600 present at my first sermon, and I said: 'Gentlemen, I'm going to tell you about a man five feet high who floored a giant eleven feet high.' Then I spoke of Goliath and David." "Well?" "When I finished they gave three cheers for David."

"Time spent with poultry," says the *Agriculturist*, "is well spent." Bet your life it is. A man can spend more time in an hour trying to drive a yearling hen through a gate eighteen feet wide than he can spend in a week sawing wood. And then she won't go through the gate, after all, although it is wide open. She will either fly over the fence alongside of it or break her back trying to scratch under it.

Unto a little nigger,
A-swimming in the Nile,
Appeared, quite unexpectedly,
A hungry crocodile.
Who, with that chill politeness
That makes the warm blood freeze,
Remarked: "I'll take some dark meat
Without dressing, if you please!"

"My I look through your waste basket?" enquired a young man, entering timidly. "Certainly," said the editor. "What do you want to find?" "A little poem on 'Mortality' that I sent in yesterday." "My dear sir, that poem was accepted and will appear to-morrow. I will draw you a cheque for \$25, and I assure you—" But he spoke to lifeless ears. The young man had fallen to the floor. The shock had killed him.

Old gentleman: How does my son get on? School teacher: He's one of the best students in the school, I've no complaint to make on that score. Old gentleman: That was the way with me when I went to school. I'm glad he's taking after his father. School teacher: But he's rather unruly at times, Mr. Hardcastle, and frequently has to be reprimanded for fighting. Old gentleman: Well, I suppose it's natural that he should have some of his mother's striking characteristics.