

"Necessity Knows No Law."

But a law of Nature bows to the necessity of keeping the blood pure so that the entire system shall be strong, healthy and vigorous.

To take Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier, is therefore a law of health and it is a necessity in nearly every household. It never disappoints.

Erysipelas—Had a severe attack of erysipelas, suffering from dizziness and nervousness so that I could not rest at night. Tried Hood's Sarsaparilla with good results, and now recommend it to others." M. CHALMERS, Toronto, Ont.

Tired Feeling—Was all run down and had no appetite. Was tired all the time. Hood's Sarsaparilla was suggested, and a trial benefited me so much that now I would not be without the medicine. Mrs. G. D. BURKETT, Central Norton, N. B.

Hood's Sarsaparilla NEVER DISAPPOINTS

Hood's Pills cure liver ills; the non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

ENGLAND HAD A GREEN CHRISTMAS

One of the Mildest on Record—Primrose, Cornflowers and Roses in Bloom.

New York, Dec. 26.—England has had one of the greenest Christmas on record, says the Tribune's London correspondent, for the weather has been so mild that primroses and cornflowers are in bloom as far north as Liverpool and Lancashire, while Devonshire revels in a sub-tropical climate, and the Isle of Wight is a garden of roses in mid-winter.

LONDON BANK TO QUIT

London, Dec. 26.—The Cheque Bank announces that it is going into voluntary liquidation. The bank is solvent, and every creditor will be fully paid. It is stated, furthermore, that a considerable sum will be distributed among the shareholders, although the bank was inevitably lost. The directors say that the competition of other banks, their system of competition with the postoffice, and numerous other factors have made a continuance of profitable business impossible.

THE EMPEROR AND THE ACTRESS

Vienna, Dec. 26.—Untraceable rumors have been in circulation for some time to the effect that a marriage project is projected between the emperor and an actress attached to the imperial theater, and finally they have reached the Hungarian newspapers. A semi-official organ indignantly denies the rumors.

REVIEW OF LONDON TROOPS

Khartoum, Egyptian Sudan, Dec. 26.—Lord Cromer, the British diplomatic agent, reviewed today the Egyptian troops of the Sudan under the sirdar, Major General Sir Francis R. Wingate. He assured a deputation from the great Dinka tribe, which formerly suffered severely from slave raids, that the British and Egyptian flags guaranteed them against a recurrence of such raids and insured respect for their ancient customs. The chiefs departed expressing gratitude.

For Quick Perusal.

St. Paul experienced the first blizzard of the season Sunday.

It is announced that Lord William Beaconsford's condition shows considerable improvement.

John Ayer, of Pittsburg township, aged 15 years, was crushed to death by a high flying airplane.

Frank McDonald, druggist of Minneapolis, and a partner, Dr. Roche, M.P., died suddenly on Tuesday.

A dispatch from Warsaw says 52 Poles have been arrested there, being accused of a political conspiracy.

The trial of Cornelius L. Alvord, who stole \$500,000 from the First National Bank of New York, begins today (Wednesday) in the United States district court.

William John Frame, police magistrate at Collingwood for the last eight years, died Tuesday morning. The deceased has been suffering from cancer for many years.

Mr. Wm. Oliver, who was elected mayor of Lethbridge by the casting vote of the returning officer, resigned his seat, and a special appointment, Mr. John Keny, were renominated.

The British steamer Antilla, which went ashore on Great Egg Harbor shoals Monday, during a heavy fog, was floated Tuesday. She was apparently uninjured and started for New York.

A Sacramento, Cal., telegram says: A man named H. Green has surrendered himself to the police, saying that he and his brother John murdered a man named Bill Jones at Station Street, Isabella county, Mich., in 1875.

A New York telegram says: La Normandie came in two days late today, owing to the heavy weather she had encountered. She had forced her way against head winds and terrific seas all the way from Havre to the Banks of Newfoundland, and had subsequently been enveloped in a fog from Nantucket to New York.

When the State of Nebraska, of the Alen Line, reached her dock in New York on Tuesday, Commodore Peters and Purser Stritt, declared that throughout their seafaring experience they had never encountered such tempestuous weather as they had encountered during the last nineteen days.

RICKLES' ANTI-CONSUMPTIVE SYRUP stands at the head of the list for all diseases of the throat and lungs. It acts like magic in breaking up a cold. A cough is soon subdued, tightness of the chest is relieved, even the worst case of consumption is relieved while in recent cases it may be said never to fail. It is a medicine prepared from the active principles or virtues of several medicinal herbs and can be depended upon for all pulmonary complaints.

Never violate a faith, desert a friend or leave a woman in an ill-humor.

INTERESTING INFORMATION ABOUT CANCER.

Our new book, entitled "Cancer: Its Cause and Cure," contains valuable information about the new, painless method of treating cancer and tumor. Sent by Stott & Jury, Bowmanville, Ont., to any address on receipt of two stamps.

SOME PRETTY TOUGH STORIES

Told in the Dispatches From China.

French Troops Said to Have Defeated 25,000 Chinese Without Losing a Man—Nineteen Christians Burned by Boxers—Prince Yu Hsien To Be Beheaded—Joint Note Sent to the Emperor.

FRENCH MEET BOXERS.

Tien Tsin, Dec. 25.—A French detachment of 1,000 men left here Dec. 20 for Hung Tsu, 20 miles westward, to search for arms. Approaching a village across a frozen creek a force of Boxers opened fire, killing Lieut. Contal and wounding another officer. The French burned the village.

DOUBTFUL STORY.

Pekin, Dec. 25.—The French report encountering 25,000 Chinese and capturing five flags and a number of guns and inflicting a great loss, 35 miles east of here. The report is generally discredited. According to the report the French did not suffer any losses themselves. It is believed, however, that the French probably met a roving band, which was dispersed, a number of the Chinese being butchered. Li Hung Chang says that he is satisfied that the story is false.

NINETEEN CHRISTIANS BURNED

Rev. Mr. Kelly, a Presbyterian missionary, has reported to Minister Conner the burning by Boxers of nineteen Catholic Christians. He says, however, that his information has been derived entirely from Chinese sources. The Japanese who have jurisdiction over that territory will investigate the report.

ANOTHER DUBIOUS YARN.

London, Dec. 26.—A dispatch to the Pall Mall Gazette from Peking, dated Monday, Dec. 24, says much irritation has been caused by the activity of the German troops in the districts under British protection. So acute has been the feeling that there has been a question of the British seceding from the allied command.

PRaise FOR AMERICANS.

London, Dec. 26.—In a careful review published today in the Morning Post of the conditions existing at Peking, Mr. H. J. Whigham, a well-known newspaper correspondent and golf player, says there are now a quarter of a million inhabitants pursuing their ordinary vocations in this American quarter. The markets are in full blast. He says that the American and the Japanese quarters are in all respects the best managed. Continuing, Mr. Whigham says: "If the Japanese come out of the middle with flying colors, they at least have the Americans close behind. It was worth sending an expedition to China if only to get a few hints on transport from the Americans."

TO BE BEHEADED.

London, Dec. 26.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Standard, telegraphing Dec. 24, says: The government has changed on the borders of the Shan Si and Shon Si Provinces. Yu Hsien has been ordered to return to Sian Fu forthwith to be executed, it is supposed. It is inferred from these reports that the imperial authorities are preparing to concede the demands of the joint note for the punishment of the instigators of the trouble.

BOXER BARBARITY.

A dispatch from Peking to a news agency here, dated Dec. 24, says missionaries state that Boxers, 35 miles east of Peking, killed twelve Catholics and burned eight in the temples.

RUSSIANS ALMOST AS BAD.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times says that detachments of Russian troops in Southern and Southeastern Manchuria continue to pursue the work of exterminating disorganized Chinese troops and brigands.

THAT "NOTE."

According to a news agency despatch from Peking, dated Dec. 24, the ministers there are unanimously of the opinion that China will accept the condition imposed by the joint note by the powers within a month. The note was started on its way to the Dowager Empress and the Emperor immediately after its presentation. The despatch says, but wire communication is slow and it probably will not reach them until Dec. 27.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.

Pekin, Dec. 24.—The preliminary joint-note was delivered today to the Chinese. Li Hung Chang found that he was unable to attend the meeting of the ministers, and his credentials and those of Prince Ching were presented by the latter to the foreign envoys. Prince Ching said he would immediately communicate its contents to the emperor, and assured the desire of the court, as it felt that all China wants peace and prosperity.

LONDON'S YELLOW JOURNAL YARN.

London, Dec. 26.—The Foreign Office informed a representative of the Associated Press today that there was no truth in the Pall Mall Gazette's Peking despatch which said there had been a question of the British seceding from the allied command owing to the activity of the Germans in the districts under British protection.

Says He Was Tortured.

"I suffered such pain from corns I could hardly walk," writes H. Robinson, Hillsborough, Ill. "but Bucklin's Arnica Salve completely cured them." Acts like magic on sprains, bruises, cuts, sores, scalds, burns, boils, ulcers. Perfect healer of skin diseases, and pills. Cure guaranteed by W. T. Strong & Co., 25 cents.

THERE IS DANGER IN NEGLECTING A COLD.

Many who have died of consumption dated their troubles from exposure, followed by a cold which settled on their lungs, and in a short time they were beyond the skill of the best physician. Had they used Bickie's Anti-Consumptive Syrup, before it was too late, their lives would have been spared. This medicine has no equal for curing coughs, colds and all affections of the throat and lungs. The ancient inks closely resembled black paint, and on account of the large quantity of gum employed in their composition the letters stood up in relief on the parchments as though embossed.

Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator does not require the help of any purgative medicine to complete the cure. Give it a trial and be convinced.

SCORCHER CHRISTMAS MORNING

Several of Calgary's Finest Structures Destroyed.

The Loss Will Be at Least \$100,000—Senator Lougheed is a Heavy Loser.

Calgary, Alberta, Dec. 25.—The most destructive fire in the history of Calgary raged today, and wrought damage, variously estimated, but it will not be below \$100,000. General of the finest business structures fell a prey to the devouring flames, notably the Clarence, the Eau Claire and the new Norman blocks.

The fire broke out at 2 a.m. in the lower part of the Clarence block, and in a few minutes the huge three-story building was enveloped in smoke and flame. The fire brigade was early on the scene, and worked heroically, though hampered for a time by the poor supply of water. So great was the heat, that the Eau Claire block, on the east side, occupied by the Calgary Clothing Company, and the Norman block, on the west, occupied by Glanville & Robertson, for their immense drygoods business were soon ablaze.

The Clarence block was soon gutted. The block was full of tenants, but all escaped, though nothing whatever from the upper stories was saved. The firemen turned their attention to saving the Eau Claire block. After a long struggle, in which the inside of the building was completely destroyed, the flames were mastered.

In the meantime a crowd of willing workers were carrying out from the Norman block on the west, the immense stock of men's furnishings, carpets, furs and other stock of Glanville & Robertson. This new block was also gutted. The loss will be over \$100,000. Senator Lougheed, who built and owned both the Clarence and Norman blocks, is the chief loser. Besides the buildings themselves, the latter just completed last week, the senator loses the whole of his magnificent law library and papers.

The Calgary Wine and Spirits Company had just got in an immense stock of liquors, thus adding no little to the fury of the flames.

The Alberta Music Co. lost their stock of pianos and organs. The Watts Company, cigars, was burned out.

Mr. G. H. Mitchell's stock of groceries and chinaware lies in ashes. The Calgary Clothing Company's stock is destroyed. Glanville & Robertson lose very heavily. Crispin E. Smith and H. W. H. Knox lose their extensive law library, and many other documents and papers. Dr. O'Sullivan's dentistry parlors suffered. Mr. Evans, Mr. Todd and a number of others lose their household effects.

WILL SAVE \$2,000,000.

Canadian Bonds Admitted to English Trust Investments.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—A cablegram has been received by the department of finance stating that official notice has been given in the London Gazette of the admission of the Dominion inscribed stocks to the list of securities in which trust funds may be invested.

The Hon. W. S. Fielding, minister of finance, explains that the difference between the selling prices of the securities admitted to the trustees' list and one shut out from the list is from two to three points.

At a later stage the difference will probably be even greater, because under the influence of the present important step the securities on Canada will approach very nearly the value of British consols. Calculating, however, at the moderate estimate of 2 per cent on the loan which Canada will have to place in England in the next ten years the saving will not be less than \$2,000,000 to the Canadian treasury.

IT WAS ALL A MISTAKE.

Richard Harris Left His Watch at Home and Thought It Was Stolen—Heavy Fines for Disorderly Conduct.

Richard G. Harris, the young man from the country, who had a resident of London, was arrested last week for stealing his watch and chain, appearing in police court this morning and explaining that it was all a mistake. His mother had taken the watch from his pocket and on his knowledge before he left home, and on missing it after his arrival in the city, he concluded that he had been "touched." There accordingly being no evidence against the accused he was honorably discharged.

George Balthantyne and Rosi Niosi attended the matinee performance at the London Opera House yesterday afternoon. A dispute arose between Balthantyne and Constable Park. Balthantyne was charged with being disorderly and with assault, while Niosi was charged with assault alone. Balthantyne was fined \$10 and costs or 21 days hard labor on the first charge, and \$20 and cost or two months hard labor on the second. The aggregate amount of the fines and cost was \$35. Niosi was fined \$10 and costs or one month at hard labor. His mother paid his fine for him.

A physician and a citizen who neglected to register infants' births each paid \$25 and 15 days' hard labor. Three drunkards were discharged and one bailed till Jan. 1. James Moher, a cigarmaker, was remanded till tomorrow for wantonness. The charge against him was that of being drunk, but he was also shown to have threatened his family, and acting in a disorderly manner both at home and on the streets.

THE COUGHING and wheezing of persons troubled with bronchitis or asthma is excessively harassing to themselves and annoying to others. Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil obviates all this, and cures it safely and speedily, and is a benign remedy for lameness, sores, injuries, piles, kidney and spinal troubles.

Now for Bargains. The Retiring Sale Continues.

Great Bargains in Hosiery and Underwear.

Bayley's CLAM CAUGHT A RAT.

Closed His Shell and Killed Rodent That Tried to Eat Him.

Freehold, N. J., Dec. 26.—James Miller, of Seabright, has discovered a queer species of live rat trap. It is a large, hard clam, between the open shells of which was tightly grasped a rat.

It is supposed that the clam had been lying in the sun with its shell opened, and that when the rat attempted to make a dinner of the clam, it closed its shell on the rat's head. The clam was still living when found, but the rat was dead, and the sand about it showed evidence of a struggle on the part of the little animal to free itself from the clutch of the bivalve.

Councilman George B. Minton, of Seabright, photographed the freak.

AROUND THE CITY.

APPOINTED A DIRECTOR.

The Hon. David Mills, Minister of Justice, has been appointed a director of the Dominion Savings and Investment Society, in place of the late Lieut.-Col. Lewis.

FAWCETT-BIDNELL.

A very pretty wedding took place on Christmas day at the residence of Mr. Edward G. Bidnell, of Mount Brydges, when his daughter Mary E. was united in marriage to Thos. Fawcett. The groom was supported by his brother William and the bride by her sister Minnie. The ceremony was performed by Rev. C. Sinclair, of London, after which the company sat down and partook of a dainty repast. The many valuable gifts testified to the popularity of the young couple.

DREW CROWDED HOUSES.

Marks Bros' Dramatic and Vaudeville Company played to large crowds at the London Opera House yesterday. The offering in the afternoon was "The Celebrated Case," and in the evening "A Soldier's Sweetheart." The many valuable gifts testified to the popularity of the young couple.

PRESENTATION.

A committee of the employees of the Wortman & Ward Manufacturing Company waited upon the manager, Mr. F. Stoneman, last Saturday, and presented him with a meerschaum pipe, as a token of the esteem in which he is held by the men. The presentation speech was made by Mr. J. B. Allen, to which Mr. Stoneman made a suitably complimentary reply, thanking the employees for their kindness, and wishing them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. J. B. Allen, J. Jacobs, J. De Wolf and J. Mitchell were the members of the presentation committee.

NOMINATION PAPERS.

City Clerk Kingston's opinion has been asked several times upon the necessity of the nominator and second being present at the nomination meeting. Several have mentioned to him their belief that it is only requisite to have the names of the nominator and second upon the nomination papers. This, in his opinion, cannot be done. The law contemplates a meeting of the electors, and that they choose their candidate at that meeting. In the first place, the nominator and second should be among the electors summoned to meet for the purpose of nomination, and in the second, this is necessary to prevent fraud. The returning officer must be satisfied that fraudulent names are not attached to nomination papers.

MERRETT-GRAY.

A very pretty wedding took place on Christmas afternoon, at the home of Mrs. E. P. Gray, 265 Clarence street, when her daughter, Nettie, was united in marriage to Jas. T. Merrett, of the McClary Manufacturing Company, Montreal. Miss Rose Merrett, sister of the groom, ably assisted the bride, while Robert Gray, the bride's brother, acted as best man. Many beautiful presents indicated the esteem in which the young couple were held, among others being a magnificent marble bust and cut glass water bottle, presented to the bride by her associates in T. B. Escott & Co.'s warehouse, where she has been employed for a number of years, also a large silver fish set from Mr. Escott. A dainty luncheon was served, and the young couple departed on the 5 p.m. train, amid showers of rice and good wishes, to visit in Thordale, after which Montreal will be their home.

RETIRING FROM THE FASHIONABLE TAILORING BUSINESS

OUR ENTIRE STOCK must be disposed of at once.

FANCY TWEEDS and WORSTEDS, BLACK WORSTEDS and SERGES, LLAMAS and VICUNAS, TROUSERING, FANCY VESTINGS, OVERCOATINGS.

At Prices Just to Cover First Cost of Making. Make your selection early and have our complete range to choose from.

A. Screaton & Co.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

We have a fine selection of goods suitable for Gifts.

GENTS' TIES—Specials at 25c and 50c. GENTS' MUFFLERS—Quilted, from 50c to \$1.00 each. GENTS' SQUARES—From 20c to \$1.00 each. GENTS' HANDKERCHIEFS—Linen and silk, beautiful assortment. GENTS' GLOVES—Lined Kid, at 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25 per pair. LADIES' TIES—In silk and lace. LADIES' KID GLOVES—See our guaranteed Gloves at \$1.00 per pair. LADIES' HANDKERCHIEFS—A large range of silk, lace trimmed and hemstitched handkerchiefs, from 5c each up. FINE LINENS—A nice line of Table Linens, 2 yards wide, at 35c per yard, and so on, up to the fine bleached goods, 2 1/4 yards wide, for \$1.00 per yard. FANCY TOWELS—At 60c, 65c and 75c each; beauties. NAPKINS, DOILIES and SIDEBAND DRAPES—At moderate prices.

GRAY & PARKER, 150 Dundas Street.

Those present from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hawthorne, Woodstock; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Gray, Sarnia; Mrs. Mary Saekeid, Goderich; and Mr. Ben. Gray, Detroit.

INTERESTING SERVICES.

The services at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Hill street, yesterday morning and evening, were marked by music of a very high order, Mozart's Twelfth Mass being rendered in fine style. It was given under the musical direction of Mr. W. T. Mullins as choirmaster, and Mr. James Cresswell as leader of the orchestra. The abilities of these gentlemen are well known, but it is not too much to say that yesterday they excelled themselves. The soloists, both vocal and instrumental, did splendid work. Their names are as follows: Mrs. John Traher, Miss Berghin, soprano; Mrs. W. T. Mullins, contralto; Mr. M. O'Hagan, Mr. W. C. Traher, tenors; Mr. Jos. Leach, Mr. Charles Povey, basses; Mr. James Cresswell, Miss Sara Gleeson, violins; Mr. Frank Abridgia, flute; Mr. Clarence Robinson, cornet; Mr. John Traher, slide trombone. The offertory selection consisted of "Shout the Glad Tidings," by Wilson, the mass concluded by "Marche Exultat" (Gounod). At the evening service Miss Lenahan, soprano, Mr. John Hughes, tenor, and Mr. Jas. Connor did the solo work in a very acceptable manner. Mrs. James Murray presided at the organ in her usual efficient manner. The altar was beautifully decorated under the supervision of Father Traher by the ladies of the church, and the reverend gentleman in the course of the day preached two eloquent sermons which were listened to by the very large congregations.

LYONS.

Lyons, Dec. 26.—Wilson McCredie has six men cutting cordwood. Herbert C. Branlon, of Calton, has secured the principalship of the Crossley and Hunter public school. Salary, \$35. A successful musical and literary social was held recently under the auspices of the Crossley and Hunter school. Rev. John Currie, of Belmont, presided. Inspiring addresses were delivered by the Rev. William Charlton, Messrs. E. McCredie, of St. Thomas, and Morley Pettit. The vocalists were Albert Campbell, of St. Thomas; Miss Kate Charlton, of Napleton; Mrs. L. Eckert and Miss Annie Moore gave a number of instrumental solos, and the Wismer Orchestra, of Napleton, rendered choice selections. Choice refreshments were served by the ladies. Receipts, \$21.50.

Miss Tena Noble has secured the principalship of York's public school. Salary, \$35.

Miss Laura Simpson is re-engaged as principal of the public school here. Salary, \$30.

Mrs. Sturrock, Mrs. Vanderwalker and Mrs. Hillie, of Brown City, Mich., and Clarence and Austin Learn, of Chicago, came here to spend Christmas.

TESTED BY TIME.—In his justly celebrated Pills Dr. Farnelee has given to the world one of the most unique medicines offered to the public in late years. Prepared to meet the want for a pill which could be taken without nausea, and that would purge without pain, it has met all requirements in that direction, and it is in general use not only because of these two qualities, but because it is known to possess alterative and curative powers which place it in the front rank of medicines.

Belmont.

Belmont, Dec. 26.—Mr. John Stewart, of South Dorchester, who passed peacefully away recently, at the family home, was highly revered in the community and in Knox Church of this place. The deceased was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, in 1813. Mr. Stewart came here when 18 years of age, accompanied by his parents, four brothers and five sisters, and settled on lot 19, con. 7, South Dorchester. He married Miss Catherine McColl, daughter of Duncan McColl, of Westminister, and eight children were born to them, three boys and five girls, two of whom have died. The survivors are Mrs. John Campbell, of Sault Ste. Marie; Charles Stewart, of Detroit; John Stewart, Misses Beila and Jennie, at homestead, and Archibald Stewart on an adjoining farm. His wife predeceased him in November, 1844. Mrs. Ferguson, relict of the late Donald Ferguson, Yarmouth, is the only sister living. Interment took place Wednesday, Dec. 19, to the Stewart Cemetery. The obsequies were conducted by the Rev. John Currie.

Messrs. D. F. Moore, warden of Elgin; J. C. Dance, ex-M.P.P., of East Elgin; Duncan Ferguson, ex-reeve of South Dorchester; James Melkie, Jas. Campbell and William Dyer were pall-bearers.

Messrs. Wyatt and Bassett are aspirants for county honors for the municipality of Yarmouth; also Messrs. J. C. Ferguson, Alex. McBryne, Wm. Paddon and Geo. Francis.

Miss McKenny, of Kingsville, has

obtained the principalship of the public school at Glen, Yarmouth. Salary \$275. Messrs. Nichol and Cousins are looking for the Westminister reeve ship. William McGreor has arrived at his parental home from Dakota to pass the winter. The Belmont public school staff consists of Mr. Walter Keist and Misses Webster and McCord. Mrs. Geo. Pretty died of typhoid fever in the hospital at St. Thomas, after an illness of four weeks. Her maiden name was Winnet Cole, and she was a daughter of the late William Cole, Yarmouth. Ernest, second son of Robt. Smith, died of an attack of bronchopneumonia Dec. 12, aged 3 years, after a brief illness. Miss Mary McDonald, of Hamilton, has returned home after spending a number of weeks among relatives and friends. Mrs. Alfred Nevils, of Glen, Yarmouth, went to Illinois to spend Christmas among her numerous relatives there. Miss Shnelgrove, of Orwell, has been a guest of the Misses Bingham, Yarmouth.

News and Opinions OF National Importance THE SUN ALONE Contains Both. Daily, by mail - - - \$6 a year Daily and Sunday, by mail - - \$8 a year The Sunday Sun is the greatest Sunday Newspaper in the world. Price 5c a copy. By mail, \$2 a year Address, THE SUN, New York.