NEWS OF THE DAY.

CANADIAN.

An American schooner has been seized and her crew arrested at St. John's, Nfld., for selling bait to French fishermen.

An official test of the new police patrol system in Toronto was made on Saturday morning, and proved very satisfactory.

Assays of the gold vein recently discovered in McKenzie township, near Dunchurch, Muskoka, have produced very satisfactory results.

Lord Roseberry has not replied yet to the invitation of the Imperial Federationists of Ottawa to visit Canada and speak on the subject.

Mr. Coulson, the sub marine diver, has lost two children from diphtheria. Within five years he has buried his wife, three sons and one daughter.

A joint stock company is to be formed in Kingston to establish a College of Practical Science and Agriculture for Eastern Ontario, to be located in that city.

The subscription list for the Canadian Pacific 3½ per cent. loan was closed Monday morning at 11 o'clock, and the amount applied for far exceed $25,000,000.

A lively debate is expected at the National Prohibition Convention, which opens in Montreal on Monday July 2nd, over the proposed formation of a Third Party.

Mr. A. Ross, dry goods merchant, received a letter, postmarked Gananoque, containing $10. It was conscience money. No name was given, only a passage of Scripture quoted.

Liberal candidates are in the field in twenty-eight constituencies in Manitoba, in readiness for the general election next month, whilst so far the Conservatives have only twelve.

The Queen has conferred the honour of Knight Bachelor on Mr. Thomas Galt, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and upon Dr. Daniel Wilson, President of the Toronto University.

By the will of the late Senator Ferrier, his estate, valued at nearly $800,000, is divided among his two living children and the family of his two deceased children, in nearly equal portions.

Manitoba farmers are resuming thrashing operations, wheat being now worth twenty cents a bushel more than it was last fall. Owing to this increase the Winnipeg bakers have raised the price of bread.

On Monday afternoon the gas well being sunk at Collingwood was torpedoed, with the result that a strong and steady flow of natural gas was secured. Another well has been commenced in the west ward of the town.

Unless satisfactory proposals for the construction of the proposed railway between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie are received by Saturday, the Provincial Government announce that they will build the line themselves.

In the Superior Court at Montreal yesterday Mr. Justice Taschereau dismissed the application of the cattle shippers for an injunction against the Beaver steamship line, in connection with the alleged insurance combine.

Dr. Jenny K. Trout, of Toronto, has offered one thousand dollars towards the erection of a college building and hospital for the Women's Medical College at Kingston, on condition that seven thousand dollars is contributed by the people of Kingston.

It is stated that the bucket shop keepers of Montreal intend to continue their business, having, on the advice of leading counsel, prepared a plan by which to evade the provisions of the bucket shop bill passed at the session of Parliament just closed.

The Montreal Law and Order League has decided to abandon its crusade against objectionable license-holders, claiming that under the present commissioners it is impossible to get the License Act administered in a workable and reasonable manner.

In the case of the Bell Telephone Company v. Pennington an action of replevin for a telephone instrument tried on Saturday at St. Thomas, County Judge Hughes decided that a landlord had the right to seize a telephone hired to his tenant for arrears of rent.

A destructive fire took place recently in the premises of the J. F. Pease Furnace Co., Morgan Bros., waggon makers, and Hewitt & Harvey, box manufacturers, Queen street east, Toronto, entailing a loss of about $30,000, partially covered by insurance.

A company of Montreal capitalists has been formed, with a capital os $400,000, to establish a new line of steamers between Kingston and Montreal, in opposition to the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Company. The new line will commence running boats next season.

The religious festival of Corpus Christi was celebrated in Montreal with great pomp and solemnity by the Roman Catholic part of the community. The procession took nearly two hours in passing a given point, and was one of the largest and most imposing ever seen in that city.

Under the new regulations governing the emigration of children to Canada, each child must have before starting a certificate of good health, and the medical officer of a ship carrying child immigrants must vaccinate all not showing signs of having been vaccinated within seven years.

It is stated that the session of of the Quebec Legislature will be closed as early as possible, and that Premier Mercier will leave for England about the beginning of next month to join Premier Mowat with the view of presenting the Inter Provincial Conference resolutions to the Privy Council.

Many of the great lumber firms holding leases of water lots and water power, at the Chaudiere Falls, are heavily in arrears with their rent, which they refuse to pay on the ground that the water power at times is not equal to the conditions of the leases. The Government, however, threatens to cancel the leases and institute ejectment proceedings if the rent is not paid.

The joint committee appointed two years ago by the Methodist Conference and the Presbyterian Synod to consider the amalgamation of church work in the poor and sparsely settled districts, held its first meeting yesterday at the Montreal Presbyterian College, when organization was completed and a motion adopted that the commission was ready to commence work. The meeting was then adjourned at the call of the joint secretaries.

The reports of the Lazaretto at Tracadie, N. B., show that the number of the unfortunate persons confined there is diminishing. There are only seventeen left. One leper escaped from the institution into the United States, where he may become a centre of new infection. The indications are that with careful management the disease may be extinguished with this generation. It was originally imported by some Norwegian fishermen and had attained considerable headway before measures were taken to suppress it.

Last week a plot was discovered in the penitentiary. A convict named Saunders, who has but two years to serve, drew up a document which asked the convicts to take part in a proposed uprising, suggesting that at a certain hour on a certain day the guards at the gates should be overpowered and taken to a place of security, after which the keepers should be attended to and treated in a similar manner, and then the gates should be thrown open and the convicts allowed to escape in a body. The document, which is a lengthy one, passed through several hands but only received three signatures, and the result was that one of the convicts to whom it was given "peached," and Saunders was put into a dungeon cell for five days. He is a crank, and has tried to organize a plot on a previous occasion.

AMERICAN

Mr. John Wanamaker of Philadelphia has distributed among his 4,000 employes $109,439.68, in dividends on the business for the year ending May 1.

The last of the New-York blizzard was shovelied out from the arches of the big bridge May 21, and made a snow bank two feet deep and half a block long.

The people of Findlay, Ohio, were frightened the night of May 22, by the appearance of a luminous gigantic hand in the sky, the index finger pointing to the town.

Thirteen colored families from Gainsville, Georgia, sailed from New York on Saturday under the auspices of the American Colonization Society to settle in Liberia.

Mrs. Azubah F. Ryder, of Orrington, Me., who is 104 years old, was one of sixteen girls to scatter flowers in the open grave at a memorial service of George Washington.

John Brebner, of Pittsburg, being annoyed by a charivari party, took legal action, but before the case came to court a satisfactory settlement was reached, the offenders expressing regret and declaring ignorance of the law upon the matter.

Mayor Roche will veto the ordinance passed by the Chicago common council last week prohibiting the location of any more saloons within two hundred feet of churches or schools in that city.

Customs collectors in the Maritime Provinces report that United States fishermen are availing themselves of the provisions of the *modus vivendi* of the Fishery treaty, and are taking out licenses freely.

Hawkinsville, Ga., is remarkably proud of Miss Annie McCormick because she can play two tunes on the piano and sing a third all at once. It is said that "she can sit with her back to the instrument and play most beautifully."

As the result of the operation of the new license law, the city of Philadelphia has 4,660 saloons fewer than it had a week ago. No disturbance followed the great change, but the night before the day on which the law came into effect it was noticeable that drunkenness was very general.

Swallows have been making their home in the chimneys of the first ward school house at Appleton, Wis., and when a fire was built in the stove the other day hosts of dead birds came tumbling down the chimney. Altogether 850 birds wore picked up and removed in bushel baskets.

FOREIGN.

The Irish Exhibition at Kensington was opened yesterday.

There has been a heavy snowstorm in the Ben Lomond district.

The Austrian military and naval credits will amount to 50,000,000.

A large number of Canadians have arrived in England during the past week.

It is reported that the Czar is to be crowned Emperor of Central Asia.

The Mohammedans of India propose to hold a congress at Allahabad in February next.

The boat in which Grace Darling performed her heroic deed is in the Glasgow Exhibition.

The Panama Canal Lottery Loan Bill has been passed by the French Chamber of Deputies.

Sir Charles Tupper arrived in London and will immediately set about floating the new Canadian loan.

Emperor Frederick moved from Berlin to Potsdam, and seemed none the worse at the end of his yacht trip.

The *Volks Zeitung* declares that all the physicians attending Emperor Frederick have abandoned the cancer theory.

The inspector of butcheries in Paris reports that the consumption of horseflesh has increased to an extraordinary extent.

Baron Henry de Worms, in the House of Commons, said that there was no treaty with China giving Chinamen the right to emigrate to the British colonies.

Lord James Douglas, a brother of the Marquis of Queensberry, who is thirty-three years of age, has been sent to gaol for annoying Miss Scott, an heiress, with his attentions.

It is stated that the Pope has repeatedly asked the British Government to mitigate the rigour of their measures in Ireland, in order to facilitate the conciliatory object of the rescript.

The Irish Catholic archbishops and bishops have issued an address declaring that the Pope's decree relative to Irish affairs affects morals only, and does not interfere with politics.

The supreme court in Madrid has decided that a newspaper editor is liable to be fined and imprisoned for discussing religious belief; it rests this intolerant decision on the decrees of the councils of Nice and Trent.

A worthy couple at Galashiels, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gebbie, Kirkbraie, celebrated their diamond wedding lately. They were married at Kilmarnock, in 1828, by Dr. Mackinlay, the eminent evangelical who became at the outset of his ministerial life a victim of Burns's satire.

A young Brahmin, lately returned to India from England, has applied for re admission to his caste, which he lost by foreign travel. If he is re-admitted it will open the gate to many breaches of caste. If he is not re-admmitted rebellion against the folly of the rule debarring him will be sure to follow.

A Washington Sensation.

A lady well known in society created a sensation at a reception in Washington a few weeks ago by appearing in an armour of jewel. A two-hundred-and-forty-thousand-dollar necklace encircled her throat. She wore a pair of ear-rings said not to be equalled in America. Her bodice was a perfect mass of jewels. Her gems glittered in the gaslight like raindrops in the sun. The design of many of them was unique. One splendid spray represented a cluster of wild roses, five petals of each rose being five diamonds of similar size and shape. Another was a spray of fuchsias, formed of hundreds of small and large diamonds, about a dozen huge stars, and almost as many crescents. She also wore an open fan covered with diamonds in her hair. Each side of the fan showed fifteen raised plaits, and the whole were studded with diamonds, beautifully matched in colour and size. The gems in the raised plaits were larger than those which enriched the depressed ones, and stones upon the comb ranged in size from one to five carats each.

Horse Breeding in Italy.

One of the most useful of the leaflets which are being circulated by the Agricultural Department is that on horse-breeding in Italy, published this week. From this it appears that a new code of laws regulating horse-breeding was passed last June by the Legislature, by which it is provided that from June 1, 1888, and during the period of eight years from this date, not less than 800 stallions shall be purchased for the Government stallion centres, for which a sum of £19,000 is allotted. After Jan. 1, 1889, private individuals will not be allowed to keep stallions for service unless they have been duly approved by the Minister of Agriculture, an action calculated to prevent the use of unsound and unsuitable sires. The fee charged varies in amount from 10s., the most usual charge, to £1. In the list for the ensuing year there are six stallions, for which the fee is £1 13s. 4d. (forty lire), English thoroughbreds. Of the 362 stallions for service this year, only two, the trotter Amber, son of Clear Grit and bred at Brantford, Ontario, and a thoroughbred, Andred, by Blair Athol, bred in England, are put at comparatively high rates—namely, £6 and £4 respectively. It is seen upon examining this list of stallions whose pedigrees and country of birth are given, that 116 of these were bred in England, and 130 were bred from English horses either in France, Russia, America or Italy. In the last five years 237 stallions have been purchased by the Italian Government, at a cost of £44,200, or an average of about £186 per head. The total number of mares covered in 1887 was 13,006.—*London Live Stock Journal.*

FLORICULTURAL.

HOUSE PLANTS.

The way house plants thrive on the dregs of coffee left at breakfast is admirable. Bowker itself hardly turns out stronger leafage or such thick bloom. The grounds are a good mulch on the top of the soil, but a little care must be given not to let them sour and get musty in coolish, damp weather.

The great trouble with house plants, greater than errors in watering, is letting the pots be exposed to the sun. The fibrous roots soon grow to the side of the pot, and these are baked in full sunshine, trebly hot coming through glass, which condenses its rays. The root tips are soon killed. The whole ball of earth is baked over and over daily and yet people wonder why they don't succeed with houseplants. Shade the sides of the pots always, either by plunging in a box of sand, moss, cocoa fibre or ashes, or place a thin board on edge across the front of the plant shelf, that will come almost to the top of the pots. Let the plants have the sun, but shade the pots. A good way to screen them is to set each pot in one two sizes or more larger, filling the space with moss or sand.

The best gardeners say that the porous common pots are not so good for house plants as those glazed or painted outside. The reason is that evaporation is constant from the porous pots, and the roots are not only drier but cooler for it.—[Vick's Magazine.

ROSE BRIEFS

I wouldn't use manure water for out-door roses; instead, mulch with manure and let nature wash down the fertilizing substances to the roots.

In pruning rose bushes, the more wood left on, the more roses will come, seems sound sense, but it isn't. In case of dwarf, or what are usually known as bedding roses, cut out all dead wood and weak, scraggy shoots, and cut the large, vigorous shoots back pretty well—say to three or four or six or seven eyes. This induces vigorous young shoots that bear large fine blossoms. But in case of running roses, don't cut them back hard; only cut out the dead or scraggy wood, and thin out the good shoots and cut off a bit of the tips of those left. Mr. Roehrs said he believed that just as good results could be obtained if the plants were lopped off with a sickle or a pair of garden shears without regard to system. There is much truth in what he says. And as a general rule what a commercial man does for profit may with confidence be done by amateurs for pleasure. But I am inclined to think that we may just as well go about the job of pruning with some pretensions to method. The contour of the plant when grown must be borne in mind during the progress of the work. Cut out all shoots which cross each other, especially in the center of the bush, and cut back all shoots to a good bud—one which looks outward. It is better not to prune too soon. Advice on this subject can be good only in a general way. Here, at the North, it should be deferred until all danger from severe frost is over. If done too soon, the shoots are apt to "die back" which will necessitate a second looking over, for it will never do to have dead wood in our rose bushes.

For a tropical effect at a trifling cost, we know of nothing more effective than a few plants each of the several varieties of Ricinus. For a massed bed plant Ricinus Borboniensis arboreus in the centre. Under very favorable conditions this grows to the height of 15 feet. Follow with R. macrophyllus and R. Africanus. R. purpureus, sanguineus and Gibsonii finish the list. Thirty cents cover the cost of seed for a bed of this kind. Plant the seeds in the open ground the middle of May in this latitude.

It is said that gardeners, sometimes, when they would bring a rose to richer flowering, deprive it for a season of light and moisture. Silent and dark it stands, dropping one fading leaf after another, and seeming to go patiently down to death. But when every leaf is dropped, and the plant stands stripped to the uttermost, a new life is then working in the buds, from which shall spring a tenderer foliage and a brighter wealth of flowers. So, often, in celestial gardening, every leaf of earthly joy must drop, before a new and divine bloom visits the soul.

MIGNONETTE.—The early sowings give the best flowers. I often find difficulty in getting summer sowings to come up well.

SWEET PEAS.—The earliest sowings of these are always the best—indeed, while May and June sowings may germinate all right, they often fail to produce a good crop of flowers.

METEOR MARIGOLDS.—Flower well before July, but during the months of July and August their flowers come so small and poor that the plants are not worth keeping after the flowers begin to fail. In June sow again for fall blooming.

CHINA ASTERS.—Sow in May and again in June if you wish to prolong the blooming season till October.

FOR PANSIES—A cool, moist part of the garden, very rich soil and copious waterings are what should be given if we want to keep up good flowers till midsummer.

DO NOT BE IN A HURRY—To set out tender plants. There is nothing gained by planting out tender stuff before the ground begins to warm up. And do not set out plants that have not previously been well hardened off and inured to wind and sunshine.

DOUBLE PETUNIAS—When planted out bloom beautifully, but they have not the long-lived continuous blooming nature of the single-flowered sorts. While singles delight in warm dryish soils, doubles should get moister and richer ground in order to bring out the fulness of their flowers. We get magnificent doubles from seed.

ASHARAGUS TENUISSIMUS.—Now so largely grown by florists in place of smilax, is propagated by cutting. Cut the branches up into little pieces, each with a spray of green leaves attached, and insert in damp sand or earth in a shady place, and in a few weeks, a sort of tuberous excrescence forms at the joints under the ground and from these in a few days roots are emitted.

IVY CUTTINGS.—I pruned my old ivy plants last November and used all of the prunings, old wood aud young wood, for cuttings. I kept them just as long as they were cut, some a few inches, others a couple of feet, and inserted them—several together—in 5 and 6 inch pots, which were placed under a greenhouse stage and kept moist. They rooted very well and are now growing nicely. Shall pot them off singly.

AMARYLLIS JOHNSONI GRANDIFLORI.—Which flowered in February, gave me ripe seeds the middle of April. These sown now should give me blooming plants three years hence.

FRAGARANT MYRTLE (*Myrtus communis*)—Is a favorite evergreen shrub, which we winter in our windows or cellars. We love it for its fresh and fragrant foliage and starry white flowers. Cuttings of the young wood root freely in moist sand, or sandy soil and a shady place. But note especially that it is with myrtles as with many other young wood cuttings—if you let the cuttings wilt before or after they are put in, it may be a difficult matter to get them to live and root.

GLADIOLUS AND HYACINTHUS CANDICANS.—The seeds of these germinate readily. If you have any, sow them in rows as you would those of onions. The hyacinths will bloom next year, the gladioli the following season; at least, many of them should.

PERENNIAL LARKSPURS—Are now in vigorous growth. If you cut down a few plants when they are half-grown, they will come into good bloom just as those that have not been cut back are going past. And if you cut back the early blooming ones as soon as they have done blooming, they will again bear a few good flowers before winter.

POLYANTHUSES.—These raised from seed sown last summer are now in full bloom. What generous plants they are—so thrifty and so copious! They were wintered in a cold-frame, the same as pansies and violets. They bloom well when a year old, but older plants are not so desirable.

DAISIES.—Double-flowered daisies grow well from seed, but in this way we seldom get good varieties; they are usually only half double. But I have a lot of Longfellow now in bloom, which was raised from seed sown last spring, and some of them have large full-double flowers, well worth growing. A large majority of them, however, are not worth growing. In order to have good daisies, we must perpetuate them by division. Winter them in a cold-frame, or cover them up out-doors.

BLOODROOT.—Although we find it wild in moist or wettish places, it thrives well in the garden under ordinary circumstances, and in April and early May is one of the brightest and choicest flowers we cultivate; it lives along year after year, and increases in bulk. In rockeries, or where it may come up and bloom and remain undisturbed all summer long, it ripens a good deal of seed, which scatter about and produce lots of seedlings the following spring.

SIBERIAN SQUILL.—In the way of blue flowers in early spring, we have nothing to equal these. They are hardy, copious and extremely showy. They ripen lots of seed, which are scattered around and germinate. Among handsome-flowering bulbous plant, it reproduces itself from seed as freely as (if not more than) any other of its kind.

Queens County, N.Y. WM. FALCONER

Abnormal Sleep.

Familiar as is normal sleep, no one can fully explain it. It is, nevertheless, a blessed fact. Though it seems to take one-third from our life, it really prolongs it by the daily renewing of vigor.

Some of the abnormal forms of sleep exhibit strange phenomena. We need not dwell on sleep induced by opiates; the lethargy of apoplexy and, what is doubtless akin to it, the sleep of the drunkard; the coma of Bright's disease and diabetes, and the almost irresistible sleep caused by freezing cold.

The sleep of somnambulism is a very interesting form. The person will get up and go abroad in the darkness and into the most dangerous situations wholly without fear. The power of sight is often greatly exalted, and seems sometimes wholly independent of ordinary vision.

Another form is that of catalepsy. In this there is an entire loss of sensibility and ordinary consciousness. The limbs may be placed in any position, the most grotesque and uncomfortable, and they remain so, as if they were made of wax.

Still another form is that of hypnotism, or mesmerism, induced on susceptible subjects by skilled manipulators. The person becomes insensible to pain, and his will is entirely subject to that of the experimenter. The barest suggestion through any sense is sufficient to put the person under the dominance of the idea suggested.

Akin to artificial hypnotism is a morbid condition into which persons of a nervous organization sometimes fall. The celebrated "Soho Sleeper" would, for many years, fall asleep for a fortnight or more at a time, meanwhile exhibiting more or less of the peculiar characteristics of hypnotism. Many similiar cases might be cited, for hardly a month passes when the newspapers do not tell the wonderful story of some "sleeping girl," who has been living unconscious for weeks; but some of the cases are not only interesting scientifically, but pathetic.

In 1745 the wife of an English colonel apparently died. The husband persistently refused to have her buried and watched over her cold and motionless body for eight days.

Suddenly, on the bells of a church ringing, she started up, saying, "It is the last prayer-bell; it is time to go,"

A lady patient was requesting to have a hot-water bottle put to her feet, saying. "I feel"—when she passed into a cataleptic state, and remained in it three hours. On opening her eyes, she ended her sentence—"a great cold over my whole body."

The Change in the Frog.

Nowhere in the animal kingdom is there so favorable an opportunity for peeping into nature's workshop as in the metamorphoses of the frog. This animal is a worm when it comes from the egg, and remains such the first four days of its life, having neither eyes, nor ears, nostrils nor respiratory organs. It crawls. It breathes through its skin. After awhile a neck is grooved into the flesh. Its soft lips are hardened into a horny beak. The different organs one after another bud out; then a pair of branching gills, and last a long and limber tail. The worm has become a fish. Three or four days more elapse, and the gills sink back into the body, while in their place others come, much more complex, arranged in vascular tufts one hundred and twelve in each. But they, too, have their day, and are absorbed together with their framework of bone and cartilage, to be succeeded by an entirely different breathing apparatus, the initial of a second cartilated group of radical changes. Lungs are developed, the mouth widened, the horny beak converted into rows of teeth, the stomach, the abdomen, the intestines prepared for the reception of animal food in place of vegetable; four limbs, fully equipped with hip and shoulder bones, with nerves and blood vessels, push out through the skin, while the tail, being now supplanted by them as a means of locomotion, is carried away piecemeal by the absorbents, and the animal passes the balance of its days as an air-breathing and flesh-feeding batrachian.

Articles of Faith.

It is said that the prominent members of the Presbyterian Church in England and Scotland have nearly completed the preparation of new "Articles of Faith" to supersede the Westminster Confession. The new "Articles" are 23 in number and are said to be of a less exclusive character than those of the old "Confession" A New York paper gives the following statement of the substance of the new "Articles:"—While they mention the election or choice by God of "a people unto Himself," they do not say that He has made a portion of the human race on purpose to condemn them to everlasting misery. On the contrary, they say that Jesus Christ was sent to be the Saviour of the world. In the terms of salvation they declare, not that some men are born to be damned, but that "God willeth that all men should be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth, and that the gospel of forgiveness and eternal life is freely offered o all men."

George Potts of Head county, Ga., had reason to think that the revenue officers would be glad to find him, and he determined to circumvent them. One morning several months ago his bed was found empty, and pinned to the wall was this note: "When u rede this this I will be ded. Under the river will be my home." His friends searched for him. They found tracks leading to the river and then disappearing. A mile down the stream they got Potts's coat caught by an everhanging branch. They decided that he was dead, and his family mourned duly. Three months later Potts appeared, and said that he wasn't dead! but his friends won't believe him. They say that the original Potts is indeed dead; and now Potts is trying to find proof to show that he is really alive.

Brunswick, Me., is getting ready to celebrate its 150th anniversary, and already stories of the early days of the town are being set afloat. Here's one: Mr. William Walker, of Falmouth, and Miss Sibyl Staples, of Topsham, were to be married. They were on the Topsham side of the river, and on the Brunswick side was the Rev. John Miller, the minister who was to perform the ceremony, and between them rolled the raging waters swollen by the sudden spring thaw. The minister couldn't get to the anxious couple and they couldn't get to him. But he was equal to the emergency. Standing on the edge of the bank, he sent his powerful voice across the stream, and William and Sibyl joined hands and made the proper responses, and were duly pronounced man and wife.

DONE IN A MINUTE.

What is ccomplished Every Sixty Seconds.

"Well, well, don't fret; I'll be there in a minute."

But, my friend, a minute means a good deal, notwithstanding you affect to hold it of no consequence. Did you ever stop to think what may happen in a minute? No. Well, while you are murdering a minute for yourself and one for me, before you get ready to sit down to the business we have in hand, I will amuse you by telling you some things that will happen meantime.

In a minute we shall be whirled around on the outside of the earth by its diurnal motion a distance of thirteen miles. At the same time we shall have gone along with the earth, in its grand journey around the sun, 1080 miles. Pretty quick traveling, you say? Why, that is slow work compared with the rate of travel of that ray of light which just now reflected from that mirror made you wink. A minute ago that ray was 11,160,000 miles away.

In a minute, over all the world, about eighty newborn infants have each raised a wail of protest at the fates for thrusting existence upon them, while as many more human beings, weary with the struggle of life, have opened their lips to utter their last sigh.

In a minute the lowest sound your ear can catch has been made by 990 vibrations, while the highest tone reached you after making 2,228,000 vibrations.

In each minute in Canada and United States, night and day, all the year round, twenty-four barrels of beer have to go down 12,096 throats, and 4830 bushels of grain have come to bin.

The telephone is used 595 times, the telegraph 136 times. Of tobacco, 925 pounds is raised, and part of it has been used in making 6673 cigars, and some more of it has gone up in the smoke of 2292 cigarettes.

But I am afraid that you will forget that we are talking about a minute, sixty seconds of time. No? Well, then, every minute 600 pounds of wool grow in this country, and we have to dig sixty-one tons of anthracite coal, and 200 tons of bituminous coal, while of pig-iron we turn out twelve tons and of steel rails three tons.

In this minute you have kept me waiting fifteen kegs of nails have been made, twelve bales of cotton should have come from the fields and thirty-six bushels of grain gone into 149 gallons of spirits, while $66 in gold should have been dug out of the earth. In the same time the United States Mint turned out gold and silver coin to the value of $121, and forty-two acres of the public domain have been sold or given away.

SUMMER SMILES.

Small comfort—A bady.

A gentleman of color—A painter.

It doesn't take a very long for some men to pull the feathers out of a whisky cocktail.

Some men are good because goodness pays best, and then, again, some are good for nothing.

"Kathleen Mavourneen loans" are those of an uncertain kind, that "may be for years and may be forever."

A girl attened a cooking school and became so infatuated with culinary art that she married a supe.

Charles—"She's pretty, but she doesn't know anything." Evelyn—"Oh, yes she does; she knows she's pretty."

When a burglar breaks into a house he generally steals up stairs and everything else he can lay his hands on.

Soulful Youth (languidly)—"Do you sing "Forever and Forever?" She (practically)—"No, I stop for meals."

"Milke, did you ever catch frogs?" "Yes, sorr." "What did you bait with?" "Bate 'em with a shtick, sorr."

Visitor (to little girl)—"Where are your sister and brothers, little one?" "I ain't got none. I'm all the family we've got."

Laundry women are the most humble and forgiving beings on earth. The more cuffs you give them the more they will do for you.

The times are so hard that an Irishman says he has parted with all his elegant wardrobe except the armholes of an old wrist coat.

Clara (to Ethel, who is discribing he hairbreadth escape from the bull)—"But he didn't gore you?" "Oh, no, ma chere; he cut by us!"

Mother—"And the serpent, as a punishment for tempting Eve, was made to crawl all the rest of his life." Bobbie—"Well, mamma, how did he get along before?"

Husband—"I tell you, my dear, I don't have any kind of success in business. I'm afraid I have a Nemesis." Wife—"Well, why don't you see a doctor about it?"

Mr. Bill Simmonds—"I wonder ef ghoseec ebber gets sick?" Mrs. James Crow—"In course dey gets sick; didn't yer nebber heah of cholera in phantom."

"What does menu mean, my dear?"
"Food for me an' you, 'tis clear."
"What does meander mean? Who knows?"
"When me and her out walking goes."

Customer (to Mr. Isaacstein)—"The coat is about three sizes too big." Mr. Isaacstein (impressively)—"Mine frent, dat coat make you so proud you vill grow into it."

The Cow-Bird.

Our readers have probably heard of the European Cuckoo, and its strange habit of dropping its eggs in the nests of other birds. They would perhaps be interested to know that one of our native American birds has the same peculiarity.

I refer to the Cow bird, (*Molothrus pecoris*) which is found throughout the United States, with the exception of the Pacific coast.

It is sometimes seen in flocks, often in company with the red-winged black bird. At other times it follows cattle, and this is probably the origin of its name.

The cow bird does not sing, but makes a chuckling sound. It is eight inches long, and, with spread wings, measures twelve inches across. The male is glossy black, except head, neck and breast which are brown. The female is light brown. The eggs are light blue with brown streaks, and they are usually dropped one at a time into the nests of smaller birds, such as sparrows, etc. In New England they frequently choose the nest of the summer yellow bird.

The eggs are about the same size as those laid by the birds that make the nests, and are more quickly hatched. When this occurs, the mother bird leaves the nest to seek food for the young intruder, and the other eggs, which are her own, are left to perish.

If the cow-bird's egg be left in an empty nest, the makers generally abandon it, and build another, but if the nest already contains eggs it is usually allowed to remain.

The yellow bird, however, is not to be so out-witted. She picks a hole in the strange egg, leaves it in the nest, but builds a new floor over it. She sometimes buries her own eggs with that of the cow-bird, and lays others on the floor above.

Sometimes the cow-bird lays another egg, on the upper deck as it were. In that case the yellow bird builds a third story to her nest.

Bravo, little yellow bird.

In the United States in 1886 33 national banks were closed, of which number 24 went into voluntary liquidation, 1 ceased to exist by expiration of charter, and 8 failed. There are 2,868 national banks now existing, the capital stock of which is represented by 7,116,894 shares. Of these only about 10 per cent. are held outside the state in which the bank is located. Since the establishment of the national banking system in 1863, there have been organised 3,580 establishments. Out of these 465 have gone into voluntary liquidation for the purpose of winding up, and 79 for the purpose of reorganisation; 65 are in liquidation by the expiration of their charter, and 112 have been placed in the hands of receivers for the closing up of their affairs.

Mrs. Charles E. Williams of Westfield, Mass., arose in her sleep the other night, went to the window of her room on the second floor, raised it and stepped out. When she struck the area below she awoke, and was considerably frightened, but that was all the harm her fall occasioned.

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Adulteration of Milk.

There is a statutory standard of milk in New York and some other states. The New York law provides for the confiscation and destruction of milk, if that fluid contains "more than eighty-eight per cent of water or other fluids, or less than twelve per cent of milk solids which shall contain not less than three per cent of fat." Milk not up to this standard is pronounced "adulterated." This adulteration is produced in two or more ways. First, by removing a portion or all of the cream, which is a direct fraud upon the consumer's pocket by depriving him of nourishment for which he has paid, and upon his health if he is living upon a milk diet of a given strength. A second mode of adulteration is by the addition of water, and wich the water, of some substance to restore the color, and remove the "sky blue" appearance, as anatto or rice flour. Chalk has gone into "innocuous desustude." The water adulteration is also a robbery of the consumer, and may be the means of causing sickness by the introduction of disease germs. The source of water supply is rarely regarded by those who mix this fluid with milk, and whatever contamination is in the pump or well is sure to find a new field of harmful operation among the milk consumers.

The New York law is very rigidly enforced in New York city, as milk venders often find to their great detriment. No skim milk is allowed to be sold, and the inspectors make frequent and unexpected raids upon incoming milk trains, upon the supplies of venders, and upon the carts of distributors, and thousands of gallons of condemned milk are annually turned into the gutters. Examination of the customs in regard to milk production, and the marketing of the same, in the milk region from which New York draws its chief supplies, will show that the farmers are not amenable to the charge of adulteration in either of the methods above mentioned. The milk as yielded by the cow is honestly sent to market, and the adulteration occurs in the thousands of petty shops from which the poorer people draw their petty supplies.—*American Agriculturist.*

Young Wife—"Horrors! See here, sir, your dog has run off with a whole sponge cake I left outside to cool." Tramp—"Don't worry, mum. That dog's tougher'n he looks. He kin eat anything.

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