THE WEEKLY WORLD.

THURSDAY, MAY 9.

TO COUNTRY CORRESPONDENTS.

The publishers of The World always welcome correspondence and especially so breezy items from the country. No contribution is so valuable or interesting as anything relating to any particular district in the Province. We, however, have to request that brevity be observed in every instance. Nothwithstanding the immense quantity of reading matter appearing in our columns each week, fully one-half as much is omitted for want of space. Contributions not deemed acceptable, unless otherwise ordered, will not be returned. Parties desirous of acting as correspondents in localities not already represented will please address at this office.

All correspondence should reach the office of publication not later than Monday or Tuesday to ensure publication in that week's issue.

Write only on one side of the paper and in as large and legible hand as possible, and, above all, remember that brevity is the soul of wit.

RELIGION IN THE SCHOOLS.

The name of Rev. Dr. William Clark, of Trinity University, Toronto, is familiar to many of our readers, and favorably so. The Week contains an article from his pen in which not only does he approve of separate schools, but in view of the importance of religious instruction along with secular, and the small hope of securing an extention of the denominational system, discusses the question how far definite religious knowledge might, acceptably to all classes, be imparted in the public schools. In the first place, he thinks it is quite obvious that no one thinks, wish to impose religious instruction against any particular kind, on children whose parents disapproved of it. But it is equally apparent that such children should be put to study some other subject during the time of religious instruction. "The children who are taught the elements of Christianity," he says, "should not be made to feel that the hour or half-hour appropriated for this purpose is taken out of their play hours, and that there is a penalty to be paid for being a Christian." Secondly, the time given to religious instruction should be at the beginning of the day, in the first half hour of the morning's work, and not at the end of the forenoon or afternoon when the child is tired and his attention must be languid. This is desirable "not only because of the freshness of the children's minds, at the beginning of the day, but because the very contact with such subjects may be expected to prepare the scholar for more conscientious attention to the work to be done afterwards." But what is to be taught? Of the famous Scripture Readings for Use in the Public and High Schools of Ontario, Dr. Clark says: "The revised edition of this book now lies before the writer, and it is not only better than the first edition, particularly in giving references to the books from which the extracts are made, but it is a very good book indeed. It is absurd to complain that it has extracts only, and not the whole Bible. Every church follows the same course. The English church and the Roman church have selections in their office books; and the communions which have no liturgies practically follow the same course. Anyone who really knew the contents of this volume would have a very good knowledge of the Bible." If it is too costly only the teachers need have copies; the children might be provided with copies of the complete Bible, which can now be had for almost nothing. But as few would be contented with the mere reading of Scripture extracts, how is it possible to supply instruction in doctrine? First; it might be possible "to draw up a statement of Christian doctrine which no ordinary Christian would object to, and the extraordinary one might be provided for by a conscience clause. The Nicene creed will be accepted by all Christians, Roman Catholic and Reformed, except Unitarians. And if that were not approved, some other formula of concord might be agreed upon." Another way would be to get clergymen and laymen to give instruction to certain of the young of their own communions on certain mornings of the week, as is now actually done in several schools throughout Ontario, wherein the ministers of the different communions get together the children belonging to their own denomination and instruct them in its doctrines before the secular teaching begins. If clergymen were unable to overtake the task, they could secure the co-operation of the "laymen belonging to the different guilds and brotherhoods—to the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, to the Epworth League, and other societies—many of whom could and gladly would assist in this work." It is apparent that Dr. Clark believes in religious instruction on days other than the Sabbath, and, too, that public schools may be "neutral" and yet not "godless." His contribution the discussion now going on is a valuable one, based on experience, and evidently meant to suggest a compromise that would forever still discontent among the various creeds.

THE INSURING OF CHILDREN.

A measure to abolish the insurance of the lives of young children has been introduced in the Legislature of Massachusetts, and a committee is dealing with the matter. Opinions widely differ upon the question. The sentiment behind the bill is founded upon a belief that child insurance is a direct temptation to child neglect—to child murder, to speak plainly—but it is contended, on the other hand, that this sentiment, however, commendable, is at variance with the facts of the case. The advocates of child-insurance say that the death rate is greater among children uninsured than among insured children, and this because the latter are selected risks, the companies refusing to insure the children of the criminal classes, including "in this category the offspring of drunkards. This cry of child-murder is not a new one. It was raised in Great Britain several years ago, and after thorough investigation the House of Lords failed to find the charges against the British companies substantiated. It is urged on this side of the question that neither in Great Britain nor in the United States has there been a case of child-murder growing out of childinsurance, and as a further proof that its opponents are needlessly alarmed, it is stated that about 95 per cent. of the deaths of young children are due to acute diseases, while only five per cent. are from chronic complaints, this showing that a slow wasting away from neglect cannot be very prevalent among the insured children. In a matter of such vital importance, and where opinions clash, too much effort cannot be made to get at facts nor too much care given in weighing them. It is claimed that the companies doing this kind of insurance will readily cooperate with the friends of the bill before the Legislature to hedge about the business with all needful safeguards and limitations in the interest of humanity. It is a grave imputation on the morals of the laboring classes to think them capable for a moment of such inhumanity. This is especially forcible when the limit is such a low one. The bill in question proposes to prohibit insurance on the lives of children under 10 years of age.

At the hearings in the State House much testimony was submitted. Mrs. Lucy P. Atwood, of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, has been the most prominent witness. She said, among other things, that no less than 125,000 children under 10 years of age were insured in the John Hancock companies alone. She cited cases of the most painful destitution where parents, after taking out policies on their children, deprived them of food in order to save money to pay the premiums, the children sometimes literally dying of starvation. One woman who had paid 55 cents a week for eight years at last failed in her payments, and lost $230. Mrs. Atwood had observed that on the days the insurance premium is paid about the children in the family go hungry. She gave an experience of her own quite recently, when she found the children of a family suffering for food, and one of them explained: "This is the morning that we have to pay the insurance money to the insurance man for our burial when we die, so we cannot spend it for breakfast." Rev. Albert E. George, of St. Matthew's church, South Boston, said that he knew personally of starving families in which premiums are paid on the lives of young children who are regarded as an encumbrance. He promised to prove that in one instance, at least, an undertaker and the insurance agent had divided profits after the death of a child. It is significant that out of 4,629 children recently subjected to cruel treatment in England 1,237 had had their lives insured. On the other hand those in favor of such insurance have pretty thoroughly dissipated the assertions of the opponents and have certainly made out a pretty good case before the legislative committee at Boston.

KLEPTOMANIA.

Readers will remember that mention was made a short time ago of the experience store-keepers had with two respectable women of this city who persisted in pilfering small articles whenever making purchases. As is usual in such cases they were allowed to go unpunished on surrender being made of the goods. The same thing has occurred since. The charitable assumption is that these women are sufferers from a form of mental disease called kleptomania. Does such a malady exist? Those who have been skeptical regarding it should note the interesting testimony lately given to the Pall Mall Gazette by Dr. Forbes Winslow, an eminent London specialist in insanity. Dr. Winslow pronounces it unquestionably true that there is a kind of moral insanity, the victims of which are seized with a sudden and irresistible impulse to steal and his uncontrollable impulse to steal provide the object stolen. Conclusive proof of the existence of such a cerebral disorder is supplied by the fact that inmates of insane asylums are often observed to steal from their fellow sufferers things of which, from the nature of their surroundings, they cannot possibly make any use. Scores of such cases have, it seems, come under Dr. Winslow's observation. Admitting the existence of such a disease, one is next prompted to inquire which sex is the more subject to it. Curiously enough, kleptomania is almost exclusively an aberration of the feminine brain. In school-boys, indeed, it is not uncommon; but in adult males it is exceedingly rare. Dr. Winslow has never encountered a single instance. The comparative liability of women to this malady is accounted for on the ground that it is usually associated with physical weakness and nervous disorder. The kleptomaniac is almost always the victim of hysteria. It is a remarkable feature of this form of cerebral insanity that the sufferer is apt to be in other directions morally sound. According to Dr. Winslow, the average kleptomaniac is truthful and honest; she has only one fault, one failing. To the current assertion that kleptomaniacs are conscious of what they are doing and consequently should be punished, he replies that they are very seldom conscious of the gravity of the act. Especially is this the case when the propensity to pilfer is of recent date. Then Dr. Winslow proceeds to give some peculiar change in the nervous constitution. Can kleptomania be distinguished easily from ordinary stealing? That the simulation is entirely practicable seems evident from the fact that Dr. Winslow has given expert testimony in hundreds of cases, and he avers that he has never made a mistake. Not that any hard and fast rule can be applied, for each case has to be scrutinized narrowly and judged on its own merits. Among the considerations, however, which have most weight, are the absence of motive, the antecedents and surroundings of the person, her liability to fits, the presence of delusions, and the general mental condition. Especially important is it when the plea of irresponsibility is raised, to ascertain whether there is insanity in the family of the alleged kleptomaniac, or whether there has been observed in her any liability to blind impulses, which can be neither regulated nor controlled.

A USELESS CHAMBER.

Mark Twain kept a diary once when crossing the Atlantic. After a few days at sea entries were as follows: "Got up, washed, and went to bed." Our Senate met on the opening of Parliament, did nothing since in the way of legislation, and has adjourned until the 21st, after certain deliberations of course. It is a farcical body in spite of all that is to be mended. The Conservatives, who seem to delight in court travesty and shoddy pomp, have made no move in the direction of reform, but the Liberals have, as witness section 9 of the platform enunciated at the Ottawa conference held in June, 1893, and which sets forth the principles that Reformers cherish, and on which they appeal to the country:

"The present constitution of the Senate is inconsistent with the Federal principles on which the system of government, and is in other respects defective, as it makes the Senate independent of the people and uncontrolled by the public opinion of the country, and should be so amended as to bring it into harmony with the principles of popular government."

There are now ten vacancies in the Senate and these are held for camp followers from it may be convenient to shelve, like Mr. Temple, member for York, who gives way in order that the Finance Minister may not have to go out of New Brunswick to secure a constituency at the general election. Anybody can see the trickery possible under such conditions, and the disgrace that a legislative body should be put to such vile uses. The Senate is an eyesore and costs a pile of money which a country boasting a net deficit of $4,500,000 in one year can hardly afford. It should be remembered by the electorate that the army led by Hon. Wilfrid Laurier is pledged to make such changes in the constitution of the Senate as will bring it more in harmony with popular representation government. As in the old land, so in the new, the historic party is fighting against class privileges.

The following excerpt from the Detroit Sun is an argument in favor of the retention of capital punishment: The Dominion of Canada, with a population of nearly 5,000,000 people scattered from Newfoundland to the wild frontier of the unexplored Northwest territories, has had less than five murders for each 100,000 of her population during the past 10 years. Michigan, with about 2,000,000 inhabitants, nearly every one within gunshot of a school house and a church, has had over 23 murders for each 100,000 of her population during the same period. In 10 years Canada has tried 223 people for the crime of murder. Michigan, with less than one-half the population, has tried 484 people for the crime during the same period. Canada in 10 years has hanged 49 people for murder. Michigan has hanged none. Under the Michigan system of punishing murder the State has during 10 years at great expense to herself preserved the worthless lives of 122 convicted murderers. As an offset the State has mourned the untimely end of over 300 more victims of the crime than would have been murdered if the Canadian ratio of less than five to 100,000 population during the period had prevailed in Michigan.

After the jury had disagreed in the Wilde case Sir Edward Clarke, the prisoner's counsel, was heard to remark as he left the court, "Truth is mighty and will prevail." There was a big crowd outside the Old Bailey, but no demonstration took place either for or against. The poet and playwright was removed to Holloway jail, but will gain his freedom to-morrow, pending another trial at the next session of the Central Criminal Court. It were strange if the evidence of a trio of self-confessed blackmailers and perjured scoundrels could be sufficient to make him a convict. Oscar Wilde is not blameless, but to a certain extent he has been the victim of popular clamor and unthinking prejudice. It is generally safe to presume a man innocent until his guilt is proven.

A recent article in Munsey's voices the sentiments of millions of magazine readers. People like a bit of pleasant fiction to while away a leisure hour, but in this work-a-day age there are many who have not the time to follow up a long tale. American magazines seem unable to get anything good to supply this demand. Great Britain has some brilliant short story writers of the Conan Doyle class whose work is interesting, but on this side of the Atlantic there are none such.

Those who assert that a revision of the Canadian customs tariff will result in lowering wages talk through their hats. Throughout the Eastern, and especially the manufacturing, States of the Union wages in general have advanced since the beginning of the present year from 5 to 15 per cent. The advance still continues and business generally is on the mend. A few years more of the McKinley tariff and the United States would have been in a deplorable condition, commercially speaking. Now that the turn has been taken a period of good times and general prosperity may be looked for, thanks to the lowering of the tariff.

One of the proposed two-wheel or "bicycle" railways from New York to Washington promises a speed of 120 miles an hour as a result of the use of electricity and the minimizing of friction. No doubt such speed is entirely within the range of what will soon be practicable, but it is still very questionable whether the same people will ever be willing to ride on any railroad willing to risk it.

A total deficit announcement of $7,400,000 makes the average Canadian shudder. What a testimony to the baleful protective system! And yet otherwise sensible men will continue to advocate it and imagine it is the policy for the country. Sir Richard Cartwright is getting his revenge for hateful things said about his financial methods.

IN THE EVENT OF WAR.

What Great Britain Should Do in Battling With France.

In the current number of the Nineteenth Century a question which of late has preoccupied the attention of naval and military officers, not only in England, but in other maritime countries, is discussed in an effective manner by Lieut.-Col. H. Elsdale, of the Royal Engineers. The question is should Englishman in the event of a war with France, or with France and Russia combined, set themselves to hold on to the Mediterranean, or to meet and beat the enemy's fleets both inside and outside that sea; or is it better, in the first instance, and as a temporary strategical operation, to give up the command of the Mediterranean altogether and shut up the enemy's fleet therein, in order to secure an overwhelming superiority of force in the English channel, and in all the ocean waters throughout the globe? Col. Elsdale undertakes first to refute the arguments advanced for the former course, and then to see how that course seems to him the advantages of the latter. Those who protest against a withdrawal of the British fleet nominally stationed in the Mediterranean, point out that this would involve an evacuation of Egypt, which the French would be likely forthwith to occupy. The answer is, first, that British statesmen have repeatedly asserted that their own occupation of Egypt is only temporary; and, secondly, that should England be beaten at war, she would have no concern in the Nile valley, whereas, if successful in the contest, she would make a restitution of it as a condition of peace. A second objection is that the abandonment of the Mediterranean would leave Malta for a certain time dependent on its own resources for protection. Col. Elsdale replies that the French would find Malta as tough a nut to crack as Gibraltar proved in the last century; for, not only is it strongly fortified, but victualled and provided with all things needed to defend it for a year or more. Even should it be ultimately captured, Malta like Egypt, would have to be restored were England's general scheme of strategy to be successful. As for Cyprus the few British troops there stationed, would be, of course, recalled, and it is suggested that the Sultan might be requested to send a Turkish commissioner to administer it during war. But these are not the only grounds on which an abandonment of the Mediterranean would be resisted. By such a course it is said with truth, England would lose all the water-borne trade of the midland sea, or such portion of it as could not be diverted to pass through Belgium, Holland, or the Baltic. According to Col. Elsdale, however, this loss would be insignificant compared with England's total ocean commerce, and would be of less consequence, because it is admitted that in any case her Mediterranean trade would be paralyzed by the commanding French positions on her direct lines, namely, at Toulon, Marseilles and Biserta. As for the loss of time imposed on vessels bound for India by the necessity of rounding the Cape instead of passing through the Suez canal, against this there is the set off of the risks and uncertainties of the canal passage in war time, which the canal would be a dangerous route safer and more trustworthy. That by an abandonment of the Mediterranean the command of the Suez canal would be lost to England, except the small force that would be of slight importance after her eastern trade had been diverted around the Cape, and the issue from the Red Sea could be blocked by the enemy by a strong occupation of Perim and Aden. More serious, confessedly, would be the loss of the telegraph lines to the east, which pass across the bottom of Sicily, but the injury would be minimized by the lines around the Cape and across Canada, especially after telegraph communication had been established between New Zealand and this city. Whatever the strategic system adopted, it would not be safe for England to depend upon the Suez line. So much for the objections to the evacuation of the Mediterranean. Now let us see what would be the positive advantages of such a course. They are summed up by Col. Elsdale as follows: By a withdrawal of all her warships from the Mediterranean, except the small force on station needed to aid in that defence of Malta, and to seal up the exits at Gibraltar and Perim, England would place herself during the first period of the war in a position of overwhelming strength by sea everywhere throughout the world outside of the Mediterranean She would safeguard her vast ocean commerce and the food supply of her population, thereby averting confusion and panic at home; and she would be able at her leisure to reduce any or all the naval bases and colonial possessions of France outside of the midland sea. Should finally, the outcome of this policy not suffice to bring the war to an issue satisfactory to England that power would then be in a position to re-enter the Mediterranean and beat her enemies therein. In a word, the strategic scheme advocated by Col. Elsdale is a proposed reculer pour mieux sauter; to draw back the better to spring forward.

PROMISING SQUAMISH.

Squamist Valley, May 2.—The weather is really delightful and the valley is beginning to look most refreshing in the lovely green foliage. The ranchers are not wasting any time but are getting in some good licks. Log fires are to be seen burning in all directions. The trees under crop will be much larger this year. E. B. Madill has his hop yard in good trim and has about five acres in growth. The hop raising company have their work well ahead and they ought to have a big crop.—Messrs. McIntosh Bros., of the Mamquam river, brought up last Thursday, April 25th, about 20,000 ft. of lumber. They intend building a two story house.—Work has commenced on the Cheakamus river bridge and a large gang of men are employed. Ike Hardy is the boss and will make things hum. By the by Ike will have about seven acres in crop on his ranch.—Messrs. Reade & Drummond have made a good show in work on their ranch on the upper Squamish. They are planting a quantity of peas on their land.—Large quantities of trout are being caught by expert anglers in the Cheakamus river. Mr. Adams an enthusiast, caught some lovely specimens but had sad grief with his tackle, having to relinquish both rod and line in catching a monster. However he is getting stronger tackle and will soon be at the sport again.—Messrs. Tweedie & Wright are getting a nice large crop in on the Island.—Perhaps the gentleman who suggested the carriage drive round the island would be quite surprised to see the improvements that are being carried on.—George Mitchell will have about four or five acres in potatoes. The mare is working good and will make short work of the logging. —W. G. Mitchell had a big gang on this week logging. Billy is a rustler and knows how to get a lot of work.—Robert Ball will have two or three acres in crop.—James Day has set out a large orchard of fruit trees.—Tomatoes are away ahead at Thos. Judt's, in fact, take the cake.—Young Bros. have really done creditable work and their place looms away up. QUI VIVE.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

The Montreal Star speaking of campaign funds for election purposes is hopeful that the evil will soon be eradicated, and says a few more stories added to the debt will hurry our education in the matter forward.

The Hamilton Herald says that it is rather unfair to accuse the people of Manitoba of forcing the awkward question into the Federal arena. The responsibility for that must rest solely with the Bowell Government. In Ontario and in Manitoba the demand was general that there should be no interference, but in direct defiance of popular opinion the Government interfered.

The Hamilton Spectator announces that Sir Mackenzie Bowell's speech means that should Manitoba refuse to restore the Separate Schools, the Dominion Government will assume the responsibility of forcing Manitoba to reestablish those schools. We can only say, remarks our intensely Tory contemporary, that, when the times come, if it should come, the Government will have to do the job without the assistance of the Hamilton Spectator, and we think without the assistance of the bulk of the Conservative party in Ontario.

The idea of the establishment of large ferry boats for the conveyance of railway cars across the great lakes is spreading, says the Toronto World. For several years there have been two or three of these big ferries in existence on the Upper Lakes. By July next the Ohio-Canadian ferry line will be equipped with one large boat, to be called the Lord Aberdeen and another will be put on the same route by November. There ought to be a paying business between Toronto and the other side of the lake. There is no reason why Toronto should not have direct communication with all the New York State railways.

The Detroit Free Press says there were 249,051 native born Canadians in Michigan in 1891. Massachusetts has also nearly a quarter of a million Canadian residents. That N. P. exodus did much to depopulate Canada.

From 1885 to 1893, inclusive, permits for building to cost $307,217,750 were taken out, yet in 1893 the total assessed valuation of Chicago property was only $245,790,359. The fact of a good many churches and other ecclesiastical property being exempt from taxation does not account for the discrepancy.

Bismarck is an older man at 80 than Gladstone at 85, and is no more intellectually alert than Pope Leo, whose 85th birthday came last month. The Pope is strong mentally, but feeble physically. Gladstone is strong in mind and body, and can swing his axe or tackle a stiff bit of Greek or Latinor write a theological treatise with pretty much vigor as he could a decade ago. Bismarck says that he is not equal to appearing in the Richstag, but Gladstone is planning to make at least one speech in the Commons, and to take some part in the coming Parliamentary campaign.

President Cleveland is said to be in better health than he has been for some years past. His complexion is clear and he carries himself like a man who has given up the idea of becoming a confirmed invalid. His recent duck-shooting expedition was of great benefit to him, and the fact that he hasn't a Congress on his hands acts like a tonic.

A characteristic incident of a visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales and their daughters to the general post-office has just become known. The story is that as they were passing through the telegraph department, the Prince suddenly marched up to an operator and tapped him on the shoulder. The telegraphist hastily dismounted from his stool and made a respectful salutation to the Prince. The reply of His Royal Highness was to take the young man's hand and shake it heartily, an example which was followed by the Princess and the rest of the royal family. It was afterwards explained that this telegraphist was on duty at Sandringham during the fatal illness of the Duke of Clarence. The story embodies two of the Prince's most charming characteristics. First, his great gift of retaining in memory the faces of those he has known ever so slightly; secondly, his true royal gratitude and swiftness in acknowledging services rendered.

One of the noticeable things about Sir Mackenzie Bowell's speech in the Senate the other day, says the Hamilton Herald, is that it has attracted general attention to the fact that the Senate is still on earth.

The Montreal Herald, speaking about the proposed changing of the books in the public schools, says: There is no general desire on the part of the persons interested in the education of the young for any change at all. On the contrary, there is a strong feeling against it.

What we know is, says the London Free Press, that despite all the drawing of incidental to the depression of business, the Grand Trunk Railway Company have never once relaxed in their magnificent public service. Though the traffic may be reduced by millions, the same state of efficiency is observed.

The Hamilton Spectator says Goldwin Smith, in advising the University Commission that it would be well to have the Provincial University taken from the control of the Government, gave good advice. The same advice would also be applicable to the whole public school system.

One estimate has it that the recent advance in crude petroleum will add $50,000,000 to the value of the Standard Oil Trust's property, says the Lindsay Post. Perhaps this is the reason behind the unexpected rise in the value of the commodity. The Standard oil people have nearly a monopoly of the refining business in the United States, and are not likely to boom their raw material unless they see in an enlarged price the probable profit product return for the outlay involved.

A short time ago, says the Hamilton Times, the Toronto World boasted that the Government had given Mr. Mulock a slap in the face for passing an order reducing the space for cattle on the spar deck of vessels from 2 ft. 8 in. to 2 ft. 6 in. It is true the Government passed such an order, but so vigorous have been the protests of the men in the trade that it has thought better of it and rescinded it. Mr. Mulock's contention was right.

A NEW PROVOST.

An old Trinity man has requested the publication of the following: Rev. Mr. Welch, the new provost of Trinity (Toronto), is a Cambridge man, and was at King's College, of which foundation he was a scholar. In the year 1880 he gained the Bell University scholarship, and two years later he took his bachelor's degree, being placed in the first class of the classical tripos. In 1884 he took second class honors in theological tripos, and in the same year joined the Leeds Clergy school for a few months special theological and pastoral training. He was ordained deacon in 1884, by the late Dr. Jackson, who was at that time the Bishop of London, and was licensed by him to the curacy of St. Paul's church, Haggerstown. In the following year he was admitted to priest's orders by the same bishop. After holding his curacy in London for two years he was appointed by the late Dr. Lightfoot, Bishop of Durham at that time, to the position of domestic chaplain, and he went to reside at the castle Bishop Auckland. This position he held until Dr. Lightfoot's death, in the year 1889. In the year following he was appointed by Dr. Lightfoot's successor to the See of Durham; Dr. Westcott, to his present position in Gateshead, which post he now vacates to fill the Provost's chair at Trinity. The new Provost proceeded to the degree of M. A. in the year 1886. It is expected that Mr. Welch will be in residence at Trinity at the commencement of the Michaelmas term. He is 35 years of age.

THE HEAVENS IN MAY.

Orin E. Harmon, of Seattle, in the Post-Intelligencer, thus speaks of the heavens in May: Venus is now little more than 115,000,000 miles from us, and during May she shortens this distance by over 40,000,000 miles. The observer of our fair evening star has the delightful consciousness that she is more than 500,000 miles nearer each evening than she was the evening before. We all remember the delightful visit Venus made us, an evening star in the west, in the spring and summer of 1892. She is now receding that visit with all the splendor of her planetary glory. She will increase in brilliancy until August 13th. So our summer evenings will be blest with her glowing loveliness. Much as we admire her, we sometimes regret her habit of flirtation. She is now trying to win the favor of Jupiter, and as she nears the great planet it is interesting to watch their mutual smiles. They exchange courtesies on the 18th, and Jupiter looks very happy over the prospect of meeting the goddess of love and beauty. But, alas! her love is fickle, and tradition has it that more than once she has met him with all the graces of love and beauty only to leave him weeping. However, the inhabitants of earth watch the affair with a sort of delight, as it is still distance that lends enchantment to the view. Venus sets at 10:42 p.m. on the 15th and at 10:52 p. m. on the 31st. The wily Mars looks quite small since his meeting with Jupiter on April 25th. He will visit the Twins this month, and no doubt Castor and Pollux will revive his drooping spirits. Mars sets at 11:24 p.m. on the 15th and at 10:55 p. m. on the 31st. Jupiter shows his majesty as an evening star in the west, and his lordship appears as a distinguished rival of the lovely Venus. They pass within about two degrees of each other on the 18th, and their conjunction is the astronomical feature of the month. Venus is approaching Jupiter from the west, Saturn shows as a bright evening star in the east, rising at 5:11 p.m. on the 15th and at 4:04 p.m. on the 31st. Uranus is in opposition with the sun on the 8th. The moon makes her conjunction with several of the planets in quick succession towards the close of the month, with Neptune on the 24th, Mercury on the 25th, Jupiter on the 26th and with Venus and Mars on the 27th.

DOUBTS THE RESURRECTION.

Much comment has been aroused in Episcopalian circles in New York city, owing to the publication of certain utterances of Rev. Dr. R. Herber Newton, in a sermon at All Souls church. If these be correct Dr. Newton has virtually discarded the Christian theory of the resurrection, and is in danger of expulsion from the church. He declares that he has come to the conclusion that it was the spiritual and not the physical body of the Savior which appeared to the desciples and which ascended to Heaven. Of the resurrection of Christ from the dead, he said: "Without doubt the general belief is that there was a physical resurrection—a rising from the tomb, of the very body of flesh and bones which was laid away there after crucifixion. I have held to its belief as long as possible, but no superstructure can forget its foundation, and my reasons for rejecting this belief I propose to tell you. We know now from our fuller knowledge of the life of Jesus Christ that the people and His disciples themselves believed not only in immortality, but in an actual physical resurrection, and we accept the testimony of the disciples. And there is the fact that no one saw Him in the act of rising from the tomb and passing forth in the same bodily form of His earthly body." After speaking of the vagueness of the records in stating positively that Christ's body was the physical one that was put into the tomb, he concluded with these words: Because of all these considerations I am frank to say that for one I do not believe the resurrection of Jesus Christ means the rising again from the tomb of the actual body laid away there. The church undoubtedly believes it, and its authority is no lighter than the authority of the disciples. I do believe strongly, that the record means this: That the spirit of Jesus, in the spiritual body, which is the house of the living after death appeared to the disciples and made the reality of His combined life indisputable to them, and thus gave them that faith in the power of which they started forth to conquer the world.

REFRIGERATOR CAR ROUTES.

The C. P. R. Co. is arranging for a very extensive system of handling dairy produce and perishable goods by refrigerator cars in Manitoba and British Columbia this year. Last year the only regular refrigerator car route was on the main line west from Winnipeg to British Columbia points. This year a number of routes have been decided upon. Commencing on May 14th and every second Tuesday thereafter a refrigerator car will be run from Napinka to Winnipeg via Delorraine and the Pembina Mountain branch, for the purpose of picking up dairy produce and other perishable goods along the route. Commencing May 21st and every second Tuesday thereafter a refrigerator car will be run from Napinka to Wilmot, Souris and the Southwestern or Glenboro branch. Commencing May 13th and every second Monday thereafter a refrigerator car will be run from Broadview to Winnipeg over the main line west. A refrigerator car will leave Winnipeg on May 16th and every Thursday thereafter during the season for the above mentioned points; this car will be delivered at points west of Dunmore to the coast. The rate over the two branch lines and the main line west to Winnipeg for this refrigerator service will be 10 cents per 100 lbs. extra, and from Winnipeg to points west of Dunmore, 20 cents per 100 lbs. extra, on the amount freighted, to cover cost of icing. In addition to the routes named, the company contemplates establishing a refrigerator car service on the Edmonton branch if arrangements can be made for ice, etc., providing there is a reasonable amount of business offered.

A BIT OF BRAVERY.

A Portage La Prairie exchange publishes the following: Joseph McMillan, a fireman on the C. P. R., is a very unassuming young man, for it was only by chance that The News heard the other day of an act on his part deserving of much praise which occurred some weeks ago. As his engine was crossing the trestle bridge near Norman, he perceived immediately ahead on the centre of the bridge a young woman who appeared to be bewildered by the immediate danger in which she stood; there was no means of escape as the trestle at the top is but the width of the train. To do with Joe was to act, he rushed out on the engine pilot and caught her up in his arms at the risk of his own life, for had he failed in taking a secure hold of the woman and engine nothing could have prevented death for both. Such an act of bravery deserves recognition by the Humane Society.

Field Marshal Sir Donald Stewart, who was commander-in-chief in India, when Roberts marched to Kandahar, has been appointed Governor of Chelsea Hospital in place of the late Sir Patrick Grant. General Lord Roberts will probably have the vacant Field Marshalship.

RED SUITS THE WEST.

Any color, so long as it's red,
Is the color that suits me best,
Though I will allow there's many to be said
For yellow and green and the rest,
But the feeble tints which some affect
In the things the make or buy
Have never—I say it with all respect—
Appealed to my critical eye.

There's that in red that warmeth the blood
And quickeneth a man within
And brings to the speedy and perfect bud
The germs of original sin.
So, though I'm properly born and bred,
I'll own, with a certain zest,
That any color, so long as it's red,
Is the color that suits me best.

For where is a color that can compare
With the blush of a buxom lass?
Or where such wealth of pride at the fair
Of the genuine white horse class?
And, lo, reflected within this cup
Of cherry Bordeaux, I see
What inspiration girdeth me up—
Yes, red is the color for me!

Through acres and acres of art I've strayed
In Italy, Germany, France;
On many a picture a master has made
I've squandered a passing glance.
Marines I hate; Madonnas and
Those Dutch freaks I detest.
But the peerless daubs of my native land—
They're red, and I like them best.

'Tis little I care how folk deride,
I'm backed by the West—at least
And we are free to say that we can't abide
The tastes that obtain down East;
And we're mighty proud to have it said
That here in the versatile West
Most any color, so long as it's red
Is the color that suits us best.

—Eugene Field.

RELIEF IN SIX HOURS.

Distressing Kidney and Bladder diseases relieved in six hours by the "South American Kidney Cure." This new remedy is a great surprise and delight on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the bladder, kidneys, back and every part of the urinary passages in male or female. It relieves retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure this is your remedy. Sold by McDowell & Co. 338-12

SENATOR REID

Talks of the Prospects in Cariboo which Promises to Boom.

Senator James Reid, of Quesnelle Mouth, is at Hotel Vancouver, en route to Ottawa to attend to his sessional duties. A World reporter met the Senator at Hotel Vancouver this morning and was courteously received. Speaking of matters in the upper country the Senator said:

The outlook in mining affairs for the coming season in the Cariboo district indicates that it will be a busy one. Numbers of men were met going up seeking employment, the greater number of whom not being practical miners will be disappointed in obtaining it in the mines at this early part of the season. There is considerable snow on the mountains and sheltered creeks yet as there has been no warm weather in Cariboo since the month of March. The days are all fine with much wind, but the coldness at night holds in check any influence the sun and winds may have on it during the day. Dredging on the Fraser and Quesnelle rivers appear to be the taking scheme for working low lying auriferous gravels. A party from Buffalo are now at Soda Creek building a boat in which to place their mining plant consisting of engine, boiler, with centrifugal pump and other necessary appliances for pumping up whatever is sufficiently fine to enter. When ready they will test it on some of the bars on the Fraser river if it works successfully will proceed up stream to the Little Smoky river, which is over 200 miles from Soda Creek, a tributary of the Fraser river. The low lying benches and basin near its mouth are reported extremely rich in gold. Another company propose to place a dredging plant on the lower end of Quesnelle river, arrangements having been reported complete with Chicago capitalists. Other parties have secured over 20 miles of Fraser river between Alexandria and the Cottonwood Canyon, and as I was leaving still another party was about to send out men to take up another 30 miles from Cottonwood Canyon up. Then on the Quesnelle river the Quesnelle River Hydraulic Gold Mining Co., are in active operation having commenced piping some weeks ago as the season opens early on the lower reaches of that river. There are also a number of men working with sieves and rockers with, in most cases, satisfactory results. Quite a number of locations have been made in Quesnelle river extending from the mouth up to Dry Forks, one of the great drawbacks to the speedy opening up of which is the want of a road or even a good trail up that river. With the exception of a short road 13 miles up from the mouth and some kind of a trail reaching a few points on the river from the wagon road to the Forks of Quesnelle there is no means of travel except by small boat or through the woods as best you can. Up Barkerville way the Slough creek and Willow river companies are meeting vigorous efforts to reach bed rock and are to be recommended for their perseverance, and will, I have no doubt, succeed and reap the reward they deserve. On Williams Creek Mr. Whittier is making preparations to work the properties obtained for his company on a large scale. Big Bonanza Creek and Lightning Creek are in full operation having improved their hoisting and pumping machinery, and water power during the winter. They had taken out a good deal and expect to do well after reaching certain places known to be rich. There are other locations being taken up on Swift river and other points, which go to show that there is a feeling of confidence in the future of Cariboo that I am sure is well placed, provided with sufficient capital judiciously expended to be brought to bare on the various undertakings. There is also a movement being made towards the gold quartz development, notably, Mr. Marsh's work on Island Mountain property, and also negotiations by the Quesnelle Quartz Mining Co., of Hixni creek to raise the necessary capital to develop their property, the details of which are not sufficiently advanced to make it a certainty. The Horsefly and Forks of Quesnelle Hydraulic Mining Co. are being developed with a vigor usual with the company operating the same, and the assured successful results will have great influence in the future development of the district. Taking it all in all the outlook for the upper country is certainly bright. Seeding was well on when I left and a greater area put under crop this year than ever before. The main road from Quesnelle down is fairly good and a number of freight wagons were met on the road going to various points in the upper country.

You need not cough all night and disturb your friends; there is no occasion for you running the risk of contracting inflammation of the lungs or consumption, while you can get Hickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup. This medicine cures the worst colds, inflammation of the lungs and all throat and chest troubles. It promotes a free and easy expectoration, which immediately relieves the throat and lungs from viscid phlegm.

NORTHERN NEWS.

The U. S. revenue cutter Corwin has left Sitka for Cape Townsend from Alaska with 200 gallons of smuggled whisky on board which was seized by Government officers while en route to the Yukon country. This is the out of a consignment of 13 were marked Groceries. The shipment, it is said, went north on the steamer Willapa in charge of a man named Abernethy, who is one of formerly a wealthy mine owner of Colorado, and he was arranging to ship it over the mountains when the officers made the seizure. Much of the liquor was from Canada and was taken into the territory by British Columbia smugglers. The liquor, according to Alaskan prices, is valued at $3,000. Officers of the Corwin confiscated and destroyed several hundred gallons of spirits near Sheep Camp, 30 miles inland up the Chilcat mountains. In speaking of the liquor smuggling in Alaska, one of the Corwin's officers said: "To suppress the traffic it will be necessary to keep a cutter constantly patrolling the southeast coast to intercept small smuggling sloops from Canada, also the government license, permitting the sale of liquor in Alaska, should be annulled. The Government stands in the attitude of licensing saloons and seizing the liquor if they attempt to sell it.

DYKES-KEITH.

The following is from the Portage La Prairie Saturday Review: On Saturday afternoon Albert V. Dykes, son of the Winnipeg tea merchant, and Miss Florence Keith were married at the High Bluff manse by Rev. J. Douglas. The bride, who formerly lived in Winnipeg, is the seventh daughter of Samuel Keith, of Vancouver, B. C., and arrived on Thursday's train from the coast. She wore a very become travelling costume and was attended by Miss Annie Roe. The bridegroom was supported by S. Lundy, of Manitoba College. After the ceremony the wedding party partook of an elegant wedding breakfast at the Windsor House, where Mr. and Mrs. Dykes are spending a week. The bridegroom has a number of friends in town who are showering him with congratulations.

SKEPTICISM.—This is unhappily an age of skepticism, but there is one point upon which persons acquainted with the subject agree, namely, that Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil is a medicine which can be relied upon to cure a cough, remove pain, heal sores of various kinds and benefit any inflamed portion of the body to which it is applied.

ANOTHER MEDICAL SPRING.

Mr. Garvin, of Comox, while out hunting some time ago, came across the trail of a bear, and following it found a spring of water which had a peculiar taste. A gentleman whose attention was called to the matter had the water analyzed by the Government analyst, who found it possessed of considerable medical value, the principal properties being chloride of sodium, calcium, and potassium, and sulphates of magnesia and iron. A Company has since been formed to develop the value of the spring. Ten acres of land will be laid out as a park, and a large hotel and bottling works will be er