NEARLY WRECKED

Four Steamers Escaped a Storm, But Almost Foun-

four steamers narrowly escaped dis aster in the harbor last night. During a furious storm, the Steamer Muskogee, which arrived short of coal from Copenhagen, for New York, dragged her anchors, and brought up on a shoal at the entrance to the harbor. The steamers Ontaneda, Copenhagen for Baltimore, Lochtay, Rotterdam for New York, and Baltimore from Christiania for Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore, also dragged their anchors and barely avoided going ashore. An effort to refloat the Muskogee will be made to-day.

A Painter's Stories.

Here are two amusing stories taken from Mr H. J. Thaddeus's "Recollections of a Court Painter." One is of William Sharp, that dual personality who as Fiona Macleod was to attain fame in the world of letters. "Singularly enough for a Scotsman, Willie Sharp brimmed over with gaiety and fun, his impulsive, enthusiastic nature being entirely free from the virtues which sit so heavily on his race. His aunt Peg however atoned for this remission by possessing them all, together with a spirit of contrariness and combativeness which of dirt. ing them all, together with a spirit of contrariness and combativeness which passed all understanding, any allusion to an ancient family feud between the pleaded. sisters being sufficent to make he:

finished, Leo turned to one of his Cardinals and requested him to con-vey to the Bishop his appreciation of the eloquent discourse he had just heard, of which however—as unfor-tunately he did not understand Eng-

MARK TWAIN AS A GOLD-MINER.

It is not generally known how near literature came to missing the con-tributions of Mark Twain. One pail of water was all that saved him to the By Special Wire to the Courier.

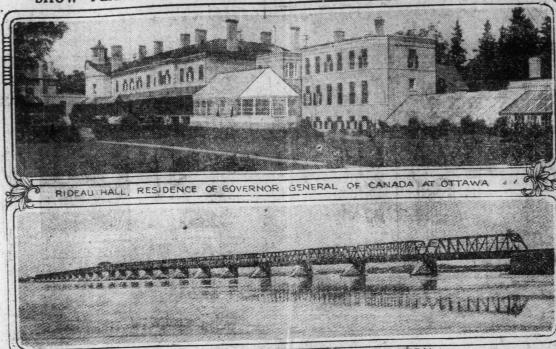
St. Johns. Nf., Feb. 11—After seeking this port after a refuge from a succession of north Atlantic gales, four steamers narrowly escaped disaster in the harbon level of water was all that saved him to the world as a story-teller and humour ist. In his adventurous days the famous author tried gold-mining in California, and in "Harper's Magazine" Mr. A. B. Paine tells how he missed success by declining to fetch one mass and the saved him to the world as a story-teller and humour ist. In his adventurous days the immossible world as a story-teller and humour ist. In his adventurous days the famous author tried gold-mining in California, and in "Harper's Magazine" Mr. A. B. Paine tells how he missed success by declining to fetch

r, one "Jim Gillis"—
"Gillis, who was a pocket-miner California in the fifties, was always lad to have his lonely life in the nountains cheered by visits from his riend, Sam Clemens ('Mark Twain') On these occasions Gillis would give the young newspaper man lessons in the laborious but fascinating business prospecting. "One afternoon, when they were

following certain tiny sprayed specks of gold that they hoped were leading them to a pocket somewhere up the long slope, a chill rain set in. long slope, a chill rain set in. As usual, Gillis was washing and Clemens carrying water. The 'colour' was getting better with every pan, and Jim Gillis believed that at last their weary labour was to be rewarded. He would have gone on washing and climbing

"I won't do it! I'm freezing!"
"'Just one more pail, Sam! he beg-

SHOW PLACES IN CANADA THREATENED WITH DESTRUCTION



THE FIRE THAT DESTROYED THE OTTAWA PARLIAMENT HOUSE AND THE FIRE THAT DESTROYED THE WAR ORDER PLANT AT OTTAWA HAS CLINCHED THE CONVICTION THAT THE GERMANS HAVE BEGUN A CAMPAIGN OF DESTRUCTION IN CANADA. THE ABOVE PICTURES SHOW THE VICTORIA BRIDGE, AT MONTREAL, AND RIDEAU HALL, OTTAWA, THE HOME OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA, WHICH, ACTORIANG TO INFORMATION, ARE THREATENED WITH DESTRUCTION. VICTORIA BRIDGE IS THE GREAT CORDING TO INFORMATION, ARE THREATENED WITH DESTRUCTION.

out—some say ten, some say twenty thousand dollars. In either case it was a good pocket. Mark Twain missed it by one pail of water.

"Still, it is just as well, for Jim Gillis always declared,"If Sam had got that pocket he woud have remained a pocket-miner to the end of his days, like me!" tinent at least, "The Atlantic" was immediately attacked by "temperiance" journals who asked whether "the liquor organization has bought "the liquor organization has bought the controlling interest in "The Atlantic" onto the lamber of the Whitby, Ont., "Gazette" pointed out what it calls a grave fault in Saturday Night. It charges us, to quote it, with being lantic," or has contracted for the space in its literary columns."

"It is a melancholy fact," remarks which, like the suppression of interest which, like the suppression of the liquor traffic, or, for that matter, any other form of the liquor traffic, or, for that matter, any other form of the liquor traffic, or, for that matter, any other form of the liquor traffic, or, for that matter, any other form of the liquor traffic, or, for that matter, any other form of the liquor traffic, or, for that matter, any other form of the liquor traffic, or, for that matter, any other form of the liquor traffic, or, for the liquor traffic, or, the liquor traffic, or, for the liquor traffic, or, the liquor traffic, or, for the liquor traffic, or, for the liquor traffic, or, for the liquor traffic, or, the liquor traffic traf

"It is a melancholy fact," remarks thing in the way of restriction, prohibition of the liquor traffic, for that matter, any other form call forth the sincerest and materials.

Correspondence | call forth the sincerest and most earnest est efforts that good men are capable of, are often tainted by the reckless misstatements and dirty innuendo of the control of

"I won't do it! I'm freezing:
"Into action
"Desiring one day to post some
letters herself, she asked Mrs. Smillie
the way to the post-office, and on recréving the information went out a
crompanied by her nephew. At the
door she took the opposite direction
to the one indicated. Sharp pointed
of the new indicated. Sh

clear.

When the French Government came to the conclusion that absinthe was an uniesirable commodity, did they pass iaws to prevent its distribution and still allow its manufacture? No, they began at the fountain head and lebarred its manufacture. When the Russian Government undertook to make the Russian peasant sober they did the simplest and most effective thing possible—the manufacture of vodka was forbidden.

It seems clear that the most intolerant man after all is the reformer. He would reform you out of the world. It is true that it is

tolerant man after all is the retorni-er. He would reform you out of your Sunday golf, because he pre-fers to go to church. The editor of the Whitby "Gazette," and a whole lot of other fellows of the same stripe of extremists, would reform you out the Whitby "Gazette," and a whole lot of other fellows of the same stripe of extremists, would reform you out of laying a bet at a horse race or doing this or that, which, perchance, might please me, but displeases him. What a man chiefly desires in this world is to be let alone. The average Anglo-Saxon resents, and, rightly enough, enactments and laws against personal liberty. If we had enough men with the mentality of the gentleman quoted above we would be just where Germany is today. We would be living by rule of thumb. Now we object to the Prussian rule of thumb. We may not be

are furnished by the kitchen refuse, the way does not look altogether look altogether of our time and our money.

Oberammergau Passion Play is unique in the world. It is true that it is

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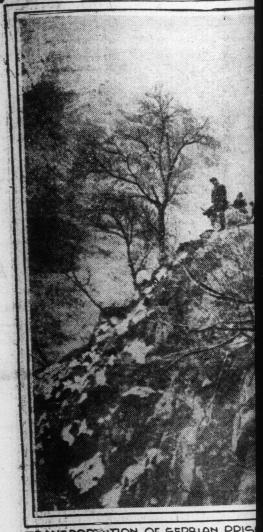
When the family go a-shopping-or to the theatre-or for a social callor anywhere else that families gothey'll be comfortable in a Ford Sedan no matter what the weather. It's a luxurious closed car for fivebuilt on the same principle that has made the Ford world-famous for utility and economy.



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GERMANY'S



TRANSPORTATION OF SERBIAN PRIS

FOKKER MONOP **GIVES VICTORY GERMANS IN A**

Machine Designed by Dutchman Infli Allied Aerial Craft Because of Its G ity to Manoeuvre Quickly, Wr

LONDON, Feb. 12.

mously increased number of people flying, of the but it is also largely due to the increased through skill of German anti-aircraft gunners and machin of German aviators, as well as to the im-proved quality of German aeroplanes. but as the ma

"Although the British aviators on active service are well able to hold their by the own against any opposition, it is an unown against any opposition, it is an understand deniable fact that at any rate on certain tail of sections of the lines they do not hold the pilot, absolute command of the air which has thing been claimed for them by people only either partially acquainted with the facts.

nance in the air, like dominance to be on the ground, swings, pendulum-like, victim now to one side and now to the other, and doubtless in due time our own flying people will gain the absolute command in the air and will hold it, but Fokke the mere fact that losses have increased if, as so much of late and that hairbreadth es- be capes have been so much more frequent his m than they used to be shows that a strenu- just ous effort must be made not only by the range authorities controlling the flying services mach but by the manufacturers of aeroplanes and their employes—especially their employes—to build aeroplanes in sufficient h quantities and of such quality as to give Fokk our aviators the material they require for

Dutchman Designed Fokker.

the fighting in the air lately teil me that to pi the greater part of the damage done by the hig German battle aeroplanes, but spee by the little Fokker monoplanes. The supp designer and builder of these machines por is a Dutchwan. Mynheer Fokker, who co has, however, lived for many years in sho Germany and, somewhat naturally, is pile entirely German in his sympathies. He this carned to fly several years ago at the Al Johannisthal Aerodrome in Berlin, where he constructed weird and wonderful uncapsizable aeroplanes, which certainly flew encommonly well, long before the scientists in this country had produced uncapsizable machines, or stable aeroplanes, ar they are properly called.

"There was at one time some question of Fokker machines being imported to this country by one of the services, but despite their flying qualities they were so badly made that the officers who nined hem were unwilling to take

the risk of recommending them. "The latest Fokker machines are ves, far from being uncapsizable. They are. in fact, entirely under the control of the