

The Planet
S. STEPHENSON - Proprietor.
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NEWSPAPERS TO SUPPLANT NOVELS.

Jules Verne has been giving publicity to his views on the future of the novel, comments the Guelph Herald. He says: "The novel of the future will be supplanted by the daily newspaper, which has already taken such a grip on the lives of the progressive nations." Whether the news or editorial columns of some French newspapers already partake somewhat of the nature of fiction is a phase of the subject which need not be discussed, though a denial might not ill become the journals in question. The author's further assertion, however, that novels will not be necessary, and that even now their interest and merit are fast declining, may be fairly considered of more than parochial importance.

In view of the glowing accounts of sales, with which publishers are wont to assuage the ears of all who will listen to them, this statement from one who may be expected to have some expert knowledge of the subject might well come as a distinct surprise. But recently there has been evidence offered to substantiate the novelist's claim. A well-known English publisher has declared that a circulation of 5,000 for a new novel is eminently satisfactory, while 10,000 is a figure reached but rarely nowadays. Tom Paine's graceless book—thanks, perhaps, to perennial denunciations from the pulpit—has reached the extraordinary circulation of 1,500,000; and as the "Rights of Man," "Pilgrim's Progress," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and other books which have attained enormous sales can barely be called "modern," it would seem that a decline has already set in. It must be remembered, too, that fifty or a hundred years ago authors depended for their popularity on their own brains, rather than the wits of their publishers. There were fewer self-appointed "critics" to be bought like Italian braves. The reading class was smaller and more select; but most important, perhaps, new books were much more closely studied, and consequently the standard of excellence was higher.

The chief qualifications of many a so-called successful modern novelist are spare time and dogged endurance. The first of these qualities might make the individual a busybody; the other a formidable antagonist in a six days' bicycle race. Combined in a certain proportion they produce the authors of the successful historical novel of the day. Fortunately, for reading is now so universal that it is no longer considered an accomplishment, and still more fortunately, the ability to read is not presumptive evidence of the power to understand. The rather odd spectacle of a mouth without a stomach is presented by the majority of novel readers.

The Brantford Expositor in yesterday's issue records the appointment of Mr. P. A. Errett as its city editor. Mr. Errett is an old Chatham boy and was connected for some years with the editorial staff of the Banner. He is a clever newspaper man and the Expositor is fortunate in securing his excellent services in this responsible position.

RECOMMENDS SHOOTING.

Cleveland Plain Dealer
An Oklahoma editor, noting the assertions of a scientist that "if the earth should be flattened the sea would be two miles deep all over the world," says: "If any man is caught flattening out the earth shoot him on the spot, and don't be too particular what spot. There's a whole blamed lot of us in Oklahoma that can't swim."

KING SOLOMON AND HIS LADY FRIENDS.

Saxby's Magazine.
A little girl tells what she knows about King Solomon in the following essay: King Solomon was a man who lived ever so many years ago, and in the country in which he governed he was the whole push. King Solomon built Solomon's temple, and was the father of all the Masons. He had 700 wives and 200 lady friends, and that is why there are so many Masons in the world.

ORIGIN OF TIPS.

London Express.
Those who defend the system of "tips" would have us believe that the name is derived from the collection box placed outside the old coffee houses for the benefit of the waiters. Over the box was written "T. I. P." meaning "to insure promptness." This story might well be borne in mind by the modern waiter, who looks for his tip whether he is prompt or not.

NOT IN OUR CLASS.

St. Thomas Journal.
What about that scavenger service? Is St. Thomas going to allow Chatham to outclass her?

POLITICAL SAWDUST.

Montreal Gazette.
Mr. Gamey, member of the Ontario Legislature of Manitoulin, who was elected as a Conservative and then went over to the Liberals, was among those whose title to their seats was contested. He was fixed in the saw-off, the petition against his return being abandoned by the Liberals, while the Conservatives dropped that against Mr. Dickenson in South Wentworth. The Conservatives of Ontario should get out of the saw-off business. It is disreputable in itself, and the Liberals are too clever for them in arranging the details of the deals.

EXAMINATION ANSWERS.

The London World has been collecting historical and other "facts" gleaned from the examination papers of school boys, and here are a few choice ones:

"Of whom was it said 'He never smiled again?' William Rufus did this after he was shot by his arrow."
"My favorite character in English history is Henry VIII, because he had eight wives and killed them all."
"Edward III. would have been King of France if his mother had been a man."

"Alexander the Great was born in the absence of his parents."
"What followed the murder of Becket? Henry II. received whacks with a birch."

"The principal products of Kent are Archbishops of Canterbury."
"The chief clause in Magna Charta was that no free man should be put to death or be imprisoned without his own consent."

"Where were the Kings of England crowned? On their heads."
"What were the three most important feudal dues? Friendship, courtship, marriage."

"What do you know of Dryden and Buckingham? Dryden and Buckingham were at first friends, but soon became contemporaries."

"What is Milton's chief work? Milton wrote a splendid poem called the 'Canterbury Tales'."

"Give the names of five Shakespearean plays. Macbeth, Mikado, Quo Vadis, San Toy, Sign of the Cross."

"An optimist is a man who looks after your eyes, and a pessimist is a man who looks after your feet."

"A man who looks on the bright side of things is called an optimist, and the one who looks on the dull side is called a pessimist."

"These are excellent, and quite up to the standard of the student who wrote that a theodolite is a man who does not believe in God."

Alcoholic Fumes.

It is stated that a walk through the cellar at the London docks, where large quantities of spirits are stored, has at first a peculiarly stimulating effect, followed by depression, headache and nausea.

Creaking Hinges.

These can be quickly cured by dropping a little oil on the hinges, or a tiny bit of vasoline does equally well. Black lead is another excellent remedy, and places that cannot be got at with an ordinary brush can generally be reached with a black lead pencil.

Denmark's Dairies.

Denmark has 1,032 co-operative dairies, which yield \$35,000,000 worth of milk a year.

William IV.

William IV. was at the time when he succeeded to the throne the first William of Hanover, the second William of Ireland and the third William of Scotland.

Salt.

Salt is one of the greatest of natural remedies and antiseptics. A weak solution—an even teaspoonful in a glass of water, cold or hot—is excellent for indigestion. A solution of about the same strength will often relieve a cold in the head if snuffed up through the nose.

Rice and Mosquitoes.

Ricefields are such great breeding places of mosquitoes that the Italian government passed a law as long ago as 1860 regulating the distance from dwellings at which the cultivation of rice is permissible.

Animal Insanity.

Darwin asserted that there is insanity among animals, just as there is among human beings.

The Rarest Shell.

The rarest shell in existence is one called the "Cone of the Holy Mary." There is a specimen in the British Museum which a few years ago was valued at \$5,000.

Cushions and Pillows.

When making down pillows, wax the inner covering, and then the down will not work through. To do this iron the wrong side of the tick with a hot flat-iron rubbed with beeswax, rubbing the iron over the wax each time before putting it on the cloth.

China's Humid Air.

In southern China the air is so humid in summer that, despite the intense heat, clothes cannot be dried in the open air.

Antiquity of the Fan.

The antiquity of the fan in the east, particularly in Asia, extends far back beyond the possibility of ascertaining its date. In China and India the original model of the fan was the wing of a bird, and at one time was part of the emblems of Imperial authority.

Make no compromise with sin for sin will make none with you.

4=4 PRICES

Stocktaking over—now for a clearance of all winter clothing. Watch our advertisement and window; it will pay you.

- 19 Overcoats, beaver and grey twills, \$7.50 kind for \$5.49.
- 10 Overcoats, grey Cheviot raglanettes, \$7.50 kind for \$5.49.
- 9 Overcoats, fine grey Cheviot raglanettes \$10.00 kind for \$7.50.
- 8 Overcoats, 3/4 length grey Cheviots, \$10.00 kind for \$7.50.
- 23 Overcoats—Raglanettes and Groenover, Black Herringbone Stripes, plain and fancy, with Greys, coats up to \$15, choice for \$10.

TABLE OF ODD COATS, up to \$15, Coronation Coats, Raglanettes and 3/4 coats, choice for \$9.00.

MEYNELL
3 doors west from Market King Street, CHATHAM

Stevenson's Bravery and Wit.

Will Low, the painter, recently told a story of the Latin Quarter days of Robert Louis Stevenson. Low and Stevenson were great friends in their youth, their friendship, indeed, continued up to the time of the writer's death.

"Lords," said the artist, "was no less diplomatic than brave. He could be fiery, and he could also be gracious and pacific. One night, I remember, we sat in a garden in Montmartre. The red wine had been flowing pretty freely, and one of our party had got heated and aggressive. Finally some one said a thing that this fighting chap disliked. He, as soon as the words were spoken, grabbed up a bottle and hurled it at the other's head."

It was a strong, true shot, and not Stevenson sprang to his feet, and, with that singular grace and dexterity of his, caught the missile in mid-air.

"Tut, tut, George," he said to the thrower, "tut, tut. If the bottle is passed so quickly, none of us will be able to stand out the evening."

Worn thin? Not Washed thin! That's so when common soap is used.

SUNLIGHT SOAP REDUCES EXPENSE

Ask for the Octagon Bar

Great Odds.

The odds against a whist player holding all the trumps are 158,753,389,899 to 1.

A Discouraged Mayor.

Because he found it utterly impossible to please everybody with his decisions a mayor of the little French town of St. Emiland hanged himself with his scarf of office.

Coughs, colds, soreness, and other throat ailments are quickly relieved by Cresoline Tablets, ten cents per box. All druggists.

It is impossible that a man who is false to his friends should be true to his country.

YOU NEEDN'T.

You needn't keep on feeling distressed after eating, nor belching, nor experiencing nausea between meals.

In other words, you needn't keep on being dyspeptic, and you certainly shouldn't.

Hood's Sarsaparilla cures dyspepsia—it strengthens and tones the stomach, perfects digestion, creates a normal appetite, and builds up the whole system.

Some people have the unhappy faculty of saying the right thing at the wrong time.

There are other good waters but none have the virtues and all-round merits of the

MAGI CALEDONIA.

J. J. McLaughlin

Sole Agent TORONTO

Sold Everywhere

THE CHATHAM

Loan & Savings Co

Capital \$1,000,000

Money to Lend on Mortgages, Borrowers wishing to erect buildings, purchase property or pay off incumbrances, should apply personally and save expenses, secure best rates and other advantages.

Money advanced on day of application. Deposits of \$5 and upwards received and interest allowed. Debentures issued for 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years, bearing interest payable half yearly.

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Manager.

Minard's Liniment Cures La Grippe.

OATMEAL, CORN MEAL, SARDINES and SALMON.

Washing Soda and Starch, Clay Pipes, Needles and Pins, all fresh and good.

A. B. SELVEY

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A. B. SELVEY

THE CHATHAM

The Northway Co., Ltd

The Busy Cash Store

The Northway Co., Ltd

CLOSING OUT THE Cloaks at Half-Price and Less.

This time the prices on all remaining Winter Garments will be cut so deep that there will be no chance for further reductions. If the signs read aright the great majority of our present stock of Coats and Capes will leave the store this week, for values like these quoted here never fail to bring the customers.

- Ladies' Coats—Regular \$4.00 to \$4.50 semi-fitting Jackets, in black and fawn only, clearing at \$2.90
- Ladies' Cloth Capes—Rich black cloths, prettily trimmed, large storm collar, long lengths, full sweep, regular \$5.50 to \$8.00 each, clearing at \$4.90
- Ladies' Fur Coats—Rich, black, Astrachan Coats, full curl, bright and glossy, made medium length, storm collar, quilted Italian lining, 3 only, our best \$25.00 coats, clearing at \$21.90
- Ladies' Coats—Your pick of 16 coats, this season's best styles, assorted lengths, in black, Oxford grey and fawns, regular price up to \$9.00, clearing at \$4.90
- Ladies' Coats—Your pick of all our finest cloth coats, medium and long lengths, very latest styles, regular price \$10.00 to \$16.50, clearing at \$7.90
- One only finest quality Electric Seal Coat, best satin linings, regular \$50, clearing at \$39.90
- One only Grey Lamb Coat—Rich Grey Lamb, cut in latest style, high collar and lapels, lined with satin, regular \$50, clearing at \$38.00
- TWO WRAPPER BARGAINS—Ladies' flannelette wrappers, all sizes from 32 to 42, assorted patterns, light and dark, worth up to \$1.50, clearing at 98c.
- Ladies' flannelette wrappers, all sizes from 32 to 42 inches, heavy fleeced, beautiful goods, sold up to \$2.50, clearing at \$1.48.

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DR. OVENS OF LONDON Surgeon, Oculist and Specialist Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat

Will be at Chatham, Saturday, Jan. 24th, Saturday, Feb. 28th, Saturday, Mar. 28th, Saturday, Apr. 25th, Saturday, May 23rd, Saturday, June 27th, 1903. Glasses properly fitted. Office at RAULEY'S Drug Store

WANTED—Apply Grand Central Hotel.

SAWYER WANTED—At once at the Rankin mill, Dover Centre. Apply to W. T. Rankin, Dover Centre.

WANTED—Good girl for general housework. Apply at the residence of the Bank of Montreal.

WANTED—Competent man to appoint agents whole or spare time. Commission paid. Apply John Doyle, Drawer 531, London.

GOOD GIRL WANTED—For general housework; must be a good cook; no washing. Highest wages paid. Apply Mrs. John Piggott.

GIRL WANTED—For general housework. Every convenience. Apply to Mrs. A. H. VonGuten, corner of Harvey and Centre streets.

FOR SALE OR TO RENT.

FOR SALE—Delaware fruit and stock farms, healthy climate, mild winters, good markets, productive land. Catalogue free. J. R. McGonigal, Dover, Del.

FOR SALE OR TO RENT—House, formerly occupied by Mrs. Womp, Wellington St. West. Suitable for boarding house or for family requiring house with plenty of rooms. Modern conveniences. Apply to W. E. Rispin, 115 King St.

FARM TO RENT—100 acres, Lot 16, Con. 12, Dover, good farm house, barn, stables and plenty of water. Also 50 acres, Lot 15, Con. 13, Dover, small house and good water. Will be rented on reasonable terms, possession in spring. For full particulars apply to or address John Doyle, Mitchell's Bay, or on Lot 16.

PLEASE NOTICE What the People Say of...

Mapelene,

The New Table Syrup

"It's better than maple."

"I do not want any other."

"It's the only syrup I can eat."

"Isn't it lovely!"

"It's all right, send me another 1/2 gal."

"It's so good I have just sent to the store for more."

It's all right!

It fills a long felt want and is guaranteed absolutely pure and wholesome.

For terms to the trade, address

T. L. PARDO, Jr.,

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GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

MARDI GRAS FESTIVITIES

February 18th to 24th, 1903

Return tickets from Chatham to New Orleans, La., \$28.60; Mobile, Ala., and Pensacola, Fla., \$27.40.

Proportionate rates from stations, Toronto to North Bay and West.

Good going Feb. 17th to 22nd, inclusive. Returning, valid arriving at original starting point not later than Feb. 28th, 1903.

SERVICE TO THE SOUTH.

Fast, luxuriously equipped trains, with wide vestibule coaches, Parlor, Cafe Parlor, and Pullman Sleeping Cars. Connecting with all routes for the popular Southern Resorts.

Tickets, Folders, Illustrated Literature, and information from agents.

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Grain Crop in Manitoba in 1902.

Proportionate yield in Alberta, Assiniboia and Saskatchewan.

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Immense timber and mineral resources in British Columbia.

Opportunities for Ranchers, Farmers, Dairymen, Fruit Growers, Millers, Mechanics, Prospectors, etc.

Write your nearest Canadian Pacific agent for free illustrated booklets on "Western Canada" and "British Columbia."

A. E. NOTMAN, Asst. Gen. Pass. Agent, 1 King St. East, Toronto.

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BEAVER FLOUR

Scientifically milled from the best wheat for an exclusive and high-class trade. It contains a higher percentage of digestible nutrients than any other flour of the same grade. As a result it makes a light white loaf, pure sweet and wholesome. Don't take our word for it, but try it and become a

convert. It is the one flour that always measures up to standard of the best, backed with our guarantee. Try it and see.

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