

The Planet

DAILY AND WEEKLY
Chatham, Ont.

LAKE LEVELS NOT LOWERED.

Willis Moore, chief of the United States weather bureau, is of the opinion that the opening of the Chicago drainage canal has had no effect upon the level of the lakes. That view was expressed by him after he had completed the circuit of the great lakes with the congressional committee on rivers and harbors. He says: "I am not prepared to state officially what the effect of the Chicago drainage canal upon the lakes has been. Nevertheless it is my belief that the canal has had no effect upon the level above Niagara. If there is an effect it will be found in a diminution of the amount of water going over Niagara Falls. No harbor will have to be deepened on account of the canal. I will go further and say that even if the Niagara river were dammed, so that the four upper lakes had no outflow, I do not believe their level would be really affected."

WAR BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN

The alarmists are hard at work, both in France and England, and the air is heavy with rumors of war. Singularly enough, both countries disavow any intention of going to war unless forced to do so as a matter of defence. In England the feeling is that France is preparing for an invasion. In France they admit that warlike preparations are in progress, but they claim that these preparations have no other purpose than to place the country in readiness for an invasion by England. The Fall Mail Gazette prints a lengthy and alarming article from an anonymous French correspondent, which will not help matters any. That the French government is preparing for war there is no longer any doubt, says this alarmist. From every barrack around Paris that boasts a range comes the sound of rifle practice. It must be some urgent cause that leads the usually parsimonious Ministry of War to this waste of store ammunition. And so on in the same strain. On the other hand the regular Paris correspondent of the same journal says that while there is no doubt that France is making warlike preparations, there is no evidence that those preparations have in view an attack upon England. Doubtless sensational journalism is responsible for much of the alarm that exists in both countries.

THE CHARGES AGAINST COLONEL OTTER.

On the alleged authority of a number of the invaded Canadians who have just returned to their homes, there have been published in several newspapers statements reflecting on Colonel Otter, commander of the first Canadian contingent. The burden of the plaints seems to be that that officer, whose courage and military skill have never been questioned, has been lacking in consideration for the comfort of his own men, and has proved himself somewhat of a martinet. It is asserted that at a time when other commanders were seeking to make things as easy as possible for the men who were suffering severely from the hardships of an arduous campaign, the Canadian colonel was making the troops under him do unnecessary work and holding them down by discipline needlessly strict. How much truth there is in these stories it is impossible to say at present. It may be that the Canadians, who are socially much more nearly on a level with the men who command them than are the British regulars, chafed at restrictions that would not have appeared harsh to Tommy Atkins, but there is reason to believe that Colonel Otter was less considerate with them than he might have been. No doubt the whole story will come out later on, and if it should turn out that the facts are as alleged, not even the Colonel's distinguished services should prevent his removal. Any officer who would unnecessarily add to the burdens and fatigues of his men in such a campaign as that in progress in South Africa is not fit for a command, no matter how great his personal bravery. But at the same time, Col. Otter should not be tried by the public and condemned in his absence. When he comes home with the rest of his men we may hear a different story.

The foreign press doesn't approve of Roberts shooting Cordua. If Cordua had shot Roberts, as he no doubt intended, they would have seen things in a different light.

It is none of this great family journal's business, who the Liberals of West Kent run, but we cannot help doing a little hot weather figuring on that requisition business. Suppose that the requisition to Mr. Campbell is duly presented and accepted, what will be the use of a convention? It cannot do anything but satisfy Mr. Campbell's selection. (And if there be no convention what say will the rank and file, who don't happen to be asked to sign the requisition, have in the choice?)

"Durability is Better Than Show."

The wealth of the multi-millionaires is not equal to good health. Riches without health are a curse, and yet the rich, the middle classes and the poor alike have, in Hood's Sarsaparilla, a valuable assistant in getting and maintaining perfect health.

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Never Disappoints

TROUBLE BREWING.

Hamilton Post.
When Oom Paul makes that celebrated threat of his to stagger humanity, he may have only meant, suggests the London News, that he was going to start a distillery.

THE SEA-SERPENT.

Toronto Star.
We were fishing for bass in a shimmering pool.
I think it was Gallagher's Bay.
And the bait was strong and the jug was cool,
And we sported a thirst like an African mule,
And it was a blazer, that day.

And Jones had been lushing before that, I hear.
For we stopped at a summer hotel.
Where the booze was good, albeit though dear,
And the meek took a deal of forgetting, I fear.
And the weather was hotter than—

I'm not writing jollies for Jonesey just yet.
I'll admit he's a bit of a soak.
He'll lick up spirits as long as they're wet.
Altho' the sun was a scorcher—on that you may bet,
And the heat made our shirt waists smoke.

And it happened that Jones was remarkably dry.
A mosquito had bitten his head.
He'd rubbed it in—indeed—with a lotion of rye,
And his brains were as soggy as custard pie,
And he didn't care what he said.

For floating out there, in our cedar canoe,
Jones softly murmured, "I think the trees are yellow, the grass is blue,
And I see a purple monkey or two
And a quaint little devil in pink."

And a mermaid, they say, is half an' half.
And a Triton has whiskers green;
I see a sea serpent that makes me laugh,
With a tail like a snake and a head like a calf,
And twenty coils between."

So I paddled poor Jonesey back to town,
And fear gave my paddle wings,
And it takes six doctors to hold him down,
And he's a house quite, for my name's not Brown,
And they give him bromide and things.

DRESDEN.

Aug. 29.—Work has commenced on the grand staircase, west side of Queen street, all the old planking being already ripped up.
Upwards of 200 volumes have arrived for the public library, and are being placed on new shelves.
Miss Stinson, Miss Gertrude Stephenson, and Dr. Milligan, have left for Toronto.
Wm. Hutton, principal of the public school, returned from his vacation yesterday.
The spire of the New English church has just reared its head above all other buildings.

Thin Babies

often develop into weak, delicate, backward children; undersized, nervous, feeble, adults. Lack of nourishment is the cause.

Scott's Emulsion is the remedy. A little of it three or four times a day will do wonders. The pinched, sad faces become round and rosy; the wasted limbs plump and firm. If your baby is not doing well, try this great food-medicine.
50c and \$1.00, all druggists.

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Right size
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Gorrie's
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CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

In Kansas the state banks alone contain \$23,042,878 in deposits.

Brazil will exhibit 500 varieties of serpents at the Paris display in 1900. It is estimated that there are 30,000 pupils in the agricultural schools of the United States.

For the first time in a decade every board of the Presbyterian church begins the fiscal year without debt.

Switzerland has 1,001 Mormons, besides twenty-seven missionaries, who last year visited 12,344 houses and distributed 26,000 tracts.

Ten carloads of black walnut logs were sold recently in Kentucky for export abroad, principally to London, Glasgow and Hamburg.

The mayor of Hays City, Kan., is only 22 years old, the president of the council is 22 and the oldest man in the municipal government is 29.

A toboggan slide in St. Moritz, Switzerland, extends three-quarters of a mile, and is said to be the longest in the world. The descent has been made in 71 seconds.

Charcoal is the great Italian fuel, Naples alone consuming 40,000 tons of wood charcoal, at a cost of from \$16 to \$20 per ton, the national consumption being 700,000 tons.

The United States has about 450,000,000 acres of forest, but this is being rapidly depleted by the ax and by destructive fires. The government is now investigating means to prevent or control the latter.

A Georgia convict, working with others in a contractor's brickyard, escaped recently by piling bricks in a hollow square and thus shutting himself in until the convicts had been locked up for the night.

To-day there are represented directly by reporters in the gallery of the House of Commons, about twenty daily London newspapers, and the total number of journalists who have entrance to the gallery is about 240.

Eighty-three thousand acres of pine timber lands, near Pine Bluffs, Ark., have been sold for lumbering purposes at an aggregate price of over \$500,000. This is said to be the largest business deal of the kind in the history of the section.

"I think, Mrs. Fitzmoodle, you are the most stupid woman I ever knew. I can't get anything through your head." "Yes," said the little woman, quietly, "how strange. You told me just the other day that everything you said to me went in one ear and out the other."

A chemical and pharmaceutical laboratory has been established at Rajkot, Western India. Its object is to improve the practice of native medicine, and to make known to Western science the valuable Indian remedies, as well as the possibilities of yet unfamiliar native herbs.

New York's aldermen have voted for an appropriation of \$150,000 for the expenses of welcoming Admiral Dewey, and a member of the board wants to know where the money is going. "This soliloquy of the alderman might imply that some of the money voted would be used for the purpose expressed in the appropriation."

An interesting memento of the charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava is to be sold in London shortly—the trumpet of Trumpet Major Gray, who was an orderly to Lord Cardigan, and with him headed the charge of "The Six Hundred." His medals and the Cross of the French Legion of Honor will also be auctioned.

In an article on the danger of long hours in druggists' shops the London Lancet says that during the four years ended July, 1898, thirteen dispensing assistants in drug stores committed suicide, and seven others attempted, but failed, to kill themselves. "These suicides were the consequence of the physical conditions induced by the taking of drugs to resist the effects of fatigue."

A "curatorium" for eye troubles exists in St. Petersburg, which sends commissions through the country districts for the purpose of giving free treatment and advice to those among the peasantry who are suffering from affections of the eyes. The report of the year 1898 states that thirty-three of these ophthalmological expeditions were sent out during the year to various parts of the empire.

In pre-revolutionary days there was a woman public executioner in Virginia. At that time death sentences were respite on condition that a criminal should perform this office. "Lady Betty," as she was afterward called, was sentenced to death for murder. She offered instead to become public executioner and held the office for many years. It is said that on the scaffold she officiated without a mask.

The Chinese have many things among their institutions which call forth the praise of travelers, but Chinese roads are not among them. In more senses than one the Celestials ought to "mend their ways." Confucius has left the saying that "a smoother of a way is a benefactor of his species," but visitors to the flowery land in the present day would come to the conclusion that such benefactors have been scarce for a long time past.

A law was recently passed in Norway prohibiting the sale of tobacco to any boy under 16 years of age without a signed order from an adult relative or employer. Even tourists who offer cigarettes to boys render themselves liable to prosecution. The police are instructed to confiscate the pipes, cigars and cigarettes of lads who smoke in the public streets. A fine for the offense is also imposed, which may be anywhere between 50 cents and 250 cents.

Chatham's Millinery Store

..Bargains in Sailors..

White Rough Straw Sailors, sold up to \$1.25, this week..... 40c
Sailors sold up to 75c, for..... 25c
Sailors, white and colored, sold up to 50c, for..... 22c
White, Black and Colored Sailors with band, for..... 15c

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work in Rudiments, Elements, History and Harmony, it's under special instructors engaged by the Conservatory.

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who intend competing for any Conservatory honors must enroll at office as students of the Conservatory on or before Saturday, Sept. 15th.

Conservatory

will be open on and after Monday, Aug. 27th, for enrollment of students, payment of fees and any business in connection with Conservatory.

New Conservatory Prospectus

consisting of 48 pages of artistic merit will be forwarded to any address, post paid, on receipt of a postal with address.

Fall Term, Saturday, Sept. 1st, 1900

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Toronto Fair Aug. 28th, to Sept. 7th

\$5.30

Toronto Fair Sept. 3rd and 5th

\$3.80

All Good to Return Sept. 10th

Portland, Me., St. John, N.B., Halifax, N.S., St. John's, Nfld., Riviere du Loup, Tadoussac, and other points, on Aug. 31st, Sept. 1st and 2nd. Good to return leaving destination Sept. 11th.

Chicago and Return Aug. 28 and 29—

Returning Sept. 30th

\$6.40

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By

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Announcements of these comparative

reprints are very misleading; for instance, they are advertised to be the substantial equivalent of a higher-priced book, when in reality, so far as we know and believe, they are all from A to Z.

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Reprint Dictionaries,

phototype copies of a book of over fifty years ago, which in its day was sold for about \$8.00, and which was much superior in paper, print, and binding to these imitations, being then a work of some merit instead of one

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