









## Keeping Cool.

British Statesmen Not Wor-  
rying Over the Venezuelan  
Trouble.

Enjoying the Holidays in Their  
Country Homes.

How the Queen and Royal Family  
Will Spend Christmas.

Present for the Queen's Servants—The  
Maybrick Case May Be Re-heard  
—Pilgrims for India.

(Special Saturday Cable Letter to the  
"Advertiser.")

London, Dec. 21.—An example of this state of calm in political circles here, in the face of the Venezuelan complications, is shown in the absence from London of the leading politicians most interested in the affair. They are all holiday-making in different parts of the country, which would seem to show that there is no apprehension among the Ministers of anything but a peaceful end to the Venezuelan troubles. The Marquis of Salisbury, Prime Minister, came to town for the regulation reception at the Foreign Office, but he returned to Hatfield the same evening. The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary for the Colonies, is at his home in Birmingham, and all the other Cabinet Ministers are also at their homes, preparing to enjoy Christmas in the usual happy manner. This absence of the Ministers from London, however, does not lessen the gravity of the situation which is generally recognized as most serious, although it is not looked upon as likely to cause an outbreak of hostilities. On the other hand, disastrous disorganization of the money market in America was anticipated, causing uneasiness efforts to realize upon American securities, which badly affected all lines of stocks.

**ROYALTY AND THE SMART SET.**  
In addition to the fact that everyone who could possibly get out of town for the holidays has already done so, and so far as the "smart set" is concerned, London is practically deserted. There will be for another ten days. All those who have houses in the country have gone to them, and large parties are being entertained at nearly all the large places, like the Duke of Devonshire's and Lord Salisbury's. At several of these places enormous bags of pheasants are expected, as the best ovens have been reserved for Christmas week. The Queen is at Osborne, where her Christmas Day will be celebrated with customary splendor. The Queen is especially thoughtful and liberal to all the servants on these occasions, and always has a generous Christmas tree, in the decoration of which she is deeply interested. Every servant and member of her Majesty's household receives some present, and most of these are decided on by the Queen herself. The servants also have a splendid dinner, which is followed by a ball on Christmas night.

The Princess of Wales and her daughters have been in town since early in the week and have had a busy time selecting the hundreds of presents which they always make at Christmas. The tradesmen, as a rule, send a collection of the choicest Christmas wares to Marlborough House, where they are displayed as they would be in a store. A price mark is carefully attached to each article, but in addition to this, the princesses themselves make several early expeditions to the best stores in Bond Street. The Prince and Princess of Wales and the princesses will leave town today for Sandringham, where Christmas festivities on a large scale will be in order next week.

**THE PRINCE LIKES BILLIARDS.**  
The Prince of Wales, by the way, has always taken a keen interest in billiards, and while visiting the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon, at High Clere Castle, Newbury, on Wednesday last, Eugene Carter, the American billiard player, who has been giving brilliant exhibitions of his skill at Egyptian Hall here for some time past, easily defeating the English champions, was summoned to High Clere. There, in the billiard room of the castle, Carter's clever hand strokes delighted the company present, and earned for the expert billiardist the warm praise of the Prince.

**MRS. CLEVELAND'S DOLL.**  
Truth's sixteenth annual exhibition of dolls and toys was held during the past week at Albert Hall, and was as successful as ever. Among the contributors was Mrs. Grover Cleveland. An anonymous donor has again sent 11,000 new expenses, amounting to \$1,775, to be distributed among the workhouse children.

**THE CASE OF MRS. MAYBRICK.**  
It is now once more understood that soon after Parliament meets, the Home Secretary, Sir Matthew White Ridley, who has been conducting the numerous documents in the case of Mrs. Maybrick, the American now undergoing a sentence of imprisonment for life, after having been convicted of poisoning her husband, will announce his decision; but there is little reason to suppose that the case will be reop-

**thinness**  
The diseases of thinness are scrofula in children, consumption in grown people, poverty of blood in either. They thrive on leanness. Fat is the best means of overcoming them. Everybody knows cod-liver oil makes the healthiest fat.

In Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil the taste is hidden, the oil is digested, it is ready to make fat.

When you ask for Scott's Emulsion and your druggist gives you a package in a salmon-colored wrapper with the picture of the man and fish on it—you can trust that man!

50 cents and \$1.00  
Scott & Bown, Chemists, Belleville, Ont.

ened. In the meantime Baroness De Roques, Mrs. Maybrick's mother-in-law, is a regular contributor to the London letter to the New York Times, published Nov. 24, referring to the alleged confession of a released prisoner. Baroness De Roques, in a letter to the Associated Press on the subject, says: "I desire to state in the most positive manner, on my personal knowledge and authority, that there is not the slightest truth in any one of the sensational, defamatory and cruel statements which have been made at regular intervals about my daughter, Mrs. Maybrick, and I ask that such shall, when repeated by the press, be under reserve, and that the names of the authors be revealed to me to deal with. I appeal to the ohivry and fair press to refrain from these lying statements. Innocent of crime, and already deeply wronged, at least there should be no endeavor to cover her with unworthy confessions."

**THE PILGRIMAGE TO INDIA.**  
Some attention has been aroused in London by the statements in the American press in regard to the pilgrimage which Dr. Barrows, of Chicago, would undertake to India. Dr. Barrows, who was severely criticized by Truth for his connection with the Grinde-wald conference, states that he will not undertake the business arrangements of the pilgrimage, which will be conducted by a tourist agency, his efforts being confined to securing the party of pilgrims. It is proposed that a company of 10 or 15 shall leave New York in the autumn after holding meetings in Exeter Hall. They will proceed to Rome, where it is hoped Dr. Barrows will obtain an audience with the Pope. From Rome the party will journey to Palestine, and then on to India. Krishna Menon, a leading Hindu of London, who recently secured the silver medal of the Society of Arts for a paper read before that society, stated to a representative of the Associated Press: "I am conversant with the scheme of Dr. Barrows' proposed lectures in India. I am surprised that he should be selected for the undertaking, because, while he is known through his connection with the Parliament of Religions, Swamivive Kananada and other leading Indians who attended the Parliament do not regard him as a particularly profound thinker. In fact, the men told us in India on their return that apart from the admirable organization of the churches and religious orders in America, they were not particularly impressed by any of the speakers there, although India is a country of speculation in all religious matters, and Dr. Barrows will be most cordially received; but I doubt if his lectures will have much effect. We believe in India that there are many precepts and truths in the Hindu religion that might with profit be grafted upon the western world."

**THACKERAY'S "VANITY FAIR."**  
Mrs. Patrick Campbell denies the story that Dorchester House, in Park Lane, where the Shazha lately resided, would be made into a theater, of which Mrs. Campbell would undertake the management. It has frequently been asserted that this was the house which Thackeray described in "Vanity Fair" as the residence of the "Marquis of Elysia." A careful perusal of the text will, however, convince anyone that the great novelist had in mind the residence of the Earl of Crawford, in Cavendish Square.

**A NEW OPERA HOUSE.**  
So much time has been lost over the disputed title lease of the new Imperial Opera House that Col. Mapleson says the opening night will have to be deferred. The materials for the building are all ready, and the work will be rushed in order to secure as much of the London season's patronage as possible. The Opera House will have 100 more parquette stalls and fourteen more private boxes than has the Metropolitan Opera House in New York. Col. Mapleson will manage the new venture.

## Sparks from the Wire.

Lord Salisbury spent the entire afternoon Thursday at the Foreign Office.

The cruiser Charleston is lying temporarily disabled at Nagasaki, Japan. Both pistons of the engine are broken, and it will be several weeks before it is possible to move.

Premier Boveil has received word that the Parliament of New South Wales has renewed for three years the subsidy to the direct Canadian-Australian steamship line.

A portion of the barracks at Buenos Ayres collapsed with disastrous results. Twelve soldiers, who were in the building at the time, were killed, and 60 were injured.

**MONTREAL CENTER.**  
The nominations for Montreal Center were held on Friday without the usual speeches. Hon. James McShane was nominated by the Liberals, and Sir William Hingston by the Conservatives.

Speaking at Edmonton, Archbishop Langevin vigorously attacked the present Northwest Territorial school system. He said that Roman Catholics would never be satisfied with the meager half-hour daily for religious exercises spoken of in the address, but every hour and all day long, to make their children first good, then learned."

**THE YULE LOG.**  
In some parts of Germany the Yule log is placed on the hearth on Christmas Eve, and, if possible, kept burning for two or three days. Then a piece of it is laid aside for the purpose of lighting the next year's log, and of guarding the household from fire. Pieces of fir-wood charred, but not quite burned out in the Christmas fire, are also placed under the family bed in some German villages to avert the dreaded lightning stroke, which appears in this relation to be the type of fire in its evil aspect, in contradistinction from the solar orb, the representative of beneficent light and warmth. The custom of burning a Yule log for three days and nights in each house is almost certainly a survival from the adoration once offered to the sun at the Winter solstice.

Three centuries after the Christian era sun worship was still maintained in Brittany; and in Normandy not more than a hundred years ago, the household fire was extinguished on Dec. 24, and the Christmas log was ignited by the aid of a flame procured from the lamp burning in the neighboring church. This fact affords a curious instance of the probable transference of respect for a purely heathen creed to the ecclesiastical lights of Catholicism. When the pagan rites for procuring unextinguished fires were forbidden, or fell into desuetude, the ideas to which they owed their origin and development, instead of perishing, continued to exist more or less perfectly, by attaching themselves to usages and ceremonies having no direct association with them.—Gentleman's Magazine.

## Right Around Us.

Retirement of Dr. Cline of Belmont.

Plenty of Teachers Looking for Places—Christmas Festivals and Entertainments.

There were 73 applications for the position of primary teacher in the Alisa Craig school.

Walter Evans, a former citizen of Exeter, and who married a Miss Baiden, has opened a grocery in Alisa Craig.

A consignment of cheese from the Pond Mills factory, consisting of 175 boxes, was shipped from Belmont station this week. The price obtained was 9 1/4 cents per pound.

The Glencoe Academy of Music has been removed from the Clannahan house, and is now located in Mr. Hildebrand's building, McKellar street, two doors east of Main street.

Dr. C. A. Cline, who for nearly seven years has practiced his profession with great success in Belmont, has sold his practice, drug store etc., to Dr. Mel-trum. For some time Dr. Cline's health has been failing, and he has been unable to attend to his extensive practice without endangering his own health.

A very pleasant afternoon was spent on Friday afternoon at the school, on Friday night. The pupils had prepared a good programme of songs, recitations and dialogues. A sack of good things was given each pupil, and the party will journey to Palestine, and then on to India. Krishna Menon, a leading Hindu of London, who recently secured the silver medal of the Society of Arts for a paper read before that society, stated to a representative of the Associated Press: "I am conversant with the scheme of Dr. Barrows' proposed lectures in India. I am surprised that he should be selected for the undertaking, because, while he is known through his connection with the Parliament of Religions, Swamivive Kananada and other leading Indians who attended the Parliament do not regard him as a particularly profound thinker. In fact, the men told us in India on their return that apart from the admirable organization of the churches and religious orders in America, they were not particularly impressed by any of the speakers there, although India is a country of speculation in all religious matters, and Dr. Barrows will be most cordially received; but I doubt if his lectures will have much effect. We believe in India that there are many precepts and truths in the Hindu religion that might with profit be grafted upon the western world."

**WHITE OAK.**  
White Oak, Dec. 27.—A very interesting and highly interesting programme was rendered at White Oak schoolhouse on Wednesday evening, Dec. 15.

The school trustees have engaged the services of Mr. Wm. Menzies, as principal of our school, and Mr. Braithwaite finished his year today in that capacity.

Whereabouts of our baker is eagerly sought for these days. His sudden disappearance has left many without the staff of life.

Mr. Brayley, traveler for M. B. Parvin & Co., Doon, was here on Thursday in the interests of that firm.

The Christmas tree and entertainment in the town hall on the evening of the 25th promises to be on a high order. An excellent programme is being prepared.

**STRATHROY.**  
"Advertiser" Agent, J. D. Meekison. Strathroy, Dec. 21.—On Thursday last, Dec. 19, a happy event took place at the residence of Mr. James Thompson, Victoria street, when Miss Hattie Harkness, was married to Mr. Richard Humphries, of Glenboro, Man. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. G. Jordan in the presence of a few intimate friends and relatives. The happy couple left on the evening train for Sarnia and other points. They intend taking up their residence in Glenboro, Man.

A runaway accident occurred immediately after the funeral of the late Mrs. George Buttery, White Mr. J. J. of Napperton, and Mr. W. S. Dryden, of this town, were sitting in the funeral rig, in front of John Ivor's produce store, and a team coming along collided with Mr. J. J.'s rig, overturning it and throwing the two gentlemen out. Mr. J. J. was dragged for some distance, getting badly bruised and considerably shaken up. He has been a cripple for a number of years, so was unable to help himself in any way. Mr. Dryden escaped with a few cuts on the face.

A serious fire had had his store recently painted and repaired, and was unable to help himself in any way. Mr. Dryden escaped with a few cuts on the face.

Camp No. 9, C. O. W. O. W., elected the following officers for the year 1896: Commanding officer, R. H. Couts; adviser, Lieut. F. Robinson; banker, Charles Grist; clerk, F. L. E. Evans; physician, O. L. Berdan, M.D.; escort, Thomas Collins; watchman, J. L. Liddell; sentry, Joseph Smith; janitor, W. H. Murray; Henry Owens; John Berdan; delegate, F. L. E. Evans; alternate delegate, A. J. Avery. Mr. R. B. C. Thompson, of Toronto University, is spending the holidays at his home in this town.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rapley, of Yale, Michigan, are the guests of relatives in Strathroy.

Carac Bix, of Brantford, was in town the other day.

Last evening the Christian Endeavor of St. Andrew's Church held a Christmas service, the subject being "The Good Things of Christianity."

Zachary Stewart, an old resident of Poplar Hill, died on Tuesday morning, at the age of 84 years. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and was buried at their burying ground in Coldstream on Thursday morning at 11 o'clock.

**LAMBETH.**  
Dec. 21.—A successful entertainment was held in our public school yesterday afternoon. Rev. Mr. Quance occupied the chair and gave the school an entertaining address. The programme consisted of recitations, readings, songs, etc., all of which were creditably rendered by the pupils of the school. Certificates were also presented to those who passed the mid-summer examinations. The following pupils were presented with certificates: Public school leaving Fred Piper and Gus Evans; entrance, George Bennett, Lena Mann and Chaney Martin. A special prize was also awarded to Nel-

lie Vandermade for having stood first in a class of seventeen. Short speeches were made by local gentlemen interested in education. The Rev. Mr. resident, Mr. Robinson, in which he contrasted the educational advantages which the children of the present day enjoy with those enjoyed by boys and girls 50 years ago, was especially interesting. The singing of the National Anthem brought the entertainment to a close.

The regular meeting of the R. T. of T. was held on Wednesday night. Owing to the weather only a few were present. It was decided to hold the next two meetings on Thursday, instead of Wednesday. Tempers please take notice. Installation service takes place on Thursday, Jan. 2, 1897. The St. Thomas lodge will be present and a thoroughly good time is expected.

The Lambeth Hockey Club is organizing and expects to repeat some of its old-time victories during the coming season.

Lambeth is putting on its holiday appearance. Our shops are making a fine display of Christmas goods, and all save the weather speaks of cheer.

## DELAWARE.

Dec. 21.—Yesterday afternoon a pleasant time was spent by the teachers and pupils of our school. A number of visitors were present. The pupils were treated to candy by the teachers, and Lockwood stepped to the platform and read a very kindly address.

It was signed on behalf of the school by Nettie Lockwood and Maud Ackland. Mr. Lockwood presented Mr. Brauder with a beautiful and costly parlor lamp, while Hettie Lockwood presented Miss M. Robertson with a beautiful leather album and a very pretty hand mirror. The teachers replied with much feeling in a few suitable words. Mr. Brauder goes to Dorchester to take charge of the senior division of the school there, while Miss Robertson goes to Toronto Normal. We wish every success in their new field of labor.

## AILSA CRAIG.

("Advertiser" Agent, C. Walker.)  
Dec. 21.—Mr. and Mrs. Menzies, formerly, North Dakota, formerly of East Williams, are visiting Mr. Menzies' father, Mr. Wm. Menzies.

Hugh I. Kennedy returned home from Toronto, where he has been studying dentistry.

S. Gilles & Sons purchased a sawmill in Loran, Ont. Mr. Gilles has gone to take charge of the business.

James F. Stewart, deputy reeve of East Williams, is ill at present.

Miss Sade Rosser, from the Ladies' College, Toronto, is home on her Christmas holidays.

Some of the farmers in this vicinity are plowing.

Mr. Sinclair Smith, of Toronto, formerly clerk in Dr. D. A. Stewart's medical hall, is spending his vacation with his parents in McGillivray.

John and Jean Gunn came home to spend their Christmas holidays.

John Buchanan, of Parkhill, who attended the High School, Strathroy, has secured a school in London township at a salary of \$300.

## NEWBURY.

("Advertiser" Agent, James Connely.)  
Dec. 21.—The annual public examination of the school was held yesterday afternoon. A large crowd was in attendance, and was highly entertained by teachers and scholars. Speeches were delivered by James Douglas, John Herring and John A. Robinson. The teachers, Mr. Armstrong and Miss Blott, were highly complimented on their work and system of teaching.

The Kikapo Medicine Company are giving entertainments here.

Callender, teacher of the school section No. 7, has had charge of the school here during the examination.

The special meetings held in the Methodist Church were closed last night.

Presbyterian Sunday school gave their annual entertainment next Monday.

Mrs. John Whitaker visited her parents here last week.

Merchants report business unusually quiet for this season of the year, owing to the warm weather.

Large quantities of poultry are being shipped from here for the holiday trade.

## ABERLIN LADY CURED LIKE MAGIC

By the Use of South American Nerveine—A Miraculous Cure Told of by Mrs. J. Hallam, of Berlin, Ont.—Established Facts That Cannot Be Controverted.  
REAT risks do not always come most calamitously with great calamities. Hairbreadth escapes and miraculous freedom from disaster are not uncommon. It is in the common ways of life that serious consequences most often follow. Men and women will battle with some of the worst forms of disease, and come out conquerors. But the outcome of some light indiscretion, or a lead in the wrong direction of the system, and there will follow general debility and break-up.  
It is in cases like this that that great discovery and wonderful 19th century remedy, South American Nerveine, gets in some of its greatest work. Mrs. J. Hallam, wife of a well known produce merchant of Berlin, Ont., found herself a short time since completely run down in health. Strive as she might, she could not gain strength. Medicines were taken in generous quantity, but terrible weakness remained. She secured a bottle of South American Nerveine, and in her own words: "The result was like magic. It restored me to perfect health, and I have never felt better in my life. Some time ago my little girl was troubled with summer complaint, and this left her weak and nervous to a degree that seemed to indicate an undermining of her system. I used Nerveine in her case, and in one week she was as well as ever."  
There is nothing artificial about South American Nerveine. A stimulant will help the system for the time being, but Nerveine cures permanently in all cases.  
Velvet and thick Indian silks are the handiest materials for winter tea gowns.

**Piles! Piles! Itching Piles.**  
SYMPTOMS.—Moisture; intense itching and stinging; mostly at night; worse by scratching; if allowed to continue tumors form, which often bleed and ulcerate, becoming very sore. Swaine's Ointment stops the itching and bleeding, heals ulceration, and in most cases removes the tumors. At druggists, or by mail, 50 cents. Dr. Swaine & Son, Philadelphia, Lyman, Sons & Co., Montreal, wholesale agents.

For dainty outdoor wear, a velvet goat and Korean fox look extremely well on dark-colored cloths or brocades.

Call at TRAFFORD'S and select the cover for a parlor suite, Turkish chair, Spanish couch, divan, or fancy rocker, for Christmas presents, and save money now and worry at the last moment!



**R. C. Macfie & Co.**  
LONDON, - - - ONT.

**WE HAVE A LARGE STOCK OF**

Fur Coats, Capes, Gauntlets, Caps, Goat Robes, Black Texan Cow Robes, Lined Kid Gloves, Saranac Mitts, with one finger, Children's White Boas, Tam O'Shanter's . . .

**YOUR ORDER SOLICITED. - - - RAW FURS WANTED.**

**WILLIAMS PIANOS**  
—ARE—  
The Queen's Choice  
**PIANO**  
—ARE—  
THE BEST.

**THEN GET AN**

**R. S. WILLIAMS PIANO.**  
PRICES RIGHT. TERMS EASY.

Special for This Month Only \$350 Piano for \$300

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**R. S. Williams Sons Co.**  
171 DUNDAS ST.  
J. A. CRODEN, Manager.  
**WILLIAMS PIANOS**  
—ARE—  
Strictly First-class

**PETROLEA PICKINGS.**

Enniskillen Orangemen Indorse Clarke Wallace—A. O. F. Election.  
Dec. 21.—At the meeting of Court Imperial, No. 8,092, A. O. F., held on Wednesday evening, the following officers were elected for the coming year: F. C. R., F. Ireland; C. R., George Boty; S. C. R., Joseph Cheney; secretary, F. Church; treasurer, John Rodgers; S. W., George Penfold; J. W., Alexander Ewing; S. B., James Berry; J. B., A. Grisdale; trustees, S. D. Abell, Dr. McKee and G. Penfold; auditors, J. Belasco, J. Kedwell and C. Wylet; physician, Dr. McKee; Cor. to official organ, C. J. Denham. Three prizes are to be given by the court to the members taking in the most applicants up to June.

A special meeting of the District Orange Lodge was called to make arrangements for the holding of a celebration in Petrolea on July 12, 1896. A committee was also appointed to draft a resolution to Clarke Wallace, signifying that the District Lodge heartily endorsed the action he took in the Manitoba question. Below is the resolution: "We, the members of a committee appointed at a district meeting of the township of Enniskillen, Lambton West, held in the town of Petrolea, Dec. 18, desire to convey to you our hearty appreciation of your action in regard to the Manitoba school question. We also bespeak for you the hearty co-operation of the Orangemen of the Dominion. (Signed,) J. O'Hara, Charles Richmond, W. A. Brock, J. E. Armstrong."

In the article referred to in the columns yesterday the price given was \$15 a foot and should have been \$75 a foot.

Hoyt's "A Trip to Chinatown" held the boards in Victoria Hall last night, and the encores and laughter showed that the performance was very much enjoyed. A very good house was played to.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A. are going to hold a reception in the rooms for the young men on New Year's day, from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. The auxiliary are making big preparations and a most enjoyable time is anticipated.

Mr. R. O. Hughes, inspector of weights and measures, is in town this week.

## MARTHAVILLE.

(Agents, Will and John Gregory.)  
Dec. 20.—Miss Minnie Wickett, Miss Minnie Dupee and Miss Nelly Rawlings are busy preparing a fine programme and training the children for the Christmas entertainment in the Methodist Church, which is to be held on Christmas eve.

The little 3-year-old daughter of Mr. Arvon Brown died yesterday morning.

Mr. Duncan, who has returned home to spend Christmas with relatives.

**Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.**

**Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.**

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.  
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.  
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.  
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

**Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.**

**Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.**

That some men live long in spite of moderate drinking no more proves the practice safe and healthful than that some warriors who fought through Napoleon's wars are still alive proving fighting a vocation conducive to longevity.—Horace Greeley.

THERE IS NOT a more dangerous class of disorders than those which affect the breathing organs. Nullify this danger with Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil—a pulmonary of acknowledged efficacy. It cures soreness and lameness when applied externally, as well as swollen neck and croup in the back; and, as an inward specific, possesses most substantial claims to public confidence.

The oldest member of the Academie Francaise is M. Legouve, born in 1807, and elected in 1855.



## The Advertiser

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IN LONDON—Daily, 10c per week, delivered.

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LONDON - CANADA.

JOHN CAMERON, President and Managing Dir.

London, Saturday, December 21.

## West Huron Manipulations.

It is reported that Dominion emsaries are in West Huron using every expedient to get the Patrons to put a candidate in the field, so as to split the vote in opposition to the Administration, and permit the Conservative candidate to capture the seat in the bye-election.

This was the dodge pursued in North Ontario. There the Liberal Patrons stayed with the Patron candidate, but the Conservative Patrons, almost to a man, deserted his standard, and thus made it easily possible to elect the chameleon politician who ran as a Conservative candidate, though he now asserts that he is against the policy of his party.

As Mr. Welsmiller, the many-times-turned-over candidate of the high tax leaders in West Huron, contemplates the possibility of a similar three-cornered fight in West Huron, he rubs his hands in gleeful anticipation of the result. He and everyone knows that in a contest between the candidate of trade freedom and of fair play for every section of the people and Mr. Welsmiller, Mr. Cameron would be returned by a substantial majority.

The Ottawa centralizers have for their motto, "Divide and conquer." Will their opponents in the west riding of Huron foolishly divide their forces?

## Paying Investments.

The reason why United States cities are ready to subscribe \$50,000 to \$100,000 to ensure the holding of one of the national political conventions is stated by the Buffalo Express to lie in the fact that the event means the spending of from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 during the week in which they are held. The same rule holds good, in degree, to the crowds who are drawn to a city during the holding of a great fair. The Western Fair, for example, brings many thousands of visitors to this city every year. Some people are foolish enough to believe that the visit of those strangers, many of whom would never come near the city but for this exhibition, is of little or no value to them because they do not directly benefit by the expenditures made. But a moment's reflection must lead to the conclusion that this is too narrow a view. We are a great co-operative concern, and no influx of visitors, spending money on what we produce in our factories and stores, can come into the city without benefiting us all directly or indirectly. The Western Fair, whose grounds and buildings are owned by the city and managed by a body representing the citizens, who receive no remuneration for their labors, must be maintained in efficiency. The Western Fair is one of the institutions which tends to keep London the chief city and center of trade and industry in the West. Our pre-eminence must be maintained.

## The Happy Family.

Mr. McGillivray, the newly-elected Conservative M. P. for North Ontario, repudiates the Dominion Government's school policy.

Col. Tyrwhitt, M.P., does the same thing and makes a personal attack on Mr. Oulmet, Minister of Public Works. Clarke Wallace, M.P., vows he will never bow the knee to Bawl (meaning Bowell, no doubt).

Quebec Conservatism decide to throw over Sir Adolphe Caron.

What a happy family!

## But One of Thousands.

Mr. McGibbon, Q.C., one of the Conservative leaders in Montreal, who has come out in straight opposition to the men in power at Ottawa, thus indicated their conduct in his address at a recent great mass meeting in Lachine:

"Sir Mackenzie Bowell was fond of prating about the 'English practice.' Was it English practice to keep judgments open for years, to bribe members of Parliament with promises of office, or for members of a Cabinet to have their law partners pleading cases before them?"

"The fact of the matter was that this pusillanimous Government had no leadership and required an immediate reconstruction if it was to succeed at the next general elections. Its extravagance, and some of the concerns to which it had paid subsidies and given Government recognition had been swindles of the first water, and had wrought Canada infinite harm in the financial markets of Europe."

The indictment is well founded. There comes a time in the history of every country when it is wise to change the Government. In the history of this country that time has arrived. Mr. McGibbon is only a type of many thousands of men who have hitherto supported the Conservative party, but who await an opportunity to vote no confidence in the men who now lead it.

## By the Way.

Chauncey Depew, president of the New York Central Railway, asserts that the United States has lost \$100,000,000 by the fall of securities, incident on the war scare, within the last three days. This is far more than the disputed territory in South America is worth. If the loss on the more threat of war is so great, how colossal would be the injury to international interests if war were actually precipitated? If jingoes can think, let them reflect now.

City public schools closed yesterday till the first Monday in January. Mothers are to be sympathized with.

Another Cabinet Minister at Ottawa. That makes fourteen. The chief strength of the Cabinet is numerical.

The Boston Herald says of the war scare: "Fe a fo fum!"

One reason why old world nations are not very warmly indorsing the United States view with regard to the republic of Venezuela is the past rather turbulent behavior of the managers of that South American community towards European settlers. Venezuela even now has a dispute with France that may yet reach an acute shape, and still further complicate the international embroglio. In March last the French Minister at Caracas joined with the German, Spanish and Belgian Ministers in drawing up a document setting forth the difficulty of getting Venezuela to pay damages to foreign subjects for losses sustained in the civil war of 1892. It also recommended the establishment of a mixed international commission to hear and determine all such claims. The publication of this document in Europe resulted in the French and Belgian Ministers receiving their passports, the Spanish and German Ministers having already taken their departure. The Venezuelan representative at Paris in turn received his passports, and since then diplomatic relations between the two countries have been suspended. Venezuela appears to be a plucky nation, but a trifle indiscreet. If it trusts to the United States to get it out of all its difficulties with European powers it may get left in the lurch.

Mr. McGillivray repudiates the Ottawa Government, but the Government cannot afford to repudiate him at this critical stage of its game to hoodwink the electors.

Britain buys more than one-half the goods the United States sells to foreign nations. The United States will think twice before losing so good a customer.

"Keep to the right" is always a good motto.

One week from next Monday comes nomination day. Are you doing your best to secure the election of good men for public office?

At a meeting in West York, on Thursday, Col. Tyrwhitt, Conservative M. P. for South Simcoe, charged Mr. Oulmet, one of the Dominion Ministers, with cowardice in the Northwest rebellion. Mr. Oulmet, it will be remembered, was the colonel who telegraphed to Ottawa earnestly urging that half-breed scouts should be hired to do the fighting, and that he and his eastern associates should stand guard over the provisions. We leave the stolid Quebec political leader to meet the charge of cowardice brought against him by his friends, and suggest that he should make good his accusation against the Liberal party contained in this assertion made in a recent speech, or stand branded as a wilful falsifier: "The only dream of the Liberals is to crush the minority in Manitoba and bring misery to the masses." Mr. Oulmet knows that there is absolutely no foundation for this statement. He knows that the Liberals have been the friends of the minority at all times and are now, and that if misery is brought on the masses it will be the effect of the policy of the Bowell-Caron combination. Where were the Ontario associates of the valiant sutler-soldier when the rights of the minority were assailed so fiercely in the last Provincial elections, with the object of embittering the majority against Sir Oliver Mowat and his Administration? Either below the barn or actually engaged in an anti-Catholic propaganda of the most violent and indefensible character. Neither minority nor majority will suffer at the hands of the coming Laurier Government. Equal justice will be dispensed to all.

There is a disposition on the part of some of our Canadian contemporaries to poke fun at the United States Congress because it has decided to investigate the Venezuela boundary trouble, before it finally decides its course of action in opposition to the British contentions. We are not among those who cavil at our neighbors for going slow. Indeed, we always like statesmanship which investigates a difficult problem, by commission or otherwise, before it acts. The United States jingoes and their countrymen on British soil may not be so hot-headed or so eager for war, when they have had the Venezuela boundary thoroughly considered by men anxious to learn the exact truth, for nothing short of the actual facts should guide the disposal of international disputes. So far as Canada is concerned, we of all peoples should use every legitimate counsel to have peace maintained between that United States and Great Britain.

In the event of war, the worst portion of the international blood-letting would doubtless take place on our soil, whether we liked it or not we would have no say as to when the conflict should begin or when it should leave off. Moreover, we might suffer from its effects for half a century to come.

A truce, then, to foolish talk on both sides of the border, and let the counsel of every lover of his country be for peaceful settlement of every international dispute.

The Wall street panic is hardly calculated to stimulate the war spirit over the border.

It is not likely that Queen Victoria will enter a criminal action because her name was forged to promote Dr. Montague's election in Haldimand. It is possible her Majesty never heard of that gentleman.

Mayor Little seldom attached his signature to a document with more pleasure than when he signed the car shops agreement.

The distribution of Christmas cheer among the deserving poor by the school children of London is a blessing to those who give and who receive. Such practical lessons of charity assist in molding the child's character at a time when it is in a plastic state. The heart as well as the mind is cultivated.

The blind chaplain of the United States Senate prayed that Britons and Americans would never shed each other's blood. About the same time a Montreal clergyman appealed to a crowd of school boys "to stand shoulder to shoulder to resist American invasion."

A GREAT NOVELIST ON THE BIBLE.

I think that I know the Bible as few literary men know it. There is no book in the world like it, and the finest novels ever written fall far short in interest of any one of the stories it tells. Whatever strong situations I have in my books are not my creation. I have taken from the Bible. "The Deemster" is the story of the prodigal son. "The Bondman" is the story of Esau and Jacob, though in my version sympathy attaches to Esau.

The story of Eli and his sons, but with the story of a little girl, "The Manxman" is the story of David and Uriah. My new book also comes out of the Bible, from a perfectly startling source.—Hall Caine.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

Here It is as Stated in Mr. Monroe's Message to Congress in December, 1823.

"We owe, therefore, to candor and to the amicable relations existing between the United States and the allied powers to declare that we should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety. With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power we have not interfered and shall not interfere, but with the Governments who have declared their independence and maintained it, and whose independence we have, on great consideration and just principles, acknowledged, we could not view an interposition for the purpose of oppressing them or controlling in any other manner their destiny (by any European power) in any other light than as a manifestation of an unfriendly disposition towards the United States."

"JAMES MONROE."

"COFFIN NAILS."

Cigarettes Kill a Colored Boy in Buchanan, Mich.

Niles, Mich., Dec. 21.—William Green, a 16-year-old colored lad of Buchanan, died on Thursday of the result of cigarette smoking. He had been addicted to the habit from early childhood, using box after box, till this year, when he made a record of 150 boxes a month. He often went to bed with one of these "toxin" nests in his mouth, and would get up in the night to smoke.

He raved for cigarettes even on his death bed, and his attendants had hard work controlling him. The nicotine he inhaled almost destroyed the vital organs.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The first silver vote in the Senate was taken yesterday. It was on a motion to refer to the finance committee Allen's silver resolution directing an inquiry as to the advisability of opening the mints to free coinage in view of the strained relations over Venezuela. The motion was defeated—yeas, 24; nays, 38; the silver men voting nay.

ATAL COLLISION.

Malone, N. Y., Dec. 21.—A collision occurred on the Adirondack and St. Lawrence Railroad at 4 a.m., just north of Horseshoe Pond, between the north-bound express and a south-bound freight engine. Engineer Brussels, of the express, was killed. Engineer John Hart, of Malone, who had charge of the south-bound engine, is horribly mangled, and will die. Both firemen were also killed. One of them is badly scalded. No passengers were hurt, with the exception of one lady, who was only slightly injured.

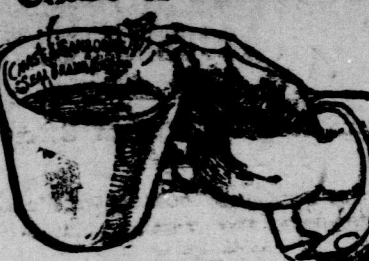
If you are bald, or find that your hair is breaking or falling out, it will pay you to call at Madam Ireland's parlors, 211-2 Dundas street, who can positively restore hair and prevent falling out. Her celebrated toilet and shaving soaps cannot be excelled, and her fine medicinal face powder is of the finest. These can be procured from Cairncross & Lawrence.

A SUFFERING ARMY.

Borne Down by a Relentless Foe.

The great army of sufferers from various rheumatic conditions joyfully welcome Chase's K. and L. Pills, because the foster parents of their aches and pains are the kidneys, which, on account of a diseased condition, are unable to relieve the blood of uric acid poison, which is deposited in the joints, producing on the part of the system, aching and pains in the bones, joints and muscles. The reason that Chase's Pills relieve and cure is their wonderful power in restoring degenerate kidneys to a perfect and natural condition, without which the system is supplied with blood teeming with poison that adds fuel to the fire of rheumatic complaints, demonstrating the complication of diseases, terminating in dropsy, diabetes or Bright's disease. A pleasant feature of these Pills is that while most kidney remedies encourage constipation, Chase's relieve and cure it. In nearly all rheumatic attacks which is easily overcome by Chase's K. and L. Pills, in fact, they are a perfect cure for constipation. This is indorsed by Edward Garrett, editor and proprietor of Bradford (Ont.) Weekly Witness, and thousands of others. One pill a dose, 25 cents a box. The cheapest medicine on earth.

## Chase &amp; Sanborn's



## Seal Brand Coffee

Universally accepted as the Leading Fine Coffee of the World. The only Coffee served at the WORLD'S FAIR.

CHASE & SANBORN,  
BOSTON. MONTREAL. CHICAGO.

## J. E. Boomer

LEADS IN  
XMAS CANDY.

DELICIOUS VARIETY.  
DELICIOUS, FRESH AND PURE

## VIOLETS AND ROSE LEAVES!

THE LARGEST SHIPMENT OF  
FRENCH FRUITS  
EVER RECEIVED IN LONDON.

## BACK TO MY OLD STAND.

Having bought the business in the Market House from J. White & Son, formerly Moore & Co., I beg to thank the trade and public for past favors and inform them that I will carry on the above business to supply cured meats second to none in the Dominion. My practical experience for the last fifteen years will enable me to keep in stock everything first class. Wholesale and retail.

John Park, 'PHONE 500  
801

## New Undertaking Establishment

224 Dundas St. - Spencer Block  
Telephone-1,150.

WESLEY HARRISON,  
Embalmer and Funeral Director.  
N.B.—We have in stock a complete line of Picture Frame Moulding.

## NOTICE!

We have a good line of Heating and Cooking Stoves on hand, just what is required before baseburners. Also a full stock of furniture cheap for cash.

GEORGE PARISH,  
357 Talbot str. S.E.

## NEW YORK FANCY BRAND.

PRATT'S LAMP OIL  
LIVE BURNERS  
SELL IT.  
NO SMOKE, NO SMELL, NO WHITE LIGHT.  
SAMUEL ROGERS & Co. TORONTO.  
WHOLESALE.

## NOW

It's Canes and Umbrellas we have to offer you. Just received a stock of the newest designs.

C. H. WARD,  
374 Richmond street. Open evenings.

## Indapo

Made a well Man of Me?

THE GREAT HINDOO REMEDY  
PRODUCES THE ABOVE RESULTS IN 30 DAYS. Cures all Rheumatism, Falling Memory, Paralysis, Sleeplessness, Nightly Sweats, etc., caused by past aches, gives vigor and strength to the system, and quickly restores the system to its normal state. Price \$1.00 a package. Six for \$5.00 with postage. Write for full particulars. Don't be deceived by cheap imitations. Insist on having INDAPAO. It is the only medicine of its kind. We will send it free of charge to you on receipt of your name and address. Sold by Anderson & Nelles, Druggists, 30 Dundas St. LONDON, ONT., and leading druggists elsewhere.

## At Wholesale

Silverware, Candelabrum, Fruit Bowls, Nut Bowls, Tea Urns, Water Kettles, Coffee Sets, Tea Services, Water Pitchers, Bake Dishes, New Goods Daily.

Hobbs Hardware Company.

126 and 128 Dundas Street.

## CHAPMAN'S

Xmas Sale of Fancy Goods and

## Saturday Night Fair Sale!

The Largest Assortment of Toys and Holiday Goods in London.

HANDKERCHIEFS—Initial Silk Handkerchiefs, worth 25c, Tonight 2 for 25c

HANDKERCHIEFS—Fancy Embroidered Japanese Silk Handkerchiefs, worth 20c, Tonight 15c

HANDKERCHIEFS—Embroidered Linen Handkerchiefs, worth 40c and 50c, Tonight 25c

COLLARS—Fancy Guipure Lace Collars, worth 50c, Tonight 25c

HANDKERCHIEFS—Fancy Embroidered Japanese Silk Handkerchiefs, worth 25c, Tonight 15c

COLLARETTES—Fancy Silk Collarettas, worth 50c, Tonight 32c

TIES—Colored Silk Windsor Ties, worth 35c and 45c, Tonight 18c

HANDKERCHIEFS—Ladies' Fancy Swiss Embroidered Handkerchiefs, worth 25c, Tonight 15c

GLOVES—Colored and Black Kid Gloves, colored stitching, worth \$1 25, Tonight \$1

DOYLIES—Fancy Hand-painted Doylies, on silk cloth, worth 15c, Tonight 8c

DOYLIES—Hand-made Tatted and Crochet Doylies, worth 60c, Tonight 35c

BASKETS—Fancy Satin Lined Baskets, worth \$2 25, Tonight \$1 60

BRACES—Men's Pure Silk Braces, worth \$1, Tonight 75c

TIES—Men's Ties, Christmas goods, worth 25c, Tonight 15c

SHIRTS—Men's Black Sateen Shirts, worth 65c, Tonight 45c

HANDKERCHIEFS—Men's Large Size Pure Silk Handkerchiefs, worth 40c, Tonight 25c

HANDKERCHIEFS—Men's Pure Linen Handkerchiefs, hemstitched, worth 25c, Tonight 19c

UNDERWEAR—Men's Heavy Scotch Knit Shirts and Drawers, worth 90c, Tonight 63c

KID GLOVES—Men's Two-button Wool Lined Kid Gloves, worth \$1 25, Tonight 89c

SHIRTS—Men's Laundered White Shirts, worth 60c, Tonight 43c

ULSTERS—Men's Fine Brown Ulsters, worth \$6, Tonight \$4

ULSTERS—Men's Fine All Wool Heavy Frieze Ulsters, worth \$7 50, Tonight \$5 25

ULSTERS—Men's Very Heavy Storm King Frieze Ulsters, worth \$10, Tonight \$8

OVERCOATS—Men's D. B. Fine Fawn Overcoats, Melton, worth \$10, Tonight \$7 30

OVERCOATS—Men's Fine Tailor-made Overcoats, worth \$14, Tonight \$10

SUITS—Men's D. B. Fine Tailor-made Suits, worth \$12 50, Tonight \$10

PANTS—Men's Fine All-Wool Pants, worth \$1 75, Tonight \$1 10

ULSTERS—Youths' Storm King Frieze Ulsters, worth \$8, Tonight \$4 85

ULSTERS—Boys' Storm King Frieze Ulsters, worth \$4 50, Tonight \$3 65

OVERCOATS—Boys' Old Lines Cape Overcoats, worth \$4, Tonight \$2 49

FLANNELS—12 pieces Fine All-Wool German Flannels, suitable for tea gowns and wrappers, worth 50c, Tonight 25c

SILKS—10 pieces China Silks, in bright colors, worth 25c, Tonight 15c

CREPE DE CHENE—7 pieces All Silk Crepe De Chene, for evening wear, worth 75c, Tonight 47c

PLAIDS—10 pieces All Wool 42 inch Scotch Plaids, in greens and blues, worth 60c, Tonight 35c

TWEEDS—5 pieces Blouse Tweeds, worth 50c, Tonight 35c

SERGES—6 pieces Corkscrew Serges, worth 50c, Tonight 35c

DRESS GOODS—One table Remnants of Dress Goods, great assortment, worth double the price we ask, Tonight 25c

SKIRTS—One table of Skirts, worth 75c and 90c, Tonight 60c

COMFORTERS—Eiderdown Comforters, down proof sateen, 6 by 6 feet, worth \$6, Tonight \$4 90

QUILTS—Full Size White Quilts, toilet make, worth \$1 25, Tonight \$1

SHEETING—Unbleached Twill Sheeting, 2 yards wide, worth 22c, Tonight 18c

CLOTH—Teal Cloth, Paisley patterns, for ladies' wrappers, worth 25c, Tonight 15c

FLANNELETTE—Fancy Flannelette, blue with white spots and figures, worth 12 1/2c, Tonight 8 1/2c

FLANNEL—Canton Flannel, unbleached, heavy nap, worth 7c, Tonight 5c

CAPIES—6 only, Black Plush Capes, leather, fur and jet trimmed, different styles, worth \$35, for \$29; worth \$38, for \$32; worth \$49, for \$39, Tonight

COATS—Eiderdown Coats for children, worth \$2 50 and \$3, Tonight \$1 75

TRIMMING—Featherette Trimming in cream and black, Tonight 25c

JACKETS—17 Ladies' Jackets, new styles, worth \$7 and \$8 50, Tonight \$5

JACKETS—One table Jackets, the newest styles, worth \$12, ripple skirt melon sleeves, Tonight \$7 50

COATS—One table Coats, mandolin sleeves, ripple skirts, worth \$16, Tonight \$10

OPERA CLOAKS—Nothing to equal them in the city, special prices for Tonight

SUITS—Boys' 3 piece Heavy Tweed Suits, worth \$4 75, Tonight \$4

SUITS—Boys' 2 piece School Suits, worth \$2, Tonight \$1

PEA JACKETS—Boys' Nap and Serge PEA JACKETS, worth \$2 50, Tonight \$1 50

PANTS—Boys' Fine Serge School Pants, worth 50c, Tonight 35c

In addition we will have on sale Thousands of Toys and Gift Goods.

SEE OUR TABLE TOYS, Your Choice, 5 Cents  
SEE OUR TABLE TOYS, Your Choice, 10 Cents  
SEE OUR TABLE TOYS, Your Choice, 15 Cents  
SEE OUR TABLE TOYS, Your Choice, 20 Cents  
SEE OUR TABLE TOYS, Your Choice, 25 Cents

The Largest Assortment in London.

Beautiful Presents for Grown-Up Boys and Girls, Ladies and Gentlemen, 50c, 75c, \$1, \$2 and Upwards.

SEE THE BEST ASSORTMENT AT

## CHAPMAN'S

126 and 128 Dundas Street.



## The Only

Great and thoroughly reliable building-up medicine, nerve tonic, vitalizer and

## Blood Purifier

Before the people today, and which stands preeminently above all other medicines, is

## HOOD'S Sarsaparilla

It has won its hold upon the hearts of the people by its own absolute intrinsic merit. It is not what we say, but what Hood's Sarsaparilla does, that tells the story:—

## Hood's Cures

Even when all other preparations and prescriptions fail.

"The face of my little girl from the time she was three months old, broke out and was covered with scabs. We gave her two bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla and it completely cured her. We are glad to recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla." THOS. M. CARLING, Clinton, Ontario. Be sure to

## Get Hood's

Hood's Pills easy to buy easy to take easy in effect. 25 cents.

### LONDON WEST FINANCES.

The Annual Statement Presented to the Council—Dispute Over the Sinking Fund.

London West's Council met in the school house last night and received a statement of the income and expenditure for the year. It was as follows:

RECEIPTS.	
Balance cash on hand, Jan. 1, 1895.	\$ 1,498 74
Taxes of 1893 collected by treasurer.	61 48
Taxes of 1894 received by treasurer.	2,333 28
Taxes of 1895 received by treasurer.	5,248 03
License fund from county.	208 00
License, balance.	8 20
Government school grant.	20 34
Fees from non-resident pupils.	45 09
Fees leaving examinations.	23 00
Fees from county magistrates.	21 43
From county treasurer.	214 03
<b>Total.</b>	<b>\$10,001 36</b>

### DISBURSEMENTS.

School board.	\$2,510 00
Board of works.	480 00
Breakwater account.	174 54
Street lighting.	1,084 32
Relief account.	110 65
Printing, advertising and stationery.	127 36
Salaries.	238 38
Audit account.	87 75
Salaries.	541 07
Relate of taxes.	30 34
Miscellaneous.	114 75
Debitures.	2,236 65
Discount on loan.	830 54

Councillor Andrews moved that the amount mentioned as sinking fund in the estimates for 1895, \$1,061, be placed in the Molsons Bank to the credit of the village as a sinking fund.

Mr. Hamilton seconded, but the reeve vetoed the motion out of order, stating that it should have been done when the rate was struck. "You have got your necks in a loop," said the reeve.

Mr. Hamilton—Regarding the hole we are in, we will not ask you to unloose the knot.

The Reeve—No, the people will get you out of this.

Mr. Hamilton—You tried this before.

The Reeve—None of your impertinence. I rule this out of order.

The ruling was appealed against and upset and the motion carried.

George C. Jolly was appointed village auditor, vice, Henry S. Milligan, resigned. The Gun Club license was fixed at \$10 a year.

### The Problem Solved.

At Christmas time almost every person is confronted with the query "What shall I buy for presents?" There is hardly anything in the usual line that a buyer of any experience has not purchased already, and naturally many of the vast army of holiday shoppers would thankfully receive any intimation as to the proper thing to buy. That the prevailing trend of the public taste is for decorative plants, none would deny had they stood for a short while in Gammage's elegantly appointed store yesterday and watched the avidity with which plants of this description were being purchased. The place was a perfect bower of majestic looking palms and ferns, forming a pleasing contrast to the dull gray world without.

"Our season opened much earlier this year," explained Mr. Gammage, in the course of a chat with the buyer of any representative. "And the demand for decorative plants increases as Christmas draws nigh."

"People easily recognize the superiority of these plants over flowering plants as gifts," continued Mr. Gammage, "they last so much longer and give so much better satisfaction. Then they are never out of place and are equally serviceable at marriages, birthday celebrations, parties and all kinds of social functions."

Thus decorative plants are becoming more popular. They are things of beauty and a joy, if not forever, for a great deal longer period than either cut flowers or blooms.

Xmas Perfumes, new odors, new styles, at Anderson & Nelles' drug store.

NOTICE—If you want good and proper work done to your watches and clocks, without pretense, take them to T. C. Thornhill's, 402 Talbot street, who has had over forty years' experience. All work guaranteed satisfactory, because he understands cylinders, duplex, chronometers, striking repeaters, levers, Swiss, English or American.

## The Top Notch of Style

Isn't always the most tasteful, after all. A man's build and shape must be considered. A tailor isn't a good tailor unless he knows what sort of cut will look the most stylish on the tall man and the short man, the fat and the lean. And the pattern of the goods themselves is another important thing to decide. Our experience and knowledge of clothes is at the public service.

Our garments are made and sold on honor.

**HARRY LENOX, MERCHANT TAILOR,**  
Corner Richmond & Carling Sts.

## 'Twas a Success.

Collegiate Conversazione Draws a Big Crowd,

And There Is Rejoicing in the Institute Literary Society.

At an Expense of \$400 the Risk Was Great—A Gaily Decorated School and Splendid Programme.

Probably no one scanned the corner of the paper set apart for the report of the weather man on Thursday night so anxiously as did the Collegiate Institute pupils, who for the past month had been preparing for last night's conversazione. They had talked about the coming event in school, to the terror of the teachers, and out of school, to the weariness of the good folks at home, until everyone from the grocer's young man, who came occasionally, to sister Mary's young man, who called regularly and stayed late, knew about the conversazione. And then to read: "Probabilities—Unsettled; continued mild, with rain and increasing easterly winds!"

It was enough to cause uneasiness to older heads. They were at a large expense—\$400. This had to be settled—even supposing the weather should remain unsettled. And when last evening came, and with it a crowd which filled all of the 700 seats in the upper assembly room, to say nothing of the school seats, which held two, and of those who stood, the joy of the pupils—many of them in the features of the young fellows in dress suits, who showed the visitors to the dressing rooms, and to their seats, and it fairly danced upon the countenances of the scores of young girls in flower-bedecked dresses, who were interested to as great an extent as their brothers. All knew that the cherished project was a success, and because of it the songs appeared sweeter, the recitations more droll and humorous, and the instrumentalists to blend more perfectly.

The institute is a stately pile at any time, but to walk up to it on a dark night, when every window from basement to garret is beaming brightly, adds a grandeur that is not noticeable in the uncomprising light of day. And the interior decorations commenced where the doors left off. The stairs were neatly draped with bunting, enough flags hung over windows, doors and bannisters to furnish Union Jacks for every province in the world that boasts of British allegiance, and have a couple to spare for Turkey and Venezuela. Decorative plants suggestive of the tropics (and the florists) garnished the bare spots, and lent a freshness to the scene. While the decorator had left tangible signs of his visitation from the basement up, it was in the upper assembly room where he was most in evidence. Beautiful pictures, loaned for the occasion, relieved the bareness of the walls, curtains gave a drawing-room effect to the windows, and rich portieres concealed the harsh outlines of the doors. Coming Raffaels, Titians, Angelos and Rubenses among the pupils transgressed the blackboard into exhibitions, while from the center of the ceiling was suspended a mammoth Japanese umbrella and a pendant from the school colors—blue and yellow.

From the center of the ceiling to the corners hung in graceful curves streamers of light blue and red. The floral decorations for the stage setting were furnished by Gammage, and a profusion of bunting, representing the school colors, formed the background for the platform.

The vocalist of the evening, Miss Carlotta Desjardins, was taken ill at Buffalo, and was obliged to leave for the continent and a milder climate. Her place was ably taken by Miss Nina Bertine Humphreys, who came direct from New York, as a personal favor to Miss Desjardins, to take her place on the programme. To judge of the success of the evening, the audience recalls insisted upon, the audience was more than pleased with Miss Humphreys' efforts. She is a wonderful singer, soaring at will among notes that Londoners are wont to hear only when they are struck on the piano. Her extreme notes are taken with mechanical correctness and are distinguishable from those of the instrument only by their power and continuity.

Miss Humphreys and Miss Alexander as usual swayed her audience at will with her marvelous powers of recitation. Mr. George Angus also vied storms of applause by his violin solos, and the promenade concert by the Musical Society. The orchestra was one of the most enjoyable portions of the programme, which included the following numbers:

Overture—The Iron Horse.....Auber	Music Society Orchestra
Coaching in Scotland.....Jessie Alexander	Music Society Orchestra
Chorus—Soldiers' Chorus.....From Faust	Music Society Orchestra
Vocal—Charmant Oiseau.....David	Miss Humphreys
Is Life Worth Living.....Alfred Austin	Miss Jessie Alexander
Violin Solo.....	Miss Jessie Alexander
Vocal—Knowest Thou That Land.....Thomas	Miss Humphreys
Chorus—Legend of the Bell.....Schiller	The Glee Club
The Hostage.....Schiller	Waltz—Romeo and Juliet.....Gounod
Violin solo.....	Miss Humphreys
Violin solo.....	Miss Humphreys
The Good Little Girl and the Bad Little Girl.....	Miss Jessie Alexander
He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not.....Mascagni	Miss Humphreys

Miss Humphreys and Miss Alexander were both made the recipients of handsome bouquets, the former by Charlie Garvey and the latter by Fred H. Soreaton.

The glee club is composed of F. H. Soreaton, president; Fred L. Evans, musical director; E. Yates, secretary; treasurer; Frank Fitzgerald, pianist; and Misses Noble, Mason, Yates, Donahue, Dewar, Warren, Williams, Brock, Love, Smith, Mills, McCully, Spry, Flynn, Smith, McMahon, Fleming, Steer, Brown, Rolston, Porteous, Dale, O'Neill and Smith, and Messrs. Yates, Kilpan, Brown, Carson, Fitzgerald, Clark, Gray, Ferguson, Soreaton, Beal, Watt, McNeve and English.

At the conclusion of the programme many of the visitors began a complete inspection of the building. Upstairs the orchestra held forth in the lower floor. Principal Merchant, assisted by Ernie Henderson and Alex. Clark, regaled a couple of hundred to some limelight views. In the physical laboratory Mr. McClement conducted an interesting series of experiments. He was assisted by E. Yates, E. Wyatt, R. Hicks and S. Clement. The reading-rooms were well patronized, as also

was the light luncheon set forth in the drill room.

The promenade programme contained eight numbers, and included a concert solo by Mr. Mullins and an xylophone solo by Mr. McKenna.

It is nearly two years since the last conversazione was held by the Literary Society. The proceeds, after defraying expenses, go to purchasing papers and periodicals for the reading-room files. The society already has a good bank account, which will now be considerably augmented. The credit of success is not confined to a few, but to many, as the following list of committees will demonstrate:

Finance Committee—S. Jones (convener), Miss L. Southam, J. Best, H. B. Beal, P. A. Carson, Miss Ross. Programme Committee—W. C. Ferguson, F. Soreaton, Miss C. Bertha, Miss M. Williams, S. J. Radcliffe, R. A. Gray, Miss L. Ross, Miss A. Davidson, Miss H. B. Beal (convener), D. E. Galbraith. Printing and Advertising—C. B. Edwards (convener), E. Donnegon, J. N. Kennedy, S. English, W. J. Dobson.

Committee—P. A. Carson (convener), R. H. Little, R. McMorris, O. J. Stevenson, H. Davidson, S. McEvoy, C. Garvey, F. McCormick, C. Hunt, A. Beal. Committee—D. E. Galbraith (convener), Miss McDonald, C. Watson, F. Taylor, Miss Spry, Miss M. Smith, Miss E. Brown, Miss Love, W. Vining, R. S. Laidlaw, E. Yates, S. K. Davidson, Miss Campbell, F. Fisher, E. Wyatt, W. Horton, W. Bray, W. T. McClement, Miss A. Campbell, Miss F. Hanson, Miss E. Magee, W. J. McCormick, Miss May Hodge, F. Hobbs. Room Committee—W. J. McCormick (convener), J. Armstrong, J. Barnes, H. Clement, F. Fitzgerald, W. T. Cunningham, W. Bartram, A. Gordon, Geo. Gibbons, Miss McPherson, F. Spry, Misses McCulloch, E. Lindsay, M. McVean, Elsie Fraser, E. Wyatt, Eva Fraser, J. Grant, Mabel Jeffery and Rolston.

## LOCAL BREVITIES.

—Mr. Becher Furness is very ill of typhoid fever at Toronto.

—Mr. Samuel T. Butler, of Chicago, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Roote, King street.

—Mr. Thomas Kent, president of the London Loan Company, was visiting his sisters, Mrs. A. Meston and Mrs. Strathely, of Aylmer.

—Wm Pulver and family, of Dresden, moved here this week. The Times says: We are sorry to lose a good citizen like Mr. Pulver. Dresden's loss is London's gain.

—Rev. Charles Smith, pastor of King Street Methodist Church, will preach church anniversary sermons in Seaford tomorrow. Rev. Stephen Bond will preach to his old friends in consequence of the pastor's absence.

—Bro. Bayless, D. D. G. M. of the C. O. O. F. M. W., accompanied by R. G. Bro. Thomas Cole and P. G. Bro. Geo. Tagg, paid an official visit to Kintore Lodge on Wednesday evening. This lodge was instituted Nov. 12 by Grand Organizer Bro. Rose with seven charter members. It now numbers 34 and applications are still coming in.

Some time ago Napoleon Prevost, the well known carrier, received two young bears. He afterwards sold them to a London butcher for \$35, and yesterday the latter came to the city to take the animals away. But the cubs evidently got wind of what a horrible place London is, and they gave half a dozen people an hour's hard work to load them in the wagon. The animals will be killed and the meat sold for 35 cents a pound.—St. Thomas Times.

—At the last general meeting of London Lodge No. 33, K. K. K., at 22, at the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Bro. Bates, D. D. G. C., and Bro. L. Tunks acting as scrutineers; C. C. W. J. Moffat; V. C. W. Clark; prelate, R. Noble; M. of W. H. J. Widdie; K. of R. and S. and M. of F. J. M. Shaw; M. of E. J. Paul; M. at Arms, J. Walsby; representative to Grand Lodge, Bro. W. Smith. Speeches were made by the new officers. The arrangements were served and a very pleasant evening was spent.

—A meeting of the United Charities Association was held in the city hall last night, at which it was reported that nineteen membership tickets had been issued since last meeting, and the society was rapidly gaining in public favor. The office hours have been arranged thus: A. M., 8 to 10 o'clock; P. M., 4 to 6 o'clock. The most accessible entrance to the office is from the market square. It is intended to institute a labor bureau in connection with the Association, which will add materially to the interest of citizens.

—The Christmas tea held at St. James' Presbyterian Church last night in connection with the Sunday school was a very enjoyable affair. The programme was taken by the Sunday school scholars and included singing, recitation, and a play. Santa Claus called during the evening and made many little hearts glad with Christmas presents.

—At a recent meeting of Forest City Camp, No. 1, Canadian Order Woodmen, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Sov. James McCormick, of Laurel Camp, and Sov. R. McBride, of Pine Grove Camp, acting as scrutineers; Paet commander, Thomas Hogg, adv. lieutenant, M. Hoehn; banker, Geo. F. Morris (fourth term); clerk, Charles Doe (fourth term); escort, G. R. Gillespie; watchman, George Tapp; sentry, A. G. Pearson; physicians, Benj. Bayly and W. J. Teasdale; managers, Charles Brennan (three years), Andrew Ferguson (two years), Thomas Vallier (one year), and G. A. Watts; correspondent, Benj. Bayly; delegate to head camp, G. H. Scollick.

—The following list of patents, recently granted to inventors, is reported for the "Advertiser" by P. J. Edmunds, international patent solicitor, London, Ont.: Canada patents—H. G. H. Glass, London, Canada and Detroit, Mich., protecting plates for the soles and heels of shoes; L. Migner, Quebec, cork sole for shoes; W. Northrop, Hamilton, Ont., fruit dresser; J. A. Soper, Windsor, Ont., buckles; J. C. Gilroy, Clinton, Ont., corset fastener; L. Beauregard, St. Joseph, Que., imitation Persian lamb; the Edwardsburg Starch Company, Montreal, Que., starch (trade mark); R. J. Henderson, Chesterfield, Ont., check book (copyright); United States patents—W. J. Hing, Montreal, Que., street car fender; T. H. Hovenden, Ingersoll, Canada, calendar.

—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wayne, supported by an excellent company of players, will begin a week's engagement at the Grand Opera House, beginning on Monday evening, Dec. 23, with special Christmas and Saturday matinees. On Monday evening, for the first time in this city, the beautiful scene-

## E. & E.

THE WEATHER TO-DAY.  
Fair weather.

## Giving and Receiving.

Christmas is characteristically a season of rejoicing, and will be specially so this year of grace—1895—we mean to those who buy their Christmas gifts from us. Economy, always judicious, is more so than ever in the holiday season, when one has usually more gifts they would like to give than they have money to buy them. It is surprising how many believe that it is more blessed to give than to receive, but lack of funds checks their liberality somewhat. However, our widespread reputation as a house of large assortments and low prices stands us in good stead now, and readily explains the throngs of Christmas shoppers that already tax the capacity of our many holiday departments. Could we here give a list of the little and the big presents we carry you might read it, but we have an idea that you would like to spend a short time looking around the store. Then come along and we will show you everything.

## Tell Us This

What is more useful, more elegant or more appropriate than a set of Furs for Christmas? We don't know. Perhaps the price has been too high in the past; but that obstacle has been brushed away—we are selling Furs at Drygoods prices. We might have waited until after the holidays to reduce prices, but we'd rather clear the whole lot out now. This gives our customers a chance.

\$50 00	Buys a \$65 Sable Cape, 27 inches long. A beauty.
\$45 00	Buys a \$55 Black Persian Lamb Cape, 27 inches long.
\$15 00	Buys a \$20 Gray Astrachan Cape. Grand value.
\$13 50	Buys a \$17 50 Wool Seal Cape. Cheapness and elegance combined.
\$25 00	Buys a \$30 Arctic Sable Cape. A grand present.
\$10 50	Buys a \$15 50 Black Astrachan Cape. Grand value.
\$16 50	For a 30-inch Baltic Seal Cape; former price \$20.

These are only a few. Our fur department is running over with bargains. We take \$10 off some of our Capes, which is our Christmas box to purchasers. A few left of our \$1 65 Gray Astrachan Capes for boys and girls. The cheapest Cap ever sold in London.

## SMALLMAN & INGRAM

149-151 Dundas St.

tional drama entitled "From Sire to Son," with all its magnificent stage settings and grand scenic effects, will be presented. Many pleasing and attractive specialties are introduced at every performance. There will be a change of play each night, and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne will positively appear in every production. This company has its own scenery, and all plays will be produced in first class style. The company come direct from Detroit, Mich., here, and the press of that city speak in high praise of them. The prices are popular, being only 10, 20 and 30 cents.

### CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS.

The following is a list of the candidates who passed the low grade or preliminary trial at the civil service examinations held in this city last month: Tom Brown, W. Calcott, Lewis Carter, Edward Carty, George Collingwood, Aliso S. Fitzgerald, Thomas R. Griffin, Winfield T. Harrison, George A. Hennessy, John D. Hodgson, Jesse Johnson, Thomas H. Leight, W. J. Lucas, James Orme, John Reid, J. J. F. McKenna, Wm. George Stevenson, S. Wesley Taylor, Wm. Caw Tudor, Wm. Martin Waldoek, I. Godfrey Warner, Wm. Ernest West, John Wm. White, John A. McKee.

The candidates who passed the qualifying examinations were: Hugh M. Barrett, John Brown, W. Calcott, Angus W. Campbell, Charles C. Claris, Thomas George Hazelton, Field Harrison, John Z. Johnson, Joseph Kidd, Samuel T. Lee, Benjamin J. Leech, Thomas H. Leigh, Thomas H. Liddon, Wm. Mercer, Tim Mullins, Wm. D. A. McLean, Grace D. Rorison, Wm. J. Stewart, John George Tambling, John W. White, Stephen T. Willis, Charles T. Wilson.

Those who passed in the optional subjects were: John Brown, bookkeeping; Stephen T. Willis, bookkeeping, shorthand.

### PRINCESS AVENUE SCHOOL.

The Princess avenue school was gaily decorated for the Christmas entertainment, which was held yesterday afternoon. Principal Bryant occupied the chair, and introduced the programme, which included several choruses and the following: Recitation, "The Lovely Young Man," Lily Goulding; Song, "Far Away," Lillie Maracle and Louie Craig; dialogue, "Trials of a School Mistress," Norman Beal and W. Logan; violin solo, Edgar Nelles, trio, three boys; dialogue, "Irish Schoolmaster," Grade VII. boys and girls; Rainbow, by seven girls, Grade VII.; Song, "Sunshine in Primrose Abbey," Harry Mara; recitation, Ada Rudd; dialogue, "Aunt Kitty's Shopping," three girls; song, Emery brothers; harp, monica solo, Willie Barrell, Grade IV.; dialogue, "Brought to Trial for Blowing," six boys, Grade VI.; song, Allen dialogue, and E. Marshall; recitation, Maggie Boyd; chorus, two girls, Grade V.; song, Ethel McKillop and Elsie Hobbs; recitation, Percy Madden; song, Annie Mattinson.

### TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL.

A general meeting of the council was held last night, President Toll in the chair. Credentials were received from John M. Price and James Soreaton as delegates from the Painters and Decorators' Union. What has become of the petition for the appointment of shop inspectors? was asked.

The secretary was instructed to prepare a petition for signatures without delay.

A communication from the Early Closing Association asking for contributions to defray expenses incurred, was received. The council did not think they should be called upon to pay for debt they had no voice in making, but felt that for a future expenditure they were liable and willing to pay. The secretary was instructed to write the association and inform them of the council's action.

The bylaw to be submitted to the electors, asking for \$25,000 in debentures to erect new buildings for the Western Fair, was indorsed. The council also desired that the standard rate of wages be paid for their construction.

A resolution disapproving of tax exemption was carried unanimously. The opinion of the council is that no person or corporation should be allowed a lower assessment rate of taxation than that struck by the city, so long as the present tax system is in operation.

The next meeting of the council will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 7, when the election of officers will take place.

### SOUTH LONDON SCHOOLS.

Entertainments at Victoria and Wortley Road Schools—Promotions on Pupils' Records.

The closing exercises of the Wortley road and Victoria schools took place yesterday afternoon. Most of the rooms were prettily decorated with evergreens and banniers, and pleasing programmes were rendered by the pupils in each school. Addresses were given by Trustees Greenlees and Wilkins, Ven. Archdeacon Davis and Rev. Jas. G. Stuart.

The pupils of the 6th and 7th divisions (Misses Johnston and Wildren, teachers), under the chairmanship of Willie Parnell, gave a performance which pleased and edified all the pupils, and interested many parents and visitors. The programme opened with a brief address by the chairman, which was followed by the following numbers: Chorus, "Carol, Sweetly Carol," united classes; recitation, "Speckled Hen," Ivorra Powell; dialogue, "The Seasons," P. Gerry, C. Perry, C. Hodgins, L. Rowntree; song, M. Powell, recitation, "Waltz Shepherds Watched," Flossie Pevings; solo, "Jew's Harp," E. Thompson; recitation, M. Nash; dialogue, "Trials of a School Mistress," F. Jewings, C. Hodgins; recitation, W. Monahan; song, "Christmas Carol," R. Maybank; dialogue, "Merry Christmas," seven boys and seven girls; recitations, "Ring Out, Wild Bells," seven girls; solo and chorus, "In the Field," P. Gerry; recitation, M. Powell; chorus, "Gather Around the Christmas Tree," pupils of sixth division; dialogue, "One Way to Spend Christmas," V. Soreley, C. Perry, A. Sutherland, M. Maybank; recitation, A. Somerville (E. Thompson); chorus, "Bethlehem," pupils of seventh division; recitation, "The Ropst of Christ," P. Gerry; dialogue, "The Story of Christ," seven girls; metalophone solo, C. Hodgins; dialogue, L. Quick, B. Tyndall; song, choir of sixth division; dialogue, "The Day After Christmas," F. Pope, F. Dickinson, L. Lewis; chorus, "A Child This Day," choir of seventh division; dialogue, E. Hartford, W. Monahan; recitation, Edna Lawson; song, "Glory to God in the Highest," four boys; dialogue, M. Newmans and A. Pugh; recitation, L. Powell; song, "Abide with Me," seventh division; choir; dialogue, M. Allison, A. Somerville; dialogue, "Playing School," four boys; "God Save the Queen."

The pupils of the Principal Queen's rooms also gave an entertainment in the kindergarten room.

The following promotions have been made, based upon the pupil's record for the last three months, and the teacher's recommendation:

WORTLEY ROAD SCHOOL.  
From III. to IV.—Eddie Meyers, Minnie Ralph, Bertha Court, Reggie Stephens, Minnie Campbell, John Anderson.

VICTORIA SCHOOL.  
From kindergarten to Grade I.—Ernest Knowles, Percy Read, Jack McLean, Charles Kalus, Archie McAulay, Fred Evans, Gilbert Young, Gordon McCraw, Wilfred Wagner, Rita Caldwell, Pearl Mason.

From I. to II.—Ella Stinson, Olive Whitehead, Willa Richardson, Willie Gleed, Mary Burgess, Bertha Lockyer, Beatrice Hutchinson, Ray McKay, Perrier Kilbourn, Florence Smith, Bessie Howard, Lydia Horwood, Mabel Horwood, Marguerite Stuart, Olive Wood.

From III. to IV.—Ethel Wellman, Harry Gaub, Ernest Garside, Arthur Evans, George Wilson.

From IV. to V.—Alan Clark, Mabel Anderson, James Moore, Willie Watson, Percy Stinson, Charlie Perry.

### WILL NOT PERMIT DELAY

In Cases of Heart Disease—How to Act Quickly.

What to do till the doctor comes is a good thing to know, and is urgent in cases of heart disease. Keep in the house Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart, and it will be found to exceed the skill even of the skilled physician. Many letters are in the possession of the proprietor of this medicine, showing that death would have ensued from heart disease had it not been promptly taken when heart spasms had manifested themselves. It is a remarkable specific for this one particular purpose, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, strong as the statement may seem, will cure heart disease, either in its incipient stages or the more chronic.

### "I Will Salt It Away."

Applies to money. "I will salt my food with the famous Windsor Table Salt," applies to the purest salt in existence. New process; never cakes; all living salt. Try it.

Connoisseurs of driving patronize Overmeyer's livery, Richmond street north, as he has only the latest style of rigs. Phone 423.

Don't waste time by placing "To Let" signs in your windows. Remember there are people outside of your district who desire to move in. Put an advertisement in the "Advertiser" and rent your house or apartments.

## Ladies Are Insuring

and with the Confederation Life, six recently having made application to us and were accepted. It's a good investment, without care or anxiety. Information cheerfully given. Office, Market Lane, ground floor. FRED H. HEATH, General Agent. GEO. PRITCHARD, Local Agent. Phone 767.

## SPITAL & CO.

152 Dundas St.

## Our Great Clearing Sale

A-humming. Opened with a rush under the most favorable circumstances for the buyer. Everyone satisfied that the prices are

## Greatly Reduced!

Everything being sold at a sacrifice here; you have an opportunity of trading early in the season when the stock is large and the prices very small.

A large lot of Dress Goods, worth 30c, for 18c.

All-Wool 75











## A Truthful Assertion

**"SALADA"**  
CEYLON TEA

At 40c per pound is the greatest value the world has ever seen.

Lead Packets Only. Black or Mixed.  
All Grocers.This Brand of Flour  
Always makes the  
BEST BREAD  
OR PASTRY.  
USE NO OTHER.  
J. D. SAUNBY  
257 York Street,  
Telephone 113.Dr. W. H. Graham  
188 KING ST.  
WEST,  
Toronto, Ont.  
Treats Chronic  
Diseases and  
gives special at-  
tention to skin  
Diseases, as  
Pimples, Ulcers,  
etc.  
PRIVATE  
DISEASES, and  
Diseases of a  
Private Nature,  
as Impotency, Sterility, Varicocele, Nervous  
Debility, etc. (the result of youthful folly and  
excess), Gleet and Stricture of long standing,  
DISEASES OF WOMEN—Painful, Profuse  
or Suppressed Menstruation, Uteration, Leu-  
corrhoea and all Displacements of the Womb.  
Office hours—9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sundays, 1 p.m.  
to 3 p.m.  
zyxwv

## Frozen Water Pipes

Repaired at shortest notice at moderate  
prices. Phone 1,065.EGGERT & BUCKLEY,  
Plumbers - 274 Dundas Street,  
ywtREMOVAL—  
W. FairbairnMerchant Tailor,  
Over Priddis Bros., upstairs. Entrance  
through store.

## Christmas Coming Again.

Useful and Elegant Articles for  
Presents. Some HALF PRICE;  
all cheap.Artist Oil Color Boxes,  
Water Color and Crayons,  
Dressing Cases in Plush.  
Large and Beautiful Assortment of  
ENGRAVINGS AND ETCHINGS  
Picture Framing at Special Low Prices.R. LEWIS,  
434 Richmond Street.R.K. Cowan  
Barister, etc., over Bank of Commerce  
London.

## IT'S A FACT

That we can make you a Suit or Overcoat  
at from \$2 to \$5 less than down town mer-  
chants. Get our prices.PRATT & WILKINS,  
304 Dundas Street. xt

Rogers Electric Co

425 Richmond St., London.

A FULL STOCK OF  
Electric Bell & Battery Supplies  
Special Prices to the Trade.

NO PLACE LIKE POCOCK BROS. FOR XMAS FOOTWEAR.

## HOLIDAY ENTHUSIASM!

It needs no words to stimulate trade; our stock of Fancy Slippers and  
Fine Footwear is comprehensive, it begins with the cheapest you ought to  
have, and ends with the finest anybody can want. Thousands of people are  
puzzling their brains to know what to give.NE DOLLAR will give you a choice of over a hundred different useful  
gifts for men, women and children in Footwear.SLIPPERS—50c to \$2.50, men's, hundreds of styles and kinds in plushes,  
velvets and fine leathers.SLIPPERS—15c to \$3.30, Ladies', Fine Kid and all the newest styles; cozy  
Felt and Carpet Slippers.

RUBBERS and Overshoes, elegant styles, low prices.

TRUNKS, Valises and Satchels, the largest assortment and lowest prices  
in the city.

## Pocock Bros.

XMAS  
PRESENTS!

For the Children.

WORTH 50c, 75c, \$1. WE are selling at

25c.

Come Early to Avoid the Rush.

Priddis Bros

Telephone 324.

158 Dundas St. - 157 Carling St.

## Xmas Presents

Wood Top Skates..... 25  
Steel Spring Skates..... 65  
Boys' Jack Knives..... 10 to 25  
Girls' Pocket Knives..... 20 to 35  
Gentlemen's Pocket Knives..... 45 to 75  
Finest Razors..... \$1.00 to \$1.50  
Air Rifles..... 1.25 to 2.25  
Air Rifle Rifles..... 2.50 to 4.00  
Open Every Night. Call and Examine.  
No Trouble to Show Our Goods.

WM. GURD &amp; CO.,

185 Dundas Street, London, Ont.

Phone 800. 75a

## FAIR WEATHER.

Toronto, Dec. 20—11 p.m.—The pressure  
is generally high throughout Eastern  
Canada, and is extending westward over  
the lake district. The weather from the  
lakes to the Atlantic is fair and mild. Low  
pressure covers the Northwest, accompanied  
by fair mild weather in Manitoba, but it is  
turning colder in Alberta and Assiniboia.  
Minimum and maximum temperatures:  
Calgary, 2-16; Battleford, 4 below  
-12; Qu'Appelle, 2-28; Winnipeg, 16  
below -32; Parry Sound, 44-50; Toronto,  
40-56; Kingston, 44-52; Montreal, 34  
-48; Quebec, 30-46; Halifax, 34-52.  
PROBABILITIES.  
Toronto, Dec. 21—1 a.m.—Fair weather;  
little change in temperature.Beltz'  
Xmas  
Furs

Suggestions for Presents—

A Mink or Sable Ruff,  
Any kind of Fur Muff,  
A warm pair of Fur Gauntlets,  
A Mat or Rug for the floor,  
A Thibet Lamb Boa,  
A nice Fur Robe,  
A good Fur Cap.

## Capes and Jackets

Of the latest style in stock or  
made to order.

E. BELTZ,

Manufacturing Furrier,

144 Dundas Street.

ASK YOUR GROCER FOR  
Johnson Bros.' Bread  
4c per loaf retail.

In all parts of the city. Telephone 318.

CHRISTMAS  
PRESENTS

## FURS

Ladies' Ruffs, Muffs, Gauntlets,  
Jackets, etc., in Mink,  
Sable, Persian Lamb and  
all kinds of Furs.Men's Collars and Cuffs, Gloves,  
Hats and Caps.

NICEST PRESENT YOU CAN BUY.

MILNE, SPITAL &amp; CO.

London Advertiser.

Call Us Up! Telephone Numbers:  
107.....Business Office  
134.....Editorial Rooms  
175.....Job DepartmentStreet : Car  
TicketsAre on sale at De la  
Hooke's (G. T. R. ticket  
office), corner Dundas  
and Richmond streets.

## London and Environs

—All one has to do at this season of the  
year to learn what stores do the heaviest  
advertising is to watch the crowds of  
Christmas shoppers and observe what stores  
they enter.—The regular convocation of St.  
George's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 5,  
in the Masonic Temple last night chose  
the following officers for the ensuing  
year: J. W. Butler, Z.; Wm. Spittal,  
H.; Wilson Armitage, J.; C. C. Reed,  
Scribe E.; U. A. Buchner, Scribe N.;  
S. F. Lawason, principal sojourner;  
representative to finance board, E. T.  
Essery; auditors, A. B. Munson and  
A. G. McWhinney; John Robertson,  
janitor; treasurer, E. Paul. Comp.  
Alexander Pindley, Dr. Balfour and  
James Gauld acted as scrutineers. At  
the conclusion of the business the  
members adjourned to the banquet-  
ing room, where supper was served  
by Bradford & Hodgins, the Dundas  
street caterers.—The members of the Hospital Trust held  
a meeting at the city hospital yesterday  
afternoon. The usual reports were received,  
showing that there are 59 patients at pre-  
sent under treatment. Miss Jessie Stairton,  
Thorndale, and Miss Jennie McCarthy,  
city, applied for positions on the staff of  
nurses. Their names will be placed on the  
usual lists. Miss Lynch recommended that  
Mrs. Pigot and Miss Edith Humphrey be  
temporarily a supply, by placing him  
temporarily in passing upon the matter with-  
out hearing the teacher's side of the case  
did an unjust thing. It was stated before  
the committee that the teacher had refused  
to reinstate the boy. This Miss Lynch  
denies, and Principal Stewart bears her out.  
The teacher's side of the case and the  
principal's version will be presented at the  
next meeting of the board. The lad, it  
appears, broke a school rule by hanging on  
a sleigh on the way home. Many parents  
find fault with the teachers for "interfering"  
with the scholars after they leave the school;  
but the teachers point out that if a child  
breaks a rule, or in any way becomes injured,  
they are the very first to be held respon-  
sible.—A well attended meeting of the London  
Poultry and Pot Stock Association held  
on the evening of Dec. 17, Mr. Wm. Neil,  
president, in the chair. The following resolu-  
tion was unanimously carried: "Resolved  
that this association be heartily in accord  
with the Western Fair Association in asking  
our citizens to vote that the City Council  
expend \$25,000 for the purpose of replacing  
the recently burnt poultry and carriage  
buildings and providing new barns for the  
live stock, which are absolutely necessary,  
and that the members of this association do  
all they can to assist in carrying the bylaw,  
and that the secretary be instructed to  
forward copies of this resolution for insertion  
in the city papers." Some samples of the  
new wire poultry coops recently purchased  
by the Provincial Government for the use of  
the Ontario Poultry Association were  
brought in for inspection. The members  
ventured the opinion that they would prove  
quite satisfactory and could not be well  
improved upon.

## COST OF THE FREE LIBRARY.

A meeting of the Free Library board  
was called for last night, but a quorum  
did not put in an appearance, the only  
members present being Messrs. Robert  
Reid, sen., chairman, Talbot Macbeth  
and C. Keene, Secretary Blackwell  
and Architect Matthews. The object  
of the meeting was the reception of a  
report on the cost of the library as  
prepared by Mr. Matthews. Some samples of  
the estimate of the cost of the building  
alone was \$12,500, but as the tenders  
were very close to that figure several  
alterations in the plans were made. A  
hardwood instead of a pine floor was  
laid, extra masonry work was done,  
and the painters got \$153 in extras,  
which, with other odds and ends  
brought the total cost of the building  
up to \$13,244.04. The fittings cost \$1,  
924.62, the land \$5,500, and unforeseen  
requisites about \$200, giving London  
a good free library for less than \$20,  
900. The debentures sold for \$20,282.96,  
leaving an excess of the estimates of  
nearly \$800 to offset which the board  
has yet to receive \$550, the balance of  
the Mechanics' Institute fund. The  
books purchased to date cost \$4,447.Smoking, Manicure, Toilet Sets, cheap at  
Anderson & Nelles' drug store.Bark-well's  
WINTERINEFree Two Days,  
Saturday and Tuesday.This is a most exquisite toilet pre-  
paration for whitening and beautifying  
the skin and complexion.  
Suitable for either ladies or gents;  
and no person desiring beautiful skin  
should be without WINTERINE.  
Instantly cures all chapping of skin  
and gives a beautiful soft whiteness to  
the coarsest and roughest skin and  
complexion.One bottle will be given free to  
every family calling on above dates  
only, atBARK-WELL'S  
DRUG STORE.You can buy very pretty Christmas  
Goods cheap at Barkwell's  
Drug Store.

## Turkeys - Turkeys - Turkeys

Choice young plump birds. See them  
before you buy your Christmas turkeyChoice Cape Cod Cranberries,  
Extra Fine Select Oysters,  
Choice Jamaica Oranges,  
Choice Jamaica Grapes,  
Choice Grenoble Walnuts,  
Choice Taragonna Almonds,  
Choice Table Raisins.If you want table supplies that will give you  
both pleasure and satisfaction, buy them from

T. A. Rowat &amp; Co.

228 Dundas Street - Phone 317

## Presents!

Delicate Perfumes, Good Hair  
Brushes, and a hundred tasty  
articles at SHUFF'S, Dundas,  
corner William.

## Southcott's

## FINE TAILORS

361 Richmond St.

## A. B. Powell

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sweet musical bells. They  
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25 pieces of German Plaids... \$0 20  
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For Monday Only.

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Priestly's Best Silk Warps... 1 50

## Trimmings

For Monday Only.

Point Jet Trimmings, the  
yard... \$0 60  
Colored Bead Trimmings, the  
yard... 5  
Gold and Silver Tinsel Trim-  
mings... 7  
Feather Trimming, the yard... 40  
Colored Ruching, the yard... 5

## Laces

For Monday Only.

Fine Valenciennes Lace, the  
yard... \$0 2  
Bourbon Laces, cream and bi-  
colored shades, the yard... 5  
Venetian Point Lace, butter  
shades, the yard... 18  
Wide Bourbon Lace, cream,  
the yard... 10

## Carpets

For Monday Only.

Heavy Twine Matting, the  
yard... \$0 10  
Patterned Venetian Carpet,  
the yard... 12 1/2  
Tapestry, good value, the  
yard... 25  
Tapestry, better quality, the  
yard... 42  
Five-Frame Brussels, made  
and laid... 75

## Gloves

For Monday Only.

Black Cashmere Gloves, fleeced... \$0 23  
The Ringwood Glove, in white... 22  
The Andrea Kid Glove... 1 08  
White Mosquetaire Gloves... 75  
The Constance Kid, in black  
and tan... 75

## Women's Coats

For Monday Only.

Cheverette Serge, double  
breasted, large sleeves... \$3 60  
Rough Nigger-Head, short  
coat, buttoned close to neck,  
long sleeves... 4 25  
Serge, lapel front, new  
sleeves, in black and brown... 4 90  
100 Coats, travelers' samples,  
German make, colored and  
black, the prices vary, up-  
wards from... 2 50  
100 Ladies' Heavy Capes, with  
sleeves; this is another list  
of samples... 5 00

## Handkerchiefs

For Monday Only.

One lot Colored Borders... \$0 2 1/2  
Several dozen Fine Hemstitch-  
ed Lawns... 5  
Fancy Swiss Embroidered, 3  
of them for... 25  
Fine White Silk, initialed or  
plain... 10  
Extra large White Silk, in-  
itiated or plain... 50  
Half dozen White Lawn, pack-  
ed in neat box... 18

## Leather Goods

For Monday Only.

Morocco Leather Pocketbooks... \$0 10  
German Silver Clasps... 10  
Silver Leather Card Case... 10  
Leather Musio Folio, silk  
lined... 25  
Leather-Covered Writing Folio... 50  
Large-Sized Leather-Covered  
Writing Folio... 75

## Plush Goods.

For Monday Only.

Plush-Covered Collar and Cuff  
Box for... \$ 60  
Plush-Covered Writing Folio... 50  
Plush-Covered Writing Cabl-  
net... 35  
Plush-Covered Frame for  
Photo... 15  
Plush-Covered Frame for  
Photo, large size... 25

## Tinware

For Monday Only.

Wire Broilers... \$0 5  
Large Basting Spoons... 7  
Granite Ware Soup Dishes... 12 1/2  
Granite Ware Wash Bowls... 18  
4-pint Copper-Bottom Teapots... 20

## Glassware

For Monday Only.

Six Cups and Six Saucers, not  
second, but first quality... \$0 25  
One dozen Cut-Glass Fruit  
dishes... 20  
Beautiful Cut-Glass Water  
Pitcher... 15  
Cut-Glass Rose Bowl, hand-  
some... 25  
Handsome Cut-Glass Tea Set,  
(amber), 6 pieces... 50

## Dolls.

For Monday Only.

Large, 16-inch Doll... \$0 10  
Large 16-inch Doll, real hair... 15  
Beautiful, 30 inches, real hair... 40

## Ribbons

For Monday Only.

Satin Ribbon, double faced, all  
shades, Nos. 5, 9, 16, the yard... \$0 7  
Baby Ribbon, all shades, in  
Moir Silk and Satin, the yard... 3

## Underwear

For Monday Only.

Heavy Ribbed Union Drawers  
or Shirt... \$ 25  
Fancy striped, wool, the suit... 85  
16-oz. O. K. brand, the suit... 1 00  
Mara's Scotch wool, the suit... 1 00  
Imported Fancy Striped, the suit... 2 00  
Boys' Extra Heavy Union, the  
suit... 40

## Hats and Caps

For Monday Only.

Men's Black Astrachan Caps... \$ 35  
Boys' Black and Gray Astrachan  
Caps... 25  
Heavy Corduroy Caps... 40  
Black and Brown Felt Fedoras... 75  
Boys' Black and Brown Felt  
Fedoras... 50

## Men's Clothing

For Monday Only.

Men's Heavy Tough Pants... \$1 25  
Men's Heavy Frieze Storm King  
Overcoats... 5 00  
Boys' Heavy Tweed Pants... 49  
Boys' Overcoats, with or with-  
out Cape... 1 95  
Children's Two-Piece Suits... 75The T. E. Mara Co.  
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And Market Square

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## THE CRYSTAL HALL. W. J. REID & CO.

### Armenian Massacres!

A Pen-Picture of the Fanatical Sultan.

His Fearful Exterminating Policy—How the "Armenian" Society Has Played Into His Hands.

The Outlook gives to its readers a comprehensive survey of the Turkish problem, from the pen of the man who, of all men in America, is most competent to give it—the Rev. Dr. Cyrus Hamlin, the founder of Robert College, and for the major part of his life a resident in Constantinople; a man who proved himself, during his residence there, a statesman, as well as a philanthropist and a Christian minister. He says of the present reigning Sultan, Abdul Hamid:

He has always been regarded as a fanatical Mussulman. He came to the throne with the inborn resolution to exercise all the power of the successor of the prophet. He is a skilful diplomat. He believes in the supreme power of lying. He covers up all that he does by falsehood or false testimony. He can always bring any number of witnesses to prove that there has been no violence where hundreds have been slaughtered.

He secludes himself in his palace, is seen by very few, but those who are called to an interview pronounce him a most fascinating man.

He very early took upon himself the entire care of his empire. He resolved to govern it alone. He went into every department—army, navy, naval construction, public works, education, finance—in order to have everything exactly right. Finding a great many

Armenians in these departments, he cleaned them all out and put in Turks—often an incompetent man for a competent. If his Ministers did not please him, he changed them, and then changed them again. A still worse habit is his sending commands direct, superseding the orders of any of his Cabinet Ministers, without their knowledge. The favorites of the palace are able thus to upset the best plans of the Grand Vizier without notice. More than one has been dismissed and degraded for remonstrating. If things did not work smoothly under this new regime, his indignation was excited, and another overturn of administration of every department has caused general confusion and dissatisfaction, and poverty and ruin.

The department of education early attracted his attention. He saw that his rayahs were better educated, more intelligent, and more thrifty than his Moslem subjects. He resolved to change all that. He began to impose laws upon school-houses, text-books and teachers. No school-house could be repaired without Government permission, which was never given; no new school-house could be built. School books once approved and bearing the imperial seal were subjected to a new censorship and utterly defaced, and thousands of dollars' worth destroyed. Many schools were shut up under frivolous pretenses. At the same time convent school houses were built for Mussulman schools and a great impulse was given to Moslem education. The rayahs, if they complained, were exhorted to profess the true faith and these benefits would be theirs. Abdul Hamid has all along had an eye to the conversion of his rayahs.

But more stringent means must be used. He could operate, for the present, only upon the Armenians—the Gregorians and the Protestants. They have no defender. The Greeks are protected by Russia and the Catholic Armenians by France. Not one of them is to be touched. England's protection of the Armenians amounts to nothing. Complaints are made. Immediate reforms are promised. England is satisfied—and the persecution continues. He has played his game with England for many years.

Sultan Hamid very early saw that the Armenians must be dealt with after another fashion. He made little

progress in his efforts to unify his empire by gathering the wandering sheep into the fold. On the eastern borders of his empire lie the Kurdish Mountains, and along their base, or foothills, are many Armenian villages often ravaged by the Kurdish robbers—and they are all robbers, more or less. He thought it would be well to have only one people, or at least one faith, on all his eastern border. The Armenians should have their choice, Islam or Gehenna! For this purpose the Kurds would serve him well. He called to Constantinople the chiefs of the principal tribes, treated them with flattering distinction, and gave them uniforms and arms for an imperial cavalry to bear his name—the Hamidieh cavalry. Their work was gradually to efface all the Armenian villages, saying all who would profess Islam. This work has been going on for some years in those distant regions. The survivors made their appeals to England, and the consuls faithfully reported them. Doubtless England tried to persuade the Sultan to do better; and he has always been ready with stout denials that any wrong had been done, and with lavish promises that nothing more of the kind should happen. For four years or more the outrages upon the Armenians have been growing in frequency and cruelty, and have unquestionably been patronized by Hamid.

A very regrettable element comes in here to intensify the evil. A revolutionary party, formed in Russia, and having branches in England and America, have formed, or claimed to have formed, secret societies for promoting a revolution and securing "Armenia for Armenians." The Turkish Government might smile at the folly of this infantile organization. But for Russia, it never could have come into existence, and her power behind it supports it. But this revolutionary movement is just what Abdul Hamid desires. He hails it as a justification of his plan to destroy the Armenians, except they repent and turn to Islam. He now extends his operations all over the empire, which has been a slaughter-house. And these two and a half million of Armenian peasants and traders have been his most useful and faithful subjects! According to the Koran, and the great codified law called the "Mukteha," he is under secret obligations to protect them in person and property,

and in the enjoyment of their religion.

The Sultan does not fear in the least the "Great Powers." He knows that they cannot agree to do anything. They can present schemes of reform, and he promises to execute them, but goes on with his schemes of outrage and assassination. The six great powers, in the persons of their ambassadors, stand and look on, and can do nothing; and the Sultan has his own way. Russia and England oppose each other, and neither can move a step.

Russia will act only when there is an outcry of the civilized world calling her in. Should there be a general slaughter of all Christians, she would march in and take possession, and England would not dare to resist her. She is waiting for such a result, and secretly preparing it. Perhaps "the sixth day in the heavens laughs and has them in derision."

The Sultan has awakened all the slumbering fanaticism of his empire, and it is doubtful if he can now control it. There is one power the Sultan would fear, had it any power visible to him; and that is the United States of America. That is a country that can act for itself. It can send an iron-clad to any Mediterranean port with a demand that can be enforced, and no other country will say a word. The Sultan has destroyed American property very freely, and has no thought of paying a plaster for it all. Americans have been insulted and maltreated, but in these recent assassinations the Turks have taken no American lives. Our Government is acting vigorously, and Mr. Terrell is full of energy and pluck. Hamid will probably receive some useful lessons from Mr. Olney.

We wait to hear that the work of extermination has ceased. But what shall follow? Famine and pestilence. Not less than 250,000 will die of cold and starvation this winter unless relief comes to them from abroad.

"The Common People." As Abraham Lincoln called them, do not care to argue about their ailments. What they want is a medicine that will cure them. The simple, honest statement, "I know that Hood's Sarsaparilla cured me," is the best argument in favor of this medicine, and this is what many thousands voluntarily say.

Hood's Pills are the best after dinner pills, as at dinner, cure headache, 25c.

### THE SHOEMAKER WAS PAID.

A New Way to Settle Old Debts Satisfies Creditor and Debtor.

"Now, sir," said the shoemaker, "pay me my bill or I shall lose my temper; I have waited long enough." "My good man," the creditor replied, "I have no money, but I will give you an order on Mr. H—, who has been in my debt for ever so long. Here, take this sealed packet, but don't let him perceive that you know anything of its content." The shoemaker, in great glee, betook himself to Mr. H—, and handed him the invoice, which ran as follows:

"Dear H—, the bearer, an unfortunate, but honest man, has lost his wife and children during the last week, and is, besides, threatened with imprisonment for debt. Persuaded that you will gladly seize any opportunity to assist a poor man in distress, I commend him to your kindness."

"Yours sincerely, C."

H— gazed with emotion at his visitor and pressed \$10 on his acceptance. The shoemaker departed in a happy frame of mind, not suspecting that he had been taken for a beggar.

If Still Alive. "Do you rectify mistakes here?" asked a gentleman, as he stepped into a drug store. "Yes, sir, we do, if the patient is still alive," replied the urbane clerk. Never was a druggist called upon to answer such a question, after selling a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Do not be hopeless although you are thin and pale. In spite of a dry hacking cough, night sweats and slight spitting of blood, you need not fill a consumptive's grave. Take the "Discovery" and you will soon be rid of the troubles which harass you. But do not delay. Delay may mean death and that mistake you cannot rectify. Sold under a positive guarantee of cure if taken in time—or money returned.

Good digestion means good appetite, but what's the use without good teeth. Use Odorona for your teeth; it not only prevents decay, but preserves them permanently.

The miser saves in this world only to lose in the other.

Korn Minard's Liniment in the House.

**SILVERWARE**  
OF THE  
**HIGHEST GRADE.**  
THE QUESTION  
**'WILL IT WEAR?'**  
NEED NEVER BE ASKED  
IF YOUR GOODS BEAR THE  
TRADE MARK  
**B. T. ROGERS BROS.**  
AS THIS IN ITSELF  
GUARANTEES THE QUALITY.  
**BESURE THE PREFIX**  
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IS STAMPED ON EVERY ARTICLE.  
THESE GOODS HAVE  
**STOOD THE TEST**  
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**NEARLY HALF A CENTURY.**  
SOLD BY FIRST CLASS DEALERS.

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Most central in the city; near elevated roads, street car lines, principal places of amusement, business centers and large retail stores. Broadway cable cars passing the door, transfer to all parts of the city. STEAM HEAT. ywt

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Has a tone full, rich, mellow, peculiar to itself, unapproached by any other.

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# In Far Formosa.

More About Dr. Mackay's Wonderful Book—  
Strange Modes of Life and Worship—Queer  
Dresses Worn—A Country Where Everyone  
Gets Married—The Head-Hunters and Their  
Horrible Occupation.

The following is a continuation of the interesting review of the new book by Dr. Mackay, the famous Canadian missionary in Formosa, the editor of which was Rev. J. A. Macdonald, of St. Thomas:

We pass to the ethnology of this interesting island. The inhabitants of North Formosa are classified by Dr. Mackay as belonging to one of the other of two great races; the aborigines, both savage and civilized, are, he says, Mongolian, while the Chinese are Mongolian. The classification of all the aboriginal tribes as Mongolian is ultimately admitted to be questionable, and to this point we shall presently recur. There is no doubt that the dominant race, the race first in numbers, intelligence, and influence, the Chinese, of course, present no problem to the ethnologist. They are either themselves immigrants or the children of those who, in earlier years, crossed the Formosa Channel from the thickly populated provinces of the mainland. Naturally, they brought with them their habits of life and household gods. They found the island wooded down to the water's edge, and the home of tribes of roaming savages whose appearance was strange to them and whose speech was barbarous. The introduction of the Chinese was disputed at every point, but their greater numbers and superior skill prevailed. The savages were driven back out of some of the richest plains on the west and northeast coasts; rice farms and tea plantations took the place of forest tangle, and wild plateau; in these regions the rude hamlets of the earlier race vanished; towns and cities bearing unmistakable marks of the Middle Kingdom superseded them; and the Chinese became predominant in Formosa. The emigrants are, in the main, industrious and aggressive, showing all the characteristics of their race and carefully keeping up their ancestral MODES OF LIFE AND WORSHIP.

As was to be expected, the large majority have come from the Fukien Province, and speak what is called the Amoy dialect. These are called Hoklos. A few of the colonists, however, are the descendants of a tribe who, at an earlier period, had moved from the north of China and settled in parts of the Canton Province. These are called Hak-kas ("strangers"), and exhibit distinct forms of civilization and language.

The Chinese call all the earlier natives of the island barbarians, and classify them according as they have resisted or accepted Chinese rule. In a large plain on the west coast are massed the majority of those who have submitted to the sway of the Chinese and adopted their mode of worship. These are named Pe-po-hoan, or barbarians of the plain. In a second level tract further down this coast is another settlement of subjugated natives; these are denominated Lam-tu-hoan, or barbarians of the south. A few who have settled among the Chinese in the east are called Sek-hoan, or ripe barbarians. These names, all Chinese, and indicating the relations of the aborigines to the dominant race. Now, of course, that Japan has acquired the island, a new element will be infused in the population. Dr. Mackay does not forget to forecast the relations of the Japanese to the present inhabitants, but is disposed to believe that they will treat the aborigines with fairness. We have said that the impression of a Malayan race to the tribes apparently indigenous in Formosa, has usually been regarded as open to dispute. Several reasons, however, are assigned for Dr. Mackay's conclusion—that they are all descendants of settlers coming from the islands of the Malay archipelago. He has picked up at first hand, he tells us, from various tribes, traditions which support the contention that

THEY ARE OF MALAYAN STOCK. One tradition is that these forefathers came from a southerly direction; that, being in boats, they were wrecked, that they first lived near the sea on level ground; and afterwards, when others came, moved inland, even over the mountain ranges; that they caught fish and turtle, entrapped the wild boar, shot the deer with bow and arrow, were clothed in deer skin, reckoned the time by tying knots on the stem of a tall grass, and when their numbers in any one place increased to upwards of a hundred they moved a little distance away, cleared the ground, and called themselves the "old village," "south village," "new village," or "large village." Their houses were made of reeds, rattan and bamboo. Newcomers (evidently the Portuguese, Dutch and Spaniards) bringing knives and similar utensils, presented them to the head men and afterwards, when these were enabled to exchange skins and horns of deer for guns and powder, as well as knives. They remember, it seems, the coming of the "red-headed king" (the Dutch), who, so the tradition runs, treated them kindly, and with whom they had free mercantile intercourse. These red-headed traders, however, the Chinese drove out, and began to

make settlements themselves. Then hatred sprang up, and head-hunting, which had been prosecuted by the forefathers of the natives in their ancestral home, was again resorted to. There is, we learn, a second tradition and a memorial custom which point to the same conclusion. On the Kial plain on the east coast, where the Lam-tu-hoan are settled, two canoes are kept to commemorate the coming of their fathers to the island. It is repaired and shows marks of decay. It is repaired or replaced. They are kept under a thatched cover in the open plain not far from the sea. Once a year the Lam-tu-hoan assemble and carry these canoes to the water's edge, when a number of their men enter them, paddle out a short distance and return. Then, with rejoicings, the canoes are restored to shelter. The Lam-tu-hoan declare their forefathers came in similar canoes from places south and east of Formosa, and the custom just referred to is intended to

## PRESERVE THE TRADITION.

At Sin-sia, on the other hand, the villagers assert that their forefathers came not from the islands, but from the mainland of China, and were non-Mongolian. It is certain that only one village in the Kap-tu-lan plain, the village of the Kap-tu-lan, speaks the same dialect as Sin-sia, and that these two villages recognize each other as kin, and are so looked upon by all the rest. Dr. Mackay deems it probable that they are descended, as they claim to be, not from Mongol stock, but from the aboriginal tribes, examples of which are still found on the mainland of China. There is no doubt that the weight of foreign opinion favors the theory of a Malayan origin for the earliest known inhabitants of Formosa. In the various native tribes of the island most European travelers have recognized the features and manners of the denizens of Luzon, of the Malay Peninsula, of the islands of Loochoo, Sunda and Borneo, and of Siam and Yunnan; the inference being that the aborigines of Formosa are descendants of emigrants from the Malay Peninsula and the islands of the China Sea. By some, however, it is maintained that the earliest inhabitants of the island of every race were of the Negro type, and that they were driven back into the mountains by the Malaysians. This hypothesis is rejected by Dr. Mackay, on the ground that he has failed to find the slightest trace of a Negro people within the mountains is not suspected by any known tribe. He has made careful inquiries, he says, among the mountain tribes near the far south among the tribes at Po-sia Lake in the center, and among more than a dozen tribes in the north, or well as among the party civilized Pe-po-hoans and Sek-hoans, and everywhere he has found the same reply. They were all positive that there were no woolly-headed races within the mountains or anywhere within the island.

It may be objected to the assumption that the primitive stock was Malayan, that the various aboriginal tribes cannot have had a common origin, inasmuch as they now speak different dialects. Dr. Mackay points out, however, that linguistic differences are not conclusive. Scandinavians in Caithness, Finland, Orkney and Iceland speak dialects or languages quite different from their kinsmen in Norway and Sweden. Different circumstances have taken place among the Chinese colonists in Formosa. A recent emigrant from the mainland, for instance, can be distinguished at once from his Formosan cousin, and what is known as the Kap-tu-lan twang marks the Chinese dwellers in that plain. In like manner crews and passengers from the Malay Islands, shipwrecked at intervals on the coast of Formosa, would be absorbed by the larger community already settled there, and would acquire the dominant dialect. Moreover, they are reminded that where tribes have been isolated, with no means of intercommunication, and with no tribal enmities keeping them separate, modifications of their language are to be expected. Such changes have taken place among the highland settlers in Canada, where the grandchildren are entirely ignorant of the Gaelic of their forefathers.

As regards physical features, the Chinese in Formosa are round-headed, whereas the aborigines have a head that should be described as half-way between long and broad. In the skulls of the young natives Dr. Mackay found, in some cases, or lines where the bones of the skull are joined, to be only slightly traced; the skull has the appearance of a round ball of bone. So, too, prognathism, or projection of the jaws, is less marked in the Chinese than in the Malaysians of the Malay type. The single hair is round, thus showing that in its possessor there is no trace of the woolly-headed race. The hair of the aborigines is black, straight and pointed with the Malaysians. The eyes, too, are Malayan in color, and the nose conforms to the same type.

## THE MOUNTAIN WILD MEN.

We pass over the chapters which deal with the Chinese in Formosa, for the obvious reason that these do not differ materially from their compatriots on the mainland. The same thing may be said of the chapters which deal with the aborigines who inhabit the mountain ranges and plateaus of the interior and parts of the east coast. Among the primeval inland forests of the island, savage life may be long in all its habits and customs. For how long a period the Malaysians have been hunted by swarthy Malays in the central regions history does not reveal. A thousand years is as far back as the Chinese annals reach, but that can be little doubt that the Malay incomers were there before the encroachments of the Chinese, who have encumbered their territory and furnished them with the repeating rifle, the wild men of the mountains are today in life and manner what they were ten centuries ago. What Dr. Mackay managed to learn of their customs and beliefs was obtained through personal contact with them for weeks together in their scattered villages. In such contact there was, of course, constant danger, for no one can tell when or how the savage nature will manifest its savagery, but intercourse with the aborigines proved interesting and instructive. It will, of course, be understood that there are many different tribes in these mountains, and that each has peculiar features in respect of languages, customs and modes of life, but all that is distinctive of savage existence is common to each. They usually live in small hamlets built on the top of a mountain or on some high upland. The largest village visited by the author had about 700 inhabitants;

the average population is about 150. Each village has a head man, and each tribe a chief. The greatest brave, or the man esteemed most fitted to command, is generally chosen chief, and his son, if courageous and popular, sometimes succeeds to the office. The chief's authority is absolute, but he has a kind of council composed of half a dozen of the older braves, with whom he confers on matters of exceptional importance.

## THE HOUSES.

The Formosan aborigines are generally constructed of planks, bamboo or wicker work. Sometimes of leaves daubed with mud. Their best houses are floored with rattan ropes half an inch thick, but even these are without partitions. The parents sleep on the east side, the boys on the west, and the girls on the south. A village consists of half a dozen such houses; a score makes a large village. Skulls of the boar or the deer fastened on the walls, which are black with smoke, serve for decoration, while under the eaves, is a row of these ornaments, relieved by occasional Chinese crania, some fresh, others old and weather-beaten. The main source of aboriginal food is hunting, and the forest game is plentiful, and with spears, bows and arrows, to which guns are now added, boar, bear, deer, together with smaller animals and birds, are easily secured for food. The natives are very dainty, and eat what they can get if they cannot procure what they want. The choicest morsels in their eyes is a piece of raw flesh cut warm from an animal before it is dead. A little farming is done, the work devolving on the women. Three or four acres of ground suffice for a village of 100 inhabitants, each family having a separate plot. Mountain rice, maize, taro, a small sweet potato, and pomelos (these are not mentioned in the chapter devoted to vegetable life) are cultivated, while berries, plums and a small species of orange grow wild. A hoe with a short handle, is the one implement employed.

## AS REGARDS THE DRESS.

of the Formosan savages, this, we are told, is not unpicturesque. A sack of coarse linen, open in front, and with holes for the arms, serves the purpose of a coat, and is often ornamented with bright red or blue threads obtained from a piece of flannel obtained from a piece of flannel obtained from the bottom. Caps are made of rattan, and besmeared with the blood of the deer or boar, and sometimes covered with the hair of animals killed in hunting. Buttons, of animal skin, are greatly prized for ornamentation. Women have somewhat artistic headbands of beads, shells and carnelian. Rows of brass and anklets of white shell are thought to look well against the reddish brown of a woman's skin. Men and women wear ear-rings, the woman's kind being a stick of bamboo, five inches long and half an inch thick, wound at intervals with a fine yellow grass; those of the men are thicker, but shorter. However much or little clothing is worn, every man must have a knife, a long, crooked, sharp-pointed knife used for cutting tobacco or betel nut wood, or for skinning an animal or beheading a Chinaman. Flattening is practiced by all the mountain savages, and is done with great care. A well-defined pattern is carefully followed. The blue-black lines on the forehead are short, straight and vertical; those on the cheeks are regularly arranged. We are assured that no prize-winner on presentation day feels prouder than to be tattooed. The native musical instruments—only two musical instruments—one, a simple thing made from the hard rim of the bamboo, three inches long and four inches wide, with a tongue cut in the center and a spring attached to one end. It is made on the principle of the jew's harp, and produces a similar sound. The other is a "nose flute," made of bamboo a foot long, blown into with the nose and played upon with the fingers like a flute.

## ALL MARRY.

The Formosan aborigines all marry. Old bachelors and old maids are alike unknown. Marriage, however, is regarded as a social privilege from which a man is debarred until he has proved his merit as a hunter, and has brought in at least one Chinese head; but, if the Chinese are unusually careful about their heads, and beyond the chief of a village may grant a special dispensation to the youth who has won his spurs in a deer hunt, or in a fight with a wild boar. The parents of the girl make arrangements for her to have all proper questions. There is no ceremony, it seems, except that the bride is gayly decked with ornaments and articles of many colors before she is led to the house of her husband, and that dancing, drinking and wild carousal express the good wishes of the tribe. Whatever of religion is possessed by these savages should be described as nature-worship. They are entirely without any of the notions or symbols of Chinese idolaters. They do not bow down and worship anything seen or unseen, and they have no conception of a supreme being. There are, it is true, however, that have a certain religious significance. At the end of harvest the natives have a dance and festival expressive of gratitude and reverence to the heavens and the earth. They believe, too, in the existence and continued influence of innumerable spirits, the spirits of their ancestors and of great braves who have left the body. The distinction between the soul and the body is marked by specific names. The notions of the place occupied by departed spirits are very vague, but the belief in their direful power is a source of perpetual fear and portent. Food and liquor are sometimes set for the spirits of the departed, and are subsequently consumed with some thought of invocation for blessing and prosperity. Some tribes have ceremonies in connection with the death of a man.

among the primeval inhabitants has been but tentative. It is not claimed that the occasional tours through their villages have accomplished much. No missionary from the west could live long in the mountains, so great is the rainfall, and so ruinous to health. The multiplicity of dialects presents another obstacle. It is through native converts that, in the author's opinion, the reclamation of the savages of the interior will ultimately be accomplished.

## THE HEAD-HUNTERS.

We have alluded to head-hunting. A chapter of the book is allotted to this, the ruling passion among the inland mountaineers. This is the one crime of violence that may be laid to their charge. The custom is traced back to the tribal wars of petty villages. As life has no sacredness in the eyes of the savage, and an enemy has no rights, it is simply a question of method as to how enemies shall be put to death and certain wrongs atoned for. The bringing back of the head is regarded by the Formosans, as by their nearest kinsmen, the Hill Dyaks of Borneo, as satisfactory evidence, a kind of surgical certificate, that the sentence of the tribe has been carried out. When hostilities became fixed in certain tribes, or when the tribe looked upon as unforgivable enemies, a premium was put upon their heads, and the brave who showed most skill and proved most successful was counted worthy of the highest honors, and made the head man of his village, or the chief of his tribe. In connection with this subject, we are reminded that the aborigines have long considered the island to be theirs by the right of centuries of possession. Accordingly, when the Chinese came, they were regarded as intruders, who would not respect immemorial prescription. The Chinese justified every suspicion, and the despised enemies of the savage, and to avenge the wrongs of their tribe, not only merited applause from men and maidens still alive, but was held to challenge the approval of the ancestral heroes, whose spirits watched the fortunes of their descendants and had powers for weal or woe. It should be added that, while the Chinese are objects of the intensest hatred, and while their heads are valued as trophies of the highest prize, the savages have also abjured all tenderness of feeling for their kinsfolk who have acknowledged Chinese authority. The various tribes of conquered and semi-civilized aborigines in the plain are looked upon as traitors, and when opportunity offers, they are made to pay the penalty of treason. As to the disposal of the heads brought back by the hunters, the various tribes differ. The success of every expedition is CELEBRATED WITH A FEAST.

But, when this is over, one tribe will set up the head on a tripod of poles in the village, while others will leave it exposed till the flesh drops off. Only rarely is the head boiled and the flesh eaten. But it is common enough to boil the brain to a jelly and eat it with reverent relish. A sample of such a jelly was offered to Dr. Mackay as a rare delicacy. Hideous as the passion for head-hunting appears, it must not be imagined to be incompatible with moral qualities. Not always found, or found but feebly developed, in other savage or half-civilized races. Like the Hill Dyaks of Borneo, whom they resemble in a significant degree, the Formosans are singularly truthful and honest, and sexual immorality when found among them is nearly always traceable to borderland association with the Chinese. Gambles and opium smoking are very rare, while murder, theft and incendiarism, as well as polygamy, are almost unknown. Should a brave be convicted of arson, or of wounding another of his tribe in a drunken frolic, he is condemned to procure a certain number of deer skins, and to give a feast to his fellow-tribesmen at his own expense.

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As I have no explanation to offer of the following experience, and something of that kind, more or less ingenious, is expected of any one daring to tell what seems supernatural, it is only right to relate, by way of compensation, various circumstances which may have influenced my mind. Christmas fell that year on Friday, and Wednesday night I had slept at the Lodge, as I often did in those days when the general and Kate Carnegie were living there, and the old house had still a roof and a warm hearth stone. The Colonel was a guest at the time, who had been a very desperate fighter—Clelland's Horse are still confounded with Satan on the Indian frontier—and now was a very poor preacher, affording an endless source of amusement to Drumtochty. There was also another soldier—5 feet 9 in height, and 44 inches round the chest, and as genial a soul as any man could wish to meet—who had obtained the Victoria Cross for killing 11 sepoys in a room at Lucknow to save a woman's life. Winter was very beautiful and heartening with us, and the Colonel had come to spend Christmas with their old companion in arms, as they had spent it together in strange places of the past, where they swayed a make believe plumed bucking on their sword belts. One could not see the old warriors without a fierce curiosity, and Kate came to my help that evening with cunning allusions, that ought to have been irresistible, but nothing would induce one of them to open his mouth about the things he had done or seen in those years when with his fellows he had guarded the borders of the empire. The Colonel could not be weaned from the beast in Revelation, on which he had got some new light that very morning, and the general was full of Jamie Soutar's last story.

Drumtochty, he declared, was the place for humor, also for scenery and men. As for Victoria Cross, he could speak only of the curry, which Kate had seen to herself, and which he solemnly averred—challenging the others to deny it if they dared—was monumental in its excellence and such as no mortal could have deserved. We had our two standard toasts on great occasions, "The Queen, God bless her," and "Kate Carnegie," and well did the old fellows show, standing erect over the silver candlesticks and against the black oak woodwork, with their close cropped gray hair and bronzed faces. Then Kate roared them, standing up with her glass in her hand, for she was a gallant lass and a bonnie, as became Carnegie's daughter, and coupled each man's name with a certain battlefield till the veterans were utterly abashed and severely besought me to understand that all this was only a girl's daffling. It struck me, however, that they were wonderfully pleased, and when V. C. opened the door for Kate he told her boldly he wished he were 40 years younger, whereat Kate threatened to box his ears, but thought the better of it and kissed him instead.

"Kate kissed me first when she was a little tottler and I was a young dog of a subaltern."

"That was in Lucknow, Kinloch," said the general, "and a shell broke five minutes afterward in the room." And nothing more was said by any man till we went to the smoking room.

We talked of various things, and at last we lighted upon ghosts. Of course, every man announced ostentatiously that he did not believe in such absurd nonsense, except myself, who am a Highlander and soaked in superstition, but finally we agreed, upon a mutual understanding of infidelity, to describe any incident in our lives that ignorant people might call supernatural. Our host led off with one that left us thoughtful, and the Colonel deepened the impression, but the V. C.'s story was so wonderful that none was asked from me. We kept close together going up the stairs to the old wing, and when the turret door slammed, it was not the civilian that dropped his candlestick.

Next morning the general was closely questioned why he had opened and shut various doors in his room and admitted that he did not relish an ambuscade, preferring to meet his foe in the open, and I thought it only fair to confess my suspicions of a large black chest, whose lid looked as if it had begun to rise. The light was falling as I walked home to The Cottage after luncheon, through the woods on the other side of the Lochy, and all the horror of the V. C.'s story was in my mind—a face appearing at the foot of your bed. My little home looked eerie as I came up the garden, and I started when a man opened the door in place of my housekeeper.

"It's me, sir," said Jamie Soutar, "yir housekeeper askit me tae wait till ye cam in, for she's aff wi' a bottle o' wine frae Barbara Stewart. A juist happened tae gie a cry in passing," and Jamie settled himself down in my big chair by the study fire for a talk.

Now, no man's conversation I have ever known had such a smack, and ordinarily it was full of dry, biting humor, but this evening Jamie was grievous. He would speak of nothing but the "resurrection" days, when a guard kept watch over the kirkyard by night that the bodies of the dead might not be lifted, and every man had to take his turn.

"The Drumtochty folk are no' pushin'," said Jamie, "at any time, and their humility about gairdin the kirkyard was by ordinar. As sure as a' m' sittin

here, they juist quarreled hoo tae pit the honor on ane another.

"It was the smith's father 'at kept the key o' the deadhouse an' gied us directions. He had an awfu' tongue, an' naeboddy could complain 'at he wasna faithfu' afore he left the twa men for the night."

"Man, a was juist a bit birkie at the time. But a hear him fine laying down the law tae old Hillocks an' Tammie Mitchell's father, an' a can see them shiverin' in their clathes."

"Ye'll be fine an' comfortable in here, but ye mauna dromie nor sleep. There's the lid o' a coffin for a seat in the corner. Dinna shut the door or ye'll no hear the clink o' the spades, an' ye'll need tae gae yir rounds aince in the oor."

"Here's twa sticks, in case ye catch them at a grave, an' a gun wi' a charge o' sma' scuttling shot for emergencies. Dinna be feared tae shoot gin they wull na listen tae reason. Half a dizzin pellets in their legs'll be a lesson, but for aye sake dinna be wycin yir pooter on ghaists an' sic like. It's no chancy, an' it costs money."

"Gin ye see anything white when ye're dawnderin round, dinna be hysty. It might be a sheep or a lamb—slip up quiet an' tak' a conjunct view. It's no likely the'll be mair nor ye can maister atween ye, but gin ye be hard pit tae't, gie a cry an' I'll be hear ye doon bye, an' come up. Weel, that's a', an' all be gaein hame. Ye're looking rael counth in there in this dark blawy nicht."

"A watched him gae doon the road, an' a declare the smith was shaking wi' the sight o' auld Hillocks sittin in the back end o' the deid hoose, no able tae say a word, wi' a stick on either side o' him an' a gun in his hand."

"Sall, they were clever lads though, thae lifters," continued Jamie—who was now in great fettle—"gin they didna raise a wumman frae the heich glen 'at had been buried the day afore. There was twa men in the hoose an' they kent naethin aboot it."

"She might never have been misied, but a Pitsecurie man 'at was sittin up wi' an unweel horse, saw a gig come doon frae Drumtochty in the gray o' the mornin. There was twa men in it an' a wumman 'atween them wi' a veil on her face. He didna like the wy she was sittin, an' he cam up in the afternoon."

"Is that Jess back?" And Jamie listened. "A thocht a heard a step in the kitchen." But it ceased, and we concluded that it had been our mistake.

"Speekin aboot lifters," but I had not spoken of any such thing, and was anxious to abandon the subject, "a'll tell ye a story 'at's never passed my lips afore, an' is kent tae nae livin man." Jamie listened again, and then drew his chair closer to the fire.

"Div ye mind an auld man 'at livit at the end o' the clachan an' deid in the big storm, where they had tae dig out the parish kirk as Sabbath, wha never lookit ye in the face, an' said naethin but grumph gin ye spoke tae him?"

"Weel aye nicht, aboot the gloamin, Robert comes in an' sits doon by ma fire-side as a'm dain noo, but never a word did a get frae him for maybe half an oor exceptin:

"'Hoo's a' wi' ye the nicht, Jamie?" "He was aifter something a saw fine, for he lookit at me aince an' he sharit his mouth for speakin twice, but naethin



"THERE WAS TWAMEN IN IT AN A WUMMAN 'ATWEEN THEM."

ing cam, so a birstled me chair an' the scapin on the floor set him aff."

"Ye're a body, Jamie," he said.

"Aye, aye, a wadna say but a wis."

"Ye can hand yir tongue at a time?"

"A've seen me manage, an' then he lookit at me again."

"Ye'll be easier when it's aff yir mind, Robert, but little a thocht what was comin. Sall, there's times when a'm sittin by masel' in the hoose awash he had kept it tae himself."

"What's yon?" But it was only a loose spray of ivy swishing on the window. You might have thought it was a knock.

"Div ye mind a gemkeeper, Jamie, an' he drew his chair nearer mine, 'at deed a'e hairst time five an forty year ago?"

"Fine, Robert, a bairdly man, an he

slippit aff sae sudden that the fouk were feared o' the cholera, an' he was beertied the same day. The doctor gied his first prayer that day, an' tho' it was only a beginnin it promised weel."

"An' did ye ever see a young student, Robert speirs next, 'auld Gormack's sister's son, 'at cam tae Drumtochty aff an on in the summer, a weel built callant wi' a cast in aye o' his een?"

"Weel, him an' me got chief over the fishin an'ither trokes, an' aifter the beerial he cam round an' we gied up tae the burn. A jaloused he was aifter something, for he wadna fish, but aye lookit at me."

"Juist the same as ye lookit at me, Robert," says I, but he didna hear.

"It's a peety we dinna ken what the gemkeeper doid o', says he tae me, 'it wud be a satisfaction tae his freends tae pit a name on't. A end tell in half an oor, Robert, gin a hed him up, but it'll need twa o's, for he's a heavy man."

"Jamie, a got sic a turn 'at a near fell intae the Kelpie's hole, an' a tell him 'at a wud hae naethin tae dae wi' his lifting tricks, but he got round me in the end an' a promised tae meet him at the kirkyard that nicht."

"There was a wee licht frae a half mune, an' the grave was fresh happit. We werena lang o' haein the coffin out, but Jamie, he said, 'a did nae mair, a turned ma back when he began on the screws."

"The student gied a screech, an' Jamie, as sure's deith," here Robert grippit ma arm like a vice, 'the gemkeeper was sittin up in his graveclothes an' lookin 'at's wi' his eyes wide open."

"Lord's sake, man," said tae Robert, 'what gored him fies the country then like a thief an' div ye ken what cam ower him? It hed been a swoon, a'm jidgin."

"Jamie," says Robert, 'he's lyin there yet, but a didna touch him, an' it was juist fricht on the student's part' a' the spade was lyin tae his hand."

"Div ye mean to say he?"

"Aye, Jamie, he did, an' a helpit tae bury the body again, an' little time was lost' a' he's deid, that student, noo, far from here, an' Jamie, a cudna keep it langer."

"Ave heard a step in ma hoose ilka nicht for a month, an' a ken ma time's no far off."

"But Jess is back noo," Jamie said, rising, "an' a'll juist be travelin. Gin ye'll excuse me a'll gang out by the front door an' tak the near road thro' the garden."

For once in my life I had sufficient of Jamie, and yet a curious loneliness came over me as his shuffling figure disappeared among the bushes, covered with snow, and I turned to re-enter the house. It was a comfort, however, to know that some one was beneath the same roof, and I was tempted to go to the kitchen and make some excuse for a talk with Jess. But she would be certain to bring a lamp—she was moving about as if getting it ready—and I turned into my study and sat down by the fire. At this point it is necessary to be true and to describe the plan of The Cottage.

It stood on a height above the Lochy, in a solitary place, with pine woods behind and on two sides, and a marvelous view of the setting sun from the front windows. On one side of the front door was the room I used as a study, and on the other the dining room, where I once entertained potatoes, but I can't go into that just now. A little lobby terminated in a door which shut off a back wing containing the kitchen, and beyond it a scullery as well as a deary compartment intended for a servants' bedroom. The stair started at the study door, and on the upper floor were four bedrooms. The largest over the study was kept for guests. My housekeeper used one of the small ones above the dining room, and my own room and dressing room were above the kitchen and scullery. The house had lain empty for some years before I came in search of quietness to Drumtochty, and who the former tenants were was a mystery.

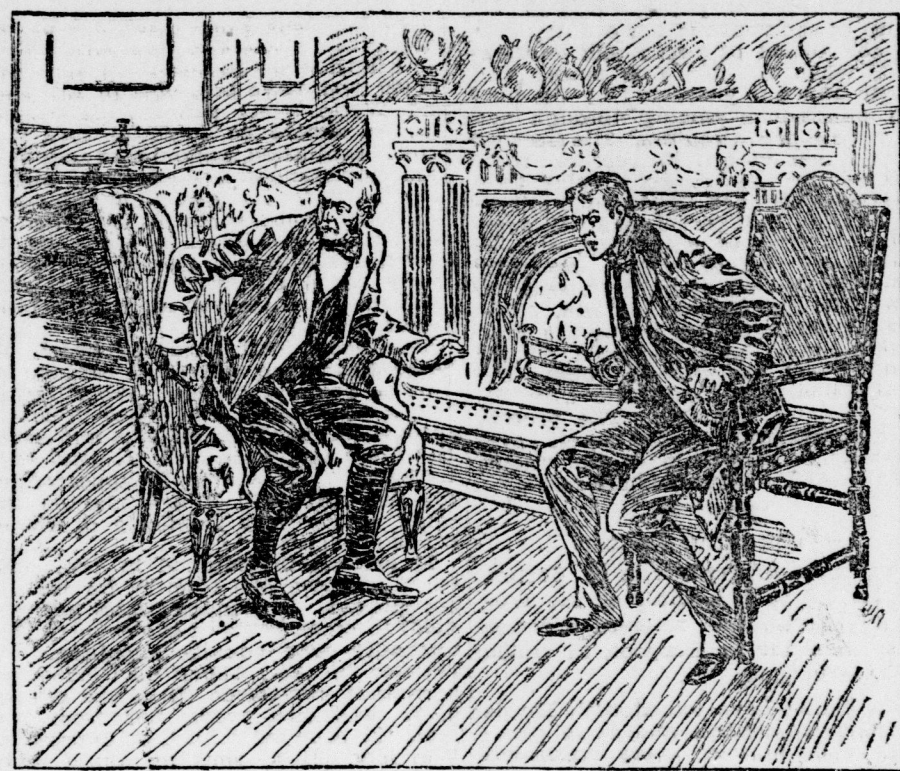
or had we imagined her movements? No opening door in the lobby, no sound in the kitchen. It shows how one is deceived by fancies, but just to make sure: "Jess!" from the study door. "Jess, are you there?" No answer.

Had often done the same thing before—bad habit of shouting orders instead of ringing—but never noticed how unpleasant is the sound of a voice in an empty house; quite gruesome. Might go into kitchen and make certain she had not come back, but it would be absurd, for I could be heard in the stable. Besides, what good was there in a man rambling through the house? Very likely the lamp was lying ready, and I went to the lobby door and hesitated. Why? Liked to sit in the dark? No, not that evening. Did not want to work? It happened that an article was overdue and the editor had allowed himself to write evil words. An unaccountable dislike to go into the kitchen seized me, and I went back to the big chair by the study fire. The black and tan, who had been very restless all evening, jumped upon my knee and licked my hand as if grateful for protection, although not a

What nonsense! First time I ever saw the perspiration fall from my forehead, and my hand is shaking. How ghostly is the light from the show! Darkness would be better. Why did I not bring the lamp with me? I would not go for it now though one gave me a disgraceful cowardice! I'll draw the curtains at any rate. If I didn't think that was a face looking in this is most humiliating! Now that's better. . . . and more coals. . . . lie down, Jerry, and don't whine. No, I did not fall asleep again, and I was not dreaming. From first to last I remember every movement.

It began in the kitchen as of one pacing noiselessly back and forth. Then it opened the intermediate door and came to the foot of the stairs. For a minute there was perfect silence, and then Jerry lifted his nose and howled. The step went up stairs and went to the housekeeper's room. After a few minutes it came along the landing, dragging something, and I heard it over my head in the big guestroom.

Whatever was being done it's the bed being pulled across the floor. . . .



"WHAT'S YON?"

dog usually carried by sentiment. The house was perfectly still and the fire was soothing and fell asleep.

I could not have slept more than a few minutes when I was awakened by a terrific crash, evidently in the kitchen. The noise was unmistakable—the fall of tin dishes on the floor—and I at once jumped to a conclusion. For some months a number of suspicious characters had been taking refuge in the district under pretence of working in our quarry, and we had been warned to be careful. For the first time in the history of the Glen, doors were locked and windows bolted. Dr. Davidson was actually stopped on the road after dark and asked for the time, in a menacing tone, by a stranger who was, however, saved by the minister's manner that he disappeared into a field, and Mrs. Macfadyen, a woman not given to hysteria, came into Hillocks' breathless, one Friday evening, because footsteps had dogged her through the pine woods. We were, in short, prepared for a burglary that would raise us to the privileges of town life, and in the supposed absence of its inmates the cottage had been plainly selected for a first experiment.

Burglars are understood to be unpleasant persons; ours were said to be also murderous, and, without being afraid, one may have a becoming modesty about his skill in single combat, but I was conscious of a distinct sense of relief. One had at least escaped from an atmosphere of horror and now it was merely the question of a scrimmage. Ought I to lie quiet till the intruders came along the lobby, and then meet them with polite words at the study door? "This is quite an unexpected pleasure. Will you come into the study, take care of the table?" that kind of thing? Or had I better dash down the passage noisily and pull open the door amid a fit of coughing to find that the visitors had naturally departed through the kitchen window? The latter course commended itself to me, mainly on charitable grounds. No one wishes to put his fellow man to shame nor leave him without a way of escape. It is in such circumstances that misguided men grow hard and do things they (as well as other people) must regret. No, the poor fellows, however unfortunate may have been their intentions, will have a timely warning.

I suggested to Jerry that he might begin by expressing himself, but he would not move from the chair in which he was now crouching, and yet a more offensive dog for his size or apart from its competent judges had never been seen. Much, however, can be done in passing a hat stand if you happen to collide with it, and the upsetting of a bundle of sticks is fairly audible. Fumbling with the lock of the kitchen door gave one chance more, and when I burst in with a mighty show of bravery it was not surprising to find the kitchen empty. But where had they gone? The window was closed and bolted, the back door was locked, and through the scullery door I could see no one was concealed among the pans. Perhaps they had taken refuge

no, the little room was as dreary as usual. What about the crash? The covers hung in a row, polished and bright, and a meat jacket with unimpeachable respectability in a corner. There was nothing to account for that clatter of falling dishes. . . . or for the footsteps before. How sudden and irresistible is a panic and . . . accelerating! Would it be three seconds between the fireplace of the kitchen and the fireplace of the study, including stumbling over the sticks and locking the study door? There could be no person in that kitchen, for the firelight showed every corner. . . . but one felt as if he were in danger. . . . in fact, going to be crushed. . . .

that's bedclothes falling on the floor. . . . a cupboard is opened. . . . the blinds are pulled down. . . . not crying, only a soft, pleading wail. . . . could one get through the window and bolt for Milton? . . . Too late, the step comes down again. . . . If I had the spirit of a man I would fling the door open and solve the mystery. . . . Nothing, but I saw the lobby door close of its own accord, or . . . not another sound till the back door was unlocked and the kitchen fire vigorously poked.

"Yes, Jess, I was wearying for the lamp, but the roads are heavy, and it must be four miles to Barbara's; on the writing table, please, I wish to make some notes."

"No, I know it was not likely you would come in and go out without lighting the lamp. It was Jerry perhaps rambling about. He's been restless all evening. You have heard noises, too. . . . I dare say. These old houses do creak, and I fancy I've noticed the sound myself. That's how silly people come to believe in ghosts."

Then Jess went her evening round from room to room, but when she visited that room I heard an exclamation and went up stairs quickly.

The bed was stripped of blankets, which lay in a heap near the door. The mattress was covered with a sheet, and another sheet was spread over the whole bed from its foot to the top of a pillow which had replaced the bolster. The ends of this upper sheet hung over the sides of the bed. There was a distinct indentation in the pillow and a fainter one down the middle of the bed as if . . . Jess was a matter of fact woman and not easily disturbed, but the suggestion was enough to shake any one, and I took my resolution swiftly. Ghosts were bad enough, but this might be only a solitary visitation, and I could not afford to lose such a housekeeper.

"You may well be horrified, but I heard you say once no man could make up a bed. . . . Yes, I tried my hand to pass the time before it grew dark. . . . got sheets out of the cupboard, you see. . . . but it wouldn't do. . . . sorry for the mess I've made."

But it was not I that laid out that bed for the dead. Nor have I any doubt a footstep from the unseen paced The Cottage that evening.

THE END.

## Christmas Table Decorations.

In planning for Christmas festivities the question of table decorations is of real importance. Therefore suggestions for a unique and artistically arranged dinner table may be of service. The covers may be laid for as many as may be desired. In the center have a square bed of holly, from the middle of which there may rise a small Christmas tree suitably decorated. At either end of this table stand the candelabra, which for this occasion should have red candles and red shades. At each lady's place have a corsage bouquet of bright red flowers tied with red ribbon, and for the gentlemen boutonnieres of mistletoe. Have suspended over the table a little above the tree a large bell of red flowers, from the top of which, reaching to each plate, may hang red ribbons about an inch wide, held in place by the weight of the dinner card, which should be perforated near the top, allowing the end of the ribbon to pass through and tie in a bow. On the upper side of the card should be written the guest's name.

## Reverence For Christ.

Many persons who would not avow themselves Christians express admiration and reverence for Christ.

## "Noche Buena."

In Spain Christmas eve is called "noche buena," or "the good night."

## CHRISTMAS CHAT.

Rhyme, Reason and Superstition of the Day.

In a rare tract, published in 1888, are the lines:

Let's dance and sing and make good cheer,  
For Christmas comes but once a year.

though Thomas Tusser, a century before this, had written in his "Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandrie," and had advised people it was necessary to at

Christmas play and make good cheer.  
For Christmas comes but once a year.

Previous writers had even furnished the same sage advice, but it is in "Mar-mion" we are told that—

When the grim boar's head frowned on high,  
Crested with bays and rosemary, hard by  
Pump porridge stood and Christmas pie;  
Nor failed old Scotland to produce  
At such high tide her savory goose.

Next in importance to the boar's head as a Christmas dish came the peacock, and to prepare argus for the table, according to an English chronicler, was no slight care.

The preliminary action was to take off carefully the skin without loss or injury to the plumage, when, after being roasted and then "partially cooled," it was again enveloped in its coat of feathers, and its beak was gilded.

"In guise of naturalness" it now appeared on the table. Abundance of spices and much store of sweet herbs and basting with yolks of eggs and rich gravy combined to make it "a lordly dish," when it was served by lady guests, precedence being given to those most distinguished for youth and beauty. It was borne to the banquet hall by one of the "fayre maydens," and to the sound of music. The other ladies followed in procession, and the master of the house or his most distinguished guest received it with proper dignity.

Upon very marked occasions of festivity the bird was served in a wonderful Christmas pie. At one end his plumed crest waved above the crust, and at the opposite, unfolded in all its glory, was the spread tail. Then in the most approved fashion of the period, knights errant took oath of fealty to lovely woman in distress. Hence, it is added, Justice Shallow desired to take oath, "by cock and pie."

From a curious old song it is learned that it was felt to be peculiarly fortunate when Christmas day fell on a Sunday and exactly the reverse if it occurred on Saturday. This year it comes on that day of ill omen among the Italians, or Tuesday. ALBERT P. SOUTHWICK.

## Roast Sucking Pig With Apples.

Select a young pig that has been fed on sow's milk only. Scald, dress and singe it and place in soak in cold water for about three hours. Then drain and dry well with a coarse towel and salt and pepper lightly inside.

For the stuffing take four medium sized onions chopped fine, with a pound of larding pork cut into small pieces, and brown together in a pan over the fire. Then add the pig's liver after it has been well cleaned and cut fine, together with 1½ pounds of forcemeat and a pound of the heart of a white loaf of bread that has been soaked in cream.

Cook together a few minutes and then remove from the fire and add salt and pepper to suit taste; also one pinch of ground nutmeg, half an ounce each of sage and thyme, a bunch of parsley chopped fine and 6 raw eggs, and mix well together.

Stuff the pig with the material thus prepared, sew up the opening, skewer the legs, oil the skin with the best olive oil and bake in a moderate oven for about 2½ hours.

Take one dozen medium size apples, cored, pared and quartered, and glaze with powdered sugar. Serve with a thick gravy and apple sauce.—New York Herald.

## Decoration For the Church.

If the platform of a church or Sunday school room be deep enough to admit of it, an artistic Christmas arch can easily be made by an amateur carpenter. The upper part should have wires stretched across, to which may be fastened small hemlock boughs, thus forming a solid mass of green. The framework should of course be wound with evergreen, the whole placed about two feet from the wall, so that behind it may be hung the Christmas bells of red and yellow immortelles at different lengths by ropes of evergreen. These bells may be made to hang at different angles by using fine picture wire, which would not be visible from the pews. Let each bell be worded so that they may seem to ring out their own song of "glory to God in the highest." The lower part of the arch should be arranged to form a dado of green about four feet high.—Exchange.

## Christmas Keeping.

Without little children there can be no real Christmas keeping, for it is of a truth a child festival, while, apart from holier things, there are the many pretty ceremonies, half myth, half mirth, that belong to the child world alone.—Faith Belong.

## Rise, Holy Morn!

The time draws near, the birth of Christ;  
The morn is hid; the night is still;  
The Christmas bells from hill to hill  
Answer each other in the mist.

Rise, happy morn; rise, holy morn!  
Draw forth the cheerful day from night!  
Ring out the darkness of the land!  
Ring in the Christ that is to be!

## God Bless 'Em.

Christmas coming with a rush—  
Hail the rising star!  
If our pockets are not flush,  
Checks of children are.—Atlanta Constitution.

## So We Can!

The Christmas fires are glowing;  
There'll be good times by and by,  
When the Christmas bells are ringing,  
We can all shake hands and sigh.—Atlanta Constitution.

## We're Waitin' For 'Em Now.

The dogs are on the possum's track,  
They bay with one accord,  
And if the dogs come back—come back,  
We'll dine and praise the Lord.—Atlanta Constitution.











