

On the China Station

Japan's Warships Are at British Disposal.

Russia's Proposals for a Chinese Loan Rejected.

Kiao Chau Leased to Germany for 50 Years Only.

China Said To Be Seeking British Good Offices.

Lady Henry Somerset Resigns Again the W. C. T. U. Presidency.

Arbitration of Difficulties Between Britain and the Transvaal Tolerably Refused by Chamberlain—The Engineer's Dispute.

THE ENGINEER'S LOCKOUT.
London, Jan. 8.—The Employers' Federation has been further strengthened by accessions of firms in Leeds, Wigan, Preston and Nottingham.

RESIGNATION OF LADY SOMERSET.
London, Jan. 8.—Lady Henry Somerset has again tendered her resignation of the presidency of the British Women's Temperance Association on account of prolonged ill-health.

"TERSELY REFUSED."
London, Jan. 8.—A dispatch from Cape Town to the Daily Mail says that Mr. Chamberlain, the British secretary of state for the colonies, has "terseley refused" to submit to arbitration the difficulties between the Transvaal and the British government.

FOR THE GOLD REGION.
London, Jan. 8.—Lieut. D. B. Devore, military secretary of the United States secretary of war, has chartered the Allen liner Manitoulin, on board of which he will sail for Alton, Norway, on Monday next. The Manitoulin will call at several Norwegian ports to embark reindeer and Laplanders, after which she will sail direct for New York. The Manitoulin was built at Liverpool, in 1875. She is of nearly 3,000 tons gross register.

EDITOR HART DEAD.
London, Jan. 8.—Ernest Hart, editor of the British Medical Journal, is dead. Mr. Hart, who was for several years editor of the Lancet, was born in June, 1836. He was educated at the city of London school and the school of medicine attached to St. George's Hospital. He rendered great service in exposing defective arrangements for sick poor in workhouses, his efforts leading to the passage of Hardy's act, and the creation of the metropolitan asylums board. His reports on criminal baby farming in 1885 led to the passing of the infant

life protection act, and he was instrumental in promoting the movement that resulted in the establishment of the so-called coffee taverns in London some twenty years ago. For the last fifteen years he had been conspicuous for his devotion to social and sanitary progress in London.

CABLE NOTES.
A Havana dispatch says: The exportation of leaf tobacco, free of duty began today.

The wheat crop in the northern district of Western Australia is estimated to be between 14 and 15 bushels per acre.

The German naval department has ordered that a translation of Capt. Mahan's "Influence of Sea Power in History" be supplied to all the public libraries, schools and government institutions.

In the East.

China Rejects the Proposals for a Russian Loan.

And Seeks British Good Offices—A Japanese Fleet at Britain's Disposal—China Will Probably Get a Loan From England.

London, Jan. 8.—The cabinet will meet today, presumably to decide about the Chinese loan.

The Standard, in an important editorial, apparently inspired, says: "For the present it must suffice to say that China has made earnest overtures to Great Britain's good offices, and that Lord Salisbury is giving the closest attention to the matter in its practical aspects. The probabilities point to a settlement, which, without involving undue risk to the British exchequer, will secure for England advantages the value of which cannot be appraised in mere monetary terms."

The editorial proceeds to state that the loan will be partly devoted to paying the Japanese indemnity, and "will thus make the Emperor of China again master in his own house while enabling the mikado to so increase his army and fleet as to render Japan a power which the strongest western state cannot afford to affront."

The editorial declares: "It is the common policy of England and Japan to bring the commercial development of China into harmony with its territorial integrity, and in pursuance of this policy the cordial co-operation of the United States may be expected. It is no absolute dearth of expedients." A special dispatch from Shanghai says that a Japanese fleet of three battleships, ten first-class cruisers and

numerous small vessels has received orders practically placing it at the disposal of Sir Alex. Buller, commander-in-chief on the China station, this step being taken "in case Russia persists in ignoring the joint interests of England and Japan."

The Berlin correspondent of the Daily News says he understands that the peculiar form of the lease of Kiao Chau was the outcome of prolonged negotiations between Germany and Russia, ending in an agreement, and the mediation of Russia between China and Germany. The correspondent says: "This happy conclusion of Baron von Bulow's (German foreign minister) negotiations is the cause of universal satisfaction here."

The London Standard says it is now rumored that Great Britain will lend China £16,000,000 direct, without the issuance of a private guaranteed loan. Peking, China, Jan. 7.—China has rejected the proposals for a Russian guaranteed loan. Kiao Chau has been leased to Germany for 50 years only, although Germany had demanded a 99-year term.

Chinese ministers and the members of the Tsung Li Yamen (the board of foreign affairs) paid New Year's visits to the foreign legations. The governments of Russia and Japan have formally recognized the imperial title of the Emperor of Korea.

EARTHQUAKE IN NEW YORK.

Malone, N. Y., Jan. 8.—Quite a severe earthquake shock was felt in Malone, N. Y., at 11:15 a.m. today. Buildings trembled so that occupants were startled. No damage was done.

THAT EXPRESS ROBBERY.

New York, Jan. 8.—The officials of the American Express Company authoritatively reaffirmed the statement that the amount of money and bonds alleged to have been stolen by Clerk Braden, did not exceed \$11,000. No trace has yet been found of Braden.

BLOWN TO FRAGMENTS.

Toledo, Ohio, Jan. 8.—An explosion of 1,500 quarts of nitro-glycerine near Elyria, a few miles east of this city, killed an oil well shooter named Stephen Wilson, of this city, and wiped out of existence a team of horses and wagon. A piece of Wilson's flesh and the head of one horse was all that was found.

THE EARL OF AVA.

New York, Jan. 7.—The Earl of Ava, eldest son of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, arrived in New York on Tuesday, and expects to remain in the city for a few days. He said that he would go from here to Canada, to remain the rest of the winter, and early in the spring he would start for Klondike to look after some mining properties in which his father is interested.

VALUABLE COINS STOLEN.

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 8.—A valuable collection of coins, the property of Canada, which were deposited in the National Art Gallery, were stolen Tuesday night. The coins are estimated to be worth at least \$2,000. The thief entered the building during the night with skeleton keys, carried off the booty, and left the doors securely locked. Some of the coins date back as far as 39 B. C.

Running sores, indolent ulcers and similar troubles, even those of many years' standing, may be cured by using Trask's Magnetic Ointment. It soothes, strengthens and heals. It is the great cure. 5 cents.

CHOKED TO DEATH.

A Farmer Failed to Masticate a Piece of Beef.

Ottawa, Jan. 8.—August McPherson, a farmer residing a few miles north of Maxville, met with a peculiar death. While eating his dinner a piece of beef, which he did not properly masticate, stuck in his throat. He died almost immediately in terrible agony.

TENNYSON'S PRAISE OF BURNS.

Mr. Aubrey de Vere contributes to the biography of Lord Tennyson a report of some conversations with the poet, in which were disclosed his singular freedom from the spirit of rivalry.

In these conversations he never uttered a word that was disparaging or tainted with the spirit of rivalry. The only poet he heard him criticize roughly or unfairly was himself. "Compare," he once said to me, "compare the heavy handling of my workmanship with the exquisite lightness of touch in Keats."

Another time he read aloud a song by one of the chivalrous poets of Charles I's time, perhaps Lovelace's "Athens," which Wordsworth also used to crown in the woods, and said: "There, I would give all my poetry to have made one song like that."

Not less ardent was his enthusiasm for Burns. And here an incident with no small significance recurs to me: "Read the exquisite songs of Burns," he said. "In shape each of them has the perfection of the berry; in light, the radiance of the dewdrop; you forget for its sake those stupid things, his serious pieces."

The same day I met Wordsworth, and named Burns to him. Wordsworth praised him, even more vehemently than Tennyson had done, as the great genius who had brought poetry back to nature; but ended, "Of course, I refer to his serious efforts, such as the 'Correspondence' and 'The Excursion'."

I told the tale to Henry Taylor that evening, and his answer was: "Burns' exquisite songs and Burns' serious efforts are to me alike tedious and disagreeable reading."

So much for the infallibility of poets in their own art.

Hacking Cough Cured.

Gentlemen.—My brother was troubled with a very bad hacking cough, but after using three bottles of Norway Pine Syrup he was completely cured. I cannot recommend it too highly. Miss M. Bradshaw, Wesleyville, Ont.

There are more clocks made in America than in any other country.

The German Government proposes to try to grow potatoes in Africa.

Why will you allow a cough to irritate your throat or lungs and run the risk of filling a consumptive's grave, when, by the timely use of Little's Art-Consumptive Syrup, the pain can be allayed, and the danger avoided? This syrup is pleasant to the taste, and unsurpassed for relieving, healing, and curing all affections of the throat and lungs, coughs, colds, bronchitis, etc.

The longest canal in the world is in Russia. It extends from St. Petersburg to the frontier of China, and measures nearly 4,500 miles.

The Little Drummer's Last Call.

A pathetic story of the civil war was related by the corporal of an Illinois regiment who was captured by the Confederates at the battle of Wilson's Creek, and is repeated in "Women of the War."

The day before this regiment was ordered by Gen. Lyons to march toward Springfield, the drummer of the company fell ill. There was no one to take his place, and when the captain was wondering how he should supply the lack, a pale, sorrow-stricken woman appeared at his tent door, begging an interview. She brought with her a little boy of 12 or 13 years, whom she wished to place in the regiment as drummer boy. Her husband had been killed in the service, and she thought that her boy might earn something toward the support of the family.

"Captain," she said, after the boy had been accepted, "he won't be in much danger, will he?"

"No, I think not," replied the officer. "We shall be disbanded in a few days, I am confident."

The new drummer soon became a favorite, and there was never a feast without him. He was a brave, cheerful fellow, and his drumming was different from that of all the other drummers in the army.

After the engagement at Wilson's Creek, where the Federals were defeated, Corporal R., who had been thrown from his horse, found himself lying face down on the ground, near a clump of trees. As he lay there with his ear to the ground, he heard the sound of a drum, distinct but rather faint. In a moment he recognized the stroke of Eddie, the boy drummer, and hastened toward the spot, whence the sound proceeded. In a clump of bushes propped against a tree, he found the boy. His drum was hanging from a shrub within reach, and his face was deadly pale.

"O corporal," said he, "I am so glad you came! Won't you give me a drink of water, please?"

The corporal ran to a little stream close by, and brought the child a draught. Just at this moment there came an order for the retreat, and the corporal turned to go.

"Don't leave me," said the little drummer, "I can't walk. See!" and he pointed to his feet.

The corporal sat by with horror that both feet had been shot off by a cannon-ball.

"He said the doctors could cure them," continued the boy, pointing to the dead body of a Confederate soldier who lay beside him. "He was shot all to pieces, but he crawled over here and—tied—my legs up—so they wouldn't bleed off!" And Eddie closed his eyes wearily.

The corporal's eyes were blinded by a mist of tears as he looked down. The Confederate soldier, shot to death, and in the agonies of the last struggle, had managed to take off his suspenders, and bind the boy's legs above the knees!

As the corporal bent down to raise the child, a body of Confederate troops came up, and he was a prisoner. With a sob in his voice, he told the story, brief as it was, of the little drummer. The wounded drummer to his own horse, swinging the drum before him. When the little cavalcade reached camp "Eddie" was dead, but the little

Vigor & Verdicts

AYER'S HAIR VIGOR fulfills all the promises made for it, is the verdict of those who have tried it.

Ayer's Hair

"I have used AYER'S HAIR VIGOR for many years and do not know of a single case where it did not give entire satisfaction."—W. H. GROVE, Fausdale, Ala.

Did It.

"My head became full of dandruff, and after a time my hair began to fall out. The use of AYER'S HAIR VIGOR stopped the falling out and made the scalp clean and healthy."—Mrs. C. M. AYRES, Mount Airy, Ga.

Did It.

Drummer's last call had aroused the noblest feeling in the heart of one who was his foe, one whose last act was an effort to save and comfort the boy-enemy who was faithful to his duty.

A SEASICK HERO.

No man is a hero while seasick. Lafayette was sent by Washington and congress to France to ask further supplies of men and money for the American colonies. He sailed from Boston in the frigate Alliance, on Jan. 11, 1779. The harbor was frozen, and a passage had to be cut for the ship through the ice.

Off the Newfoundland Banks the ship was assailed by a terrible tempest which threatened destruction, and Lafayette was very seasick. His aide-de-camp, the Chevalier de Pontgibaud, who relates the incident in his memoirs, heard him soliloquizing thus to the hopelessness of the situation and the emptiness of glory:

"Diable! I have done well certainly. At my time of life—barely 23 years of age—with my name, rank and fortune, and after having married Mademoiselle de Noailles, to leave everything and serve as a breakfast for codfish!"

Muslin Underwear!

OUR GREAT ANNUAL SALE OF LADIES' LINGERIE

WHY THE SALE WHAT INDUCEMENT ?

JUST THE REVERSE.

Not the accumulation of odd sizes and unsalable styles from the stock of the past season—not a bit of it! Every garment fresh from the best manufacturers in the land. No sweatshop rubbish from the unhealthy lofts of the poor.

It is the cleanest of Underwear, fresh from clean, well-ventilated factories. It is the perfection of Underwear, cut by the best skilled artists of the cutting table. It is the best of Underwear, designed, put together and finished by the hands of experts.

REMARKABLE VALUES CAUSED THE PURCHASE FOR THE BIG SALE.

Plain Figure Facts of Economy is the Powerful Inducement We Offer to the Throngs of Buyers Who Attend This Sale.

- 10c CORSET COVERS—Good cotton, perfect fitting, MATCH IT.
- 15c CORSET COVERS—Good cotton, perfect fitting, MATCH IT.
- 25c CORSET COVERS—Good cotton, yoke and sleeves trimmed embroidery, perfect fitting, MATCH IT.
- 35c CORSET COVERS—Good cotton, tucked bust square yolk, fine embroidery, white braid heading, MATCH IT.

- 25c NIGHT GOWNS—Good cotton, cambric ruffle, full width and full length, 3 to a customer, MATCH IT.
- 50c GOWN—Good cotton, neatly tucked front, collar and sleeves trimmed fine embroidery, full width and full length, 3 to a customer, MATCH IT.
- 65c GOWN—Good cotton, tucked yoke, circular cambric frills edged lace, full size, MATCH IT.
- \$1 EMPIRE GOWN—Good cotton, insertion in reverses and yoke, fine cambric frill, full width and length, MATCH IT.

- \$1 25 GOWN—Fine Cambric, 50 fine tucks in yoke, Swiss embroidery around yoke, collar and sleeves, pearl buttons, full width and length. Best styles go first, MATCH IT.
- \$1 35 GOWN—Heavy cotton, Empire style, yoke, collar and sleeves trimmed with wide Torenson lace, fine make, MATCH IT.
- FLUFFY RUFFLED SKIRTS.
Daintiest embroideries, newest shapes, all made extra wide to meet the demands of stylish people.

- 15c DRAWERS—Heavy Cotton, lace trimmed, full size, MATCH IT.
- 25c DRAWERS—Heavy cotton, finished with tucks and cambric frill, full size, MATCH IT.
- 45c DRAWERS—Fine cotton, finished with cluster wide tucks and Roman embroidery, medium and large sizes, MATCH IT.
- 75c DRAWERS—Ombelle style, deep shaped cambric frill, braid heading and Roman embroidery, medium and large sizes, MATCH IT.

DON'T MISS THEM!

- 7 pieces Unbleached Table Linen for 35c yard.
- 5 pieces Unbleached Table Linen for 45c yard.
- 10 pieces Unbleached Table Linen for 55c yard.
- 4 pieces Bleached Table Linen, was \$1 yard, now 75c.
- 2 pieces Bleached Table Linen, was \$1 50 yard, now \$1 10.

- 15 dozen Bleached Damask Towels, were 25c, now 15c each.
- 10 dozen Bleached Damask Towels, were 30c, now 20c each.
- 3 pieces English Sheetting, was 35c, now 25c yard.
- White Cottons—A 10c one for 8c, a 12c one for 10c.
- White Bed Spreads—Good value at \$1 and \$1 35.

BOTH SALES COMMENCE MONDAY MORNING. THINK OVER YOUR NEEDS. THE LOW PRICES TELL THAT THIS IS A REAL SALE.

SMALLMAN & INGRAM

149 and 151 Dundas Street, London, Ontario.

A "Boom" Experience.
Booming speculations rarely pay the general public. Take the case of Toronto Junction. When it was laid out, as a sort of side-show to the great Toronto inflation, the injury of which is yet felt by thousands, Toronto Junction was held to be the "coming colossal manufacturing center." Over 1,500 acres were laid out as town lots, many streets and sidewalks were provided, and other public works were entered on, the town going into debt to the extent of a million dollars. But the collapse soon came, and today but 135 acres of the town have buildings upon them. The tax rate this year, exclusive of any allowance for principal or interest on its debt, is 25¢ per acre. Two instalments of interest on bonds are past due. Four-fifths of the town's bondholders, desiring not to throw the league into bankruptcy, have promoted a bill in the Legislature providing that a low rate of interest shall run for 30 years, after which it will increase gradually to the one named in the bonds. It is likely that the bill will pass, as the only means of averting serious trouble to all concerned. The experience should serve as a warning to all communities which are tempted to "plunge."

Nearly 40 letters of Burns never before printed are to be given in the forthcoming "Correspondence between Burns and Mrs. Dunlop." It is said that this correspondence, which has been fully annotated by Mr. William Wallace, "clears up a number of points in connection with Burns' life and works, contains his views on religion, and proves that his friends endeavored to secure him a professorship in Edinburgh University." The work, if printed before Jan. 25, will be a fruitful theme at the annual gatherings which are held all over the world in celebration of the Scottish poet's birthday.

What Has Britain to Fear From Russia?
"Bystander" (Prof. Goldwin Smith) writes interestingly, as usual, in the Toronto Sun on the "great game" which the nations of the earth are playing in the far East. His timely views are as follows:

"Russia and France, the other day, entered into an alliance the object of which was proclaimed to be the maintenance of peace upon the principles of justice. By 'justice' we now see was meant French aggrandizement in Africa, and Russian aggrandizement in China. Russia, a vast empire, has been always craving access to an open sea. Being by the traditional policy of England barred out of it in the Mediterranean and in the Persian Gulf, she now seeks to connect it by the heart of her empire by her military railroads and by the establishment of her ascendancy in China. This is one and the most obvious key to her policy of aggrandizement. She is besides impelled by sheer ambition. The will of Peter the Great is a fabrication concocted probably by the suggestion of Napoleon, yet it may be taken to shadow forth not inaccurately the councils of the dark conclave at St. Petersburg. The chiefs of a vast army are always eager for military adventure, and restless under inaction; they have nobly outstripped the deliberate policy of their Government as conquerors in Central Asia. The Government itself, threatened by the danger of nihilism, is tempted to provide an outlet for domestic discontent in foreign war. With the Russian people the mother of their church, from the Turk, is an object of religious aspiration. They long to see the Cross replace the Crescent on the dome of St. Sophia. Viewed from without the strength of Russia seems gigantic. According to the recent census, her population is 129,000,000, and according to the present rate of increase will in twenty years be 175,000,000, her army is the largest of all, amounting, in its war footing, to 2,500,000 men. The military railroads which she has been busily constructing enable her to bring her force to bear without delay and without the loss in forced marches, which decimated her armies in the Crimean War. All her resources are absolutely at the command of her despotic Government, her policy is unscrupulous as well as consistently selfish, and her designs are wrapped in perfect secrecy. Her soldiers may be wanting in intelligence, and may thereby be placed at this disadvantage in scientific war; on the other hand, they are perfectly amenable to discipline, and devoted to their Czar. When viewed from within, however, she does not appear so formidable as when viewed from without, her great weakness which reveals itself to the close observer is corruption, which pervades like a cancer her whole administrative frame, and against which reforming Czaars have struggled in vain. Nor is the want of intelligence confined to the peasant, even in the military sphere. Russia is warlike, China is not; otherwise Russia is a sort of European China, and we may feel sure that, however formidable she may be at present, she is not destined in the end to extend the dominion of her comparative barbarism over the realm of civilization."

NAPOLEON defined war as a barbarous trade, in which the only art consists in being the strongest at a given point.

"Hats Off" or "Hats On."
To most church-goers it may seem odd that a congregation should be divided into camps on the question of whether or not male attenders should or should not wear their headgear during the service. In classic Boston, however, the dividing line in at least one congregation is on the great hat question. The congregation worship at the Temple Oshel Shalom, a Jewish synagogue, and it is explained for the benefit of outsiders that hitherto one portion of the members has belonged to the strictly orthodox and the other to the reformed faith. All went well all this week, when the younger members, who belong to the latter section, decided to make a determined onslaught on one of the most cherished customs of the unreformed Jewish faith. Having observed that in churches of all denominations in the United States men remove their hats during divine worship, they resolved to petition the congregation for permission to imitate the practice. The petitioners disclaimed all wish to influence the action of the older members; what they asked was simply to be allowed to take of their hats during worship. An investigation meeting was summoned at the instance of those who held to the "hats on" view. One gentleman urged the retention of the custom, on the ground that it was the habit of the early Jewish Church, as shown by a passage from scripture commanding the high priest to wear a special headgear on a certain occasion—a fact which he interpreted to mean that the worshippers were headgear that was not special. A "hats off" advocate asked how this gentleman knew that the people who sat before that high priest wore hats. The retort was that the Jews were specially enjoined not to imitate the religious customs of the people among whom they sojourned. A supporter of the petition in favor of "hats off" said he had frequently asked the rabbi what part of the Jewish faith the wearing of hats in church was, but had never got a satisfactory answer. If the custom were a part of the religion, he had nothing to say against it, but he did not believe in retaining it if it were only a custom. If custom had been allowed to rule, there would certainly have been no revolutionary war in the United States. The speaker said it surely was not required that the Jews should live as they did 2,000 years ago. Another "hats off" orator pointed out that a passage in scripture instructed the priest on a certain occasion to wear special garments, including a breastplate. Was it to be assumed that the people present also wore breastplates? These arguments fell on unheeding ears, however, as the large majority of those present voted in favor of the old style, and it will be considered disorderly for any man to sit in the great Boston synagogue of Oshel Shalom with uncovered head. Religious customs, however unnecessary their observance may seem to be to those not concerned, are the most difficult to overturn of any.

Treatment of Women Murderers.
Mrs. Carew, a British woman, sentenced to penal servitude for life in Japan on the charge of poisoning her husband, has been lodged in the Aylesbury Female Convict Prison, England. It has been decided not to reopen her case in Great Britain. The evidence at Mrs. Carew's trial strongly resembled that given in the Maybrick case. Mrs. Maybrick herself is in Aylesbury prison. In both cases, the evidence was fairly conclusive that these women poisoned their husbands, but the home secretary's decision that their lives should be spared was carried out. There seems to be an indisposition in Britain to inflict capital punishment on women unless where murder is brought home to the accused by very strong evidence. But where a sentence is commuted to penal servitude for life, it is next to impossible to get the authorities to reopen the case. Mrs. Maybrick's rich and influential friends have found out that, and so will those of Mrs. Carew, if they follow the example set in the other famous case. In Great Britain, neither influence, nor riches, nor maudlin sympathy, have power to influence the administration of justice, and it is well that it is so. May not this account for the decrease of serious crimes in Great Britain and their alarming increase in the United States? Over the border it has been proved that influence, riches and false sympathy, all have their effect on executives, and too often gross miscarriage of justice results. Impartially administered, justice is one of the greatest blessings that any people can enjoy.

ANTIPODEAN RESTRAINT.
(Sydney Bulletin.)
The young girl out alone in the evening has become very numerous of late in New Zealand cities, and the government has drafted a bill for the appointment of "discreet women" as inspectors, with extensive powers to stop and interrogate the girl who is out at a late hour. She is also authorized to escort her home and see her safely deposited on the parental bosom, or if the late girl is a very hard case, to take her to an establishment specially provided and leave her in charge of the matron pending inquiry.

A Word for the Wabash.
(Special Correspondence of The Advertiser.)
I once saw a pair of boots in which a man walked from New York to San Francisco. You can easily imagine that they were pretty badly used up. What visions those boots called up! What months of weary tramping, dreary deserts of sand and sage-brush, wading through snow in the mountains, comfortless campfires, coyotes and murderous Indians, and finally a man with his clothing in tatters staggering exhausted into San Francisco. Today a man may step aboard a train in New York, and in four days be landed in San Francisco or Los Angeles, neither tired nor dusty and almost sorry that the pleasant trip had so soon come to an end.

What a change in less than 50 years! Today a person going from London to Los Angeles steps aboard the swift-flying Wabash which passes through the city every day about noon. The next morning he wakes up in the city of St. Louis, where he has ample time to see the city and two of the most wonderful sights in the world. The great St. Louis is a city of 200,000 people, and it is all, to the wonderful Brooklyn bridge. The union depot at St. Louis would consider almost almighty of standing side by side under an immense dome of iron and steel, and departure to all points. It seems like 30 horses standing ready harnessed in 30 stalls in a crystal stable, ready to start at the appointed signal. From this point the traveler has only two and three-quarter days of actual traveling till he reaches Los Angeles. Even the past ten years has seen wonderful improvements in the mode of travel. A lady traveling alone with four small children discovered before reaching St. Louis some irregularity and obscurity about her ticket. On the facts being made known to the officials at the station, she was treated with every consideration possible. The general passenger agent was sent for, her ticket rectified, and every one seemed to vie with each other in rendering her assistance. The train was held for five minutes for her, and as I saw her escorted to her car by two employees of the road, each carrying a child in a parcel, I felt like taking off my hat and giving three cheers for the management of the Wabash Railroad.

PUNISHMENT AS FUN.
(Buffalo Express.)
Truth is stranger than fiction. There are people who still prefer the bicycle to a motor car, and who go from place through the snowy streets. If they had to do this as a punishment, what a hardship it would be.

INDIA'S WELL-WATCHED OUTPOSTS.
(London Daily News.)
An Orakasi Sepoy, serving in the Fort-till Pathans, who are quartered at Pind, received a letter from a Pindia, a tribesman now fighting our troops. The envelope bore the postmark: "Headquarters Field Postoffice, Pindia." In this letter, the Pindia told the latest news from the front, and the possibility of a settlement was discussed. Evidently the writer had posted it to the camp himself. No doubt he had hidden his rifle behind a rock, and walked boldly in among us with some tea and rice. His news to his friend under the nose of the general officer commanding.

SHARP JOHN CHINAMAN.
(New York Sun.)
Anthony Hope went to a dinner in Mott street given in his honor on New Year's Day, and ate preserves, bird's nests, fried fish, fried rice, sweetened fruit, and unidentified things, drank rice wine and presumably thanked his hosts and kept his private opinion of the feast to himself. The tea served was good, and the restaurant is good, and there are a few of its Chinese dishes which are not unpleasant, but one of the party, a Chinese, had little to say of it. He commended it to Europeans. Within the hour and five minutes the proprietors of these places have discovered that it paid to cater to the foreign devils, and they have been so anxious to serve them that they have attempted to Americanize their cooking. One of these restaurants bought a large quantity of home and white roasts from a department store, and the proprietor disposed of them at 20¢ per cent profit to the foreign devils who came to eat his dinner and carry away a souvenir. Perhaps Mr. Hope got one of them.

NOT UNLIKE OTHERS.
The activity and power of intellect of the late Henry George did not prevent absent-mindedness. A writer in the Review of Reviews says that the quality was "the jest of his circle." Names escaped him, I heard him say to Mr. Dayton, the candidate on his ticket for comptroller, and one of the best known men in New York. You won't mind it, I hope, if I forget your name; I am so conscious of the danger of getting names wrong, that when the need of remembering comes it rattles me, and away the name goes.

He came late to a recent dinner at the Lotus Club, where he was to discuss with some friends the question of being a candidate for comptroller. It was raining, and he took from his pockets the slippers with which Mrs. George had insisted on providing him in case he should get his feet wet, and as he put them on he apologized with honest gravity.

"I lost time looking for a man I kept seeing after as Kinsella, and it turned out his right name was Moriarty. At least, that was what he told me when I found him."

But there was no absent-mindedness when discussion of the business in hand ensued; he was keen and wide-awake.

A RUSSIAN bride is not submitted to the trying ordeal of appearing in public in a white satin and lace broad daylight. The wedding takes place by candlelight in the drawing room.

SLAVES DOWN IN FLORIDA.
Seminole Indians Said to Be Still Holding Negroes in Bondage.
[New York World.]
Down in Dade county, Fla., around the edge of the Everglades, are to be found between 500 and 700 descendants of the fierce Indian warriors who once defied the power of the United States, and centuries before, in the days when St. Augustine was a collection of huts, waged implacable war against the Spaniards. Their aversion to labor is just as great today as it ever was. Before the late war they had their negro slaves, and today they have slaves, though the white planter had to give him up over a third of a century ago.

The exact number of negroes enslaved by the Seminoles is not known, but that American citizens in the eyes of the law are in servitude among the Indians is not only well understood, but is a matter of common knowledge to most of the white people of the Indian river district. They dismiss the subject with the utmost indifference.

"What is it to us if a few negroes are still held as slaves?" is in effect the position. The indifference with which the matter is regarded is shown by the following incident related by a man who formerly lived in a district near the Indians. One day a Seminole came into the market town leading a negro as if the colored man was a dog. The Indian exhibited him slave to a group of men who had gathered in idle curiosity around him. After telling the colored man's good points the Seminole master offered him for sale.

"Oh, but you can't sell that fellow. All slaves were set free long ago." Said a gentleman standing near. Quickly the Indian flashed a look of scorn at the speaker and replied: "White man's niggers may be free; Indian's niggers not free. And he led his docile slave back to his farm and set him at work. That slavery does exist among the Seminoles Indians of Florida is susceptible of unequivocal proof. That the United States Government should be only at this late date endeavoring to fill the freedom granted to the colored man by the proclamation of Abraham Lincoln is just as undoubted.

TOMB OF CONFUCIUS.
A Spot Which All Celestials Regard With Veneration.
[St. Louis Globe-Democrat.]

No greater mistake could possibly be made than to imagine that the Chinese people will ever acquiesce to Germany's occupation of Kiao Chau Bay, and of the adjacent territory. Averse to the idea of concession of any of their soil to the detested foreigner, they would gladly concede to the Kaiser some insignificant, richer and more advantageously situated port if he would consent to withdraw his troops from Kiao Chau Bay, for in the immediate vicinity of the latter, and within the sphere claimed by Germany, is situated a temple which the Chinese regard as the most sacred spot in the whole of their vast empire. It is the temple in which lies entombed in a double coffin, and arrayed in twelve different costumes, the body of Confucius, the founder of that religion, or, rather, school of philosophy upon which the entire system of Chinese civilization, science, literature and mode of life is based. It is a spot so sacred that no provincial governor, no mandarin, no official dignitary of any importance ever enters the temple without having first made a pilgrimage to it, the small town in which the tomb of Confucius is located being regarded with the same degree of veneration by the Chinese as Mecca is by the Mohammedans, and as Jerusalem is to be in old times by the Christians.

The Chinese are not what can be called a religious people, but they have a fanatic reverence for the tomb, not only of their ancestors, but of the great men of their nation, and the idea that the last resting place of the great Confucius should be defiled by the presence or propinquity of the abhorred foreigner is an idea which has never been far from the mind of the Chinese people throughout China to such a degree against the Germans in particular that they have been ready to sacrifice their lives in the defense of the tomb.

It may be looked for at any moment to add still further complications to the situation. The city of China is not hundreds, but thousands of miles in length, and if the Kaiser had searched for the tomb of the other Confucius he could not possibly have picked out a spot the occupation of which would be more likely to exasperate the Chinese than Kiao Chau Bay. By carefully fanning the exasperation and at the same time training and equipping the soldiers of the Emperor Kwangshu, the Russians may yet find it possible to force the retreat of the Germans from Kiao Chau Bay without being themselves compelled to draw the sword. The family of Confucius, who died nine years before the birth of Socrates, and, therefore, about four centuries before Christ, is still in existence, and the only one in China that bears the title of duke, or, rather, the Chinese equivalent thereof. It was but the other day that the Imperial Gazette at Peking proclaimed that "inasmuch as through wars, floods and fire, they have been so long in the support of the dukedom of Kunz have become alienated and lost, the imperial government has decided to make to the present duke and to the future heirs of the title, an annual allowance equivalent to the sum originally yielded by the dukedom estates at the time when they were granted." The present duke is the 77th in direct line from Confucius, and, strange to relate, his face and figure presents a striking resemblance to the portraits that the old graven stones still present of the founder of Chinese civilization. The duke bears the hereditary title of Yen Shing Kung, which means "Ever Sacred Duke," and like all his 76 ancestors before him, has lived in a palace situated in the immediate vicinity of the tomb and memorials of his illustrious ancestor.

It must be thoroughly understood that anything which can possibly be construed as a profanation of this tomb will fill the hearts of at least two-thirds of the 400,000,000 members of the Chinese race with such feelings of horror and fury that they will cheerfully sacrifice their lives in order to be revenged for the indignity upon the first foreigner they encounter. If I call attention of the readers of the Globe-Democrat to this circumstance, it is because it is destined to become a very important factor in the present situation of the Chinese, and has been entirely lost sight of until now.

UNUSUAL AND SUSPICIOUS.
Client—I dunno. I hope it's all right, but I don't trust my lawyer any more too much.
Friend—Why not?
Client—Oh, him and the lawyer on the other side is too blamed polite to each other.

The streets of London, placed end for end, would stretch right across the American continent from New York to San Francisco.

RUNIANS & BUTLER.

208, 210, 210½, 212 Dundas Street.

Great January Sale.

We direct special attention to the extraordinary inducements offered in every department of the Big Store during this month, and request shoppers to examine our goods and compare prices. Special prices for Saturday and Monday.

BLACK DRESS GOODS.
Special at Reduced Prices. See Our West Window.
Serges, Bengalines, Soliels, Broches, Crepons, Velours, French Twills, Poplins, etc.

COLORED DRESS GOODS.
Reduced About Half Price.
Tweeds, Matalassie Cloth, Silk and Wool Fancies, English Curis, Spiral Suitings, Henriettas, Wool Plaids, Serges, Cords, etc.

Linens—Very Special.
72-inch Bleached Table Linen, regular price \$1.25, for..... 85¢
72-inch Bleached, Soft Finish, regular price \$1.40, for..... 75¢
72-inch Bleached, Satin Finish, regular price 90¢, for..... 65¢
68-inch Bleached, Small Patterns, regular price 85¢, for..... 60¢
68-inch Bleached, Damask, regular price 65¢, for..... 50¢

Flannels and Blankets.
Heavy Twill Gray Flannel, Dark and Light Shades, for..... 15¢
27-inch, All-Wool Gray Flannels, Plain or Twill, Light and Dark Shades, come as sold everywhere at 25¢, for..... 20¢
7-pound Blankets, Fine Super Wool, regular price \$3.90, for..... \$3.00
6-pound Super Wool Blankets, Bright Borders, clean, nice goods, regular price \$3.25, for..... \$2.50

BASEMENT BARGAINS.

In every department—Groceries, Tin and Graniteware, Cutlery, Silverware, Glassware, etc. Special value in Lamps, which we will clear at manufacturers' prices. Tea, Sugar and Fruits same as last week. Three and one-half pounds choice, clean Currants and 3½ pounds selected Valencia Raisins for 50¢. Cowan's Cocoa, 15¢ pound. One pound Black or Mixed Tea and 7 pounds Granulated Sugar for 50¢, Saturday and Monday.

MILLINERY, MANTLES AND FURS.

SPECIAL CLEARING PRICES.

RUNIANS & BUTLER.

SOLE IMPORTERS.

DOG RESCUES HIS MISTRESS.
A Robber Attacked by the Animal at a Critical Moment.

Well it was for Mrs. Thomas H. Hopkins, of Bridgeport, Conn., that when her husband left her alone in the house one evening recently he left his faithful dog to keep her company. He had not been gone many minutes when Mrs. Hopkins heard a soft rap first, then a violent kicking. Thinking it was her husband trying to scare her, she rushed to open the door, when a foot wearing a No. 15 boot was thrust in and a burly European and American man, with a scream of terror she asked: "Who's there?"

The surly reply was "I want some money to get a bed and summat to eat." A strong odor of whisky pervaded the place, and the terrified woman beseeched the intruder to take his No. 15 outside and she would get him the refreshment. But he was deaf to her entreaty and, suspecting she was alone in the house, he began to push her backward against the ice safe and succeeded in getting his other No. 15 inside. The ruffian then forced the door against her and pinioned her behind it. Just as she was on the point of fainting she suddenly felt some object spring over her shoulder. With a shriek and an oath the villain fell headlong down the steps into the road and escaped.

On the return of the husband shortly after he heard groans downstairs and, accompanied by a policeman who happened to be passing, rushed downstairs. They discovered Mrs. Hopkins lying across the icebox with dear old Tige sitting at her feet as if nothing had happened. The officer began a search and soon discovered traces of blood from the basement into the middle of the street. As soon as Mrs. Hopkins was restored to consciousness she related what had happened. In that moment of peril Tige, suspecting that something was wrong, had leaped over Mrs. Hopkins' head, buried his fangs in the brute's face and rescued his mistress from a fate perhaps worse than death.

ADMIRATION FOR CULTURE.
Misses—Mary, you did not half dust the front room. I was in there just now, and I could write my name on the mantelpiece.
Domestic—Ah, mem, what a thing it do be to have an eddication!

BEAUTIFUL SKIN.
Soft, White Hands with Shapely Nails, Exquisite Hair with Clean, Wholesome Scalp, produced by CUTICURA SOAP, the most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap in the world, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery. The only preventive of inflammation and clogging of the pores.

Cuticura
BABY HUMORS Itching and scaly, locally treated by CUTICURA SOAP.

COMMENCING TODAY
we will sell two large packages of

SWEET HOME SOAP POWDER
—price 10¢—for 5¢.
No Soap Powder will do more work or give better satisfaction. This is one of our snap bargains hunters.

EBRETT'S 7c BAZAR
200 Dundas St.

BICYCLES FOR '98.

Entirely New Line.

Hobbs' Winchester,
\$60 00.

Hobbs' Pacer,
\$50 00.

Special Features.
Special Quality.
Special Prices.

Hobbs Hardware Co.,
LONDON, ONT.

IN ANCIENT Rome women were so anxious to grow beards that they used to shave their faces and smear them with unguents in order to cause their hair to grow. Cleopatra relates that to such an extent did the beard mania among women grow that it was found advisable to pass a law against the "adornment."

The Coroner's Inquest On the Tragedy.

A Number of Witnesses Give Interesting Testimony.

John W. Smith, Who Stood on the Safe, Tells His Story.

No Fears of the Hall's Safety in Recent Years.

The Beam That Broke Was Put in in 1830—No Change in the Construction by the Removal of Offices Down Stairs—The South End Strengthened by the New Vaults.

When the Advertiser went to press yesterday, the coroner's inquest in connection with the death of Edward Lutton, the Central youth who met his death in the city hall disaster, had just begun at the court house. Mr. James Magee, Q.C., represented the crown, and Mr. T. C. Meredith, the city. The first witness, as stated, was Mr. H. Frank Whetter, who was in the city hall Monday night, when the floor fell directly in front of him. He estimated that between 500 and 600 people were in the hall at the time. Mr. Whetter, after he emerged from the hall, went around to the front and aided in the work of rescue. He did not see the safe until next day. To Jurymen George Taylor, witness said he felt no real fear of the floor before the crash.

To Jurymen G. A. McGillivray, witness said he saw no vacant space on the floor during the meeting.

CITY CLERK KINGSTON.

City Clerk C. A. Kingston said that no complaints had been made to him regarding the city hall during his term of office, nor had any report to his knowledge ever been made to the city council, or to any of the city officers concerning the condition of the hall. The present city engineer's office was previously used as a barber shop. About 1880 or 1889 a brick partition was taken down there. Col. Tracey was then city engineer. Mr. Graydon being appointed Aug. 2, 1891. There was a similar beam in the city treasurer's office, supported by an iron pillar. The pillar was put in five or six years ago. Witness afterwards heard it was put in in consequence of complaints about the condition of the hall. He did not know by whom the complaints were made. He heard that when a hall was in progress in the manner in which the glass in the window rattled like some persons in the treasurer's office to think the hall was unsafe.

In reply to Jurymen George Taylor, witness said the platform was placed at the north end every Saturday to oblige the chess players. It interfered with their light to have it at the east side.

To Mr. Magee—There was no application for Monday night's meeting that I know of.

Q.—Who gave orders to the janitor?

A.—He was pursuing the usual custom in regard to elections. He was on the hall on the night of elections to hear speeches. The janitor told me about 7 p.m. Monday that he had ordered the hall in case the candidates wanted to use it.

THOMAS TRACEY.

Thomas Tracey, barber, said he was a partner of Hugh Sharkey, who was a tenant of that portion of the city hall which was afterwards used as the city engineer's office. Mr. Tracey had leased the place under a lease which was taken down, and a beam was put in its place. He believed that the wall was taken down by order of City Engineer Tracey. Mr. Dodd was the contractor for the carpentering work, and Ben Johnson took the wall away. Mr. Sharkey required this to be done before he would lease the shop. The fatal beam was placed there after Sharkey and witness entered the place. Dodd received his instructions from City Engineer Tracey. Witness never saw or heard of any support being placed under the beam. Witness was in the city hall the night of the disaster. He heard that six or seven years ago the hall was examined on account of a big hall coming on, but he saw no examination.

ONLY RUMORS.

Mr. Magee—Did you report that?

Witness—No; I only spoke of it.

Mr. Magee—Can you give us any basis for the rumors?

Witness—No; it was only barber shop talk.

Witness said that at the time of the explosion at Hobbs' he thought at first the hall had fallen down. He heard that six or seven years ago the hall was examined on account of a big hall coming on, but he saw no examination.

To Mr. McGillivray, witness said he had heard of a piece of stone dropping from the hall in the arcade some years ago.

Juror Logan—You say you heard of the hall being unsafe fourteen or fifteen years ago; yet you worked there for ten months several years after that. Evidently you thought it safe?

Witness—Yes, I thought it was all right.

WINTER FRUITS

are scarce. Fruit is not only delicious to the taste but necessary to the health. The salts extracted from the juices of pure fruits is the basis of

Abbey's Effervescent Salt.

its use promotes health. 6 cents a large bottle. Trial size 2 cents. Of all druggists.

Worms cause feverishness, moaning, restlessness, turn sleep into "Grave" Worm Extirpator is pleasant, sure and effective. If your druggist has none in stock, get him to procure it for you.

Allison's Crime and Confession.

Shot Mrs. Orr While She Was Milking—His Motive Was to "Get Even"—Three Executions.

Shot Mrs. Orr While She Was Milking—His Motive Was to "Get Even"—Three Executions.

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Berlin, Ont., Jan. 8.—James Allison, who is confined in jail here under sentence of death for the murder of Mrs. Anthony Orr, the wife of a farmer near Galt, for whom Allison worked, on Aug. 9 last, has confessed his crime. The confession was made to the jail authorities some time ago, but it was not until yesterday that Allison consented to its publication. The confession is as follows:

"I never at any time made any improper proposals to Mrs. Orr. I had made up my mind to get even with her for things she had said and done to me. That morning I got mad because they would not let me go to Niagara Falls. After breakfast I left my loaded gun in the woods. I did some chores. Mrs. Orr was under about twenty feet from the woods. I went into it and fired at her through the door. She fell on the ground and never moved again. An axe lay near her. I took it and struck her on the head with it. I had the axe in the swamp ready some days before, but it was too far off; so in a hurry, I made the axe. I took it and struck her on the head with it by the hands, and buried her. I hid the gun and raked up the tracks with the fork after I got back from Barry's. This is the truth, so help me God." (Signed) James Allison.

WITNESS. Cook, jailer, The Tracy, turnkey.

Allison is to be hanged on Feb. 4.

DURHAM'S LAST WORDS.

San Quentin Prison, San Francisco, Jan. 8.—Durham died protesting to the last his innocence of the murder of Bianche Lant and Miss Williams. His father was with him to the last. The doomed man's final words were: "I desire say that although I got into the prison, I am innocent of every crime that has been charged against me. I hear no animosity toward those who have persecuted me, not even the press of San Francisco, which hounded me to this place."

"If any man thinks I am going to spring a sensation—I am not, except in a sensation that I am an innocent man, brought to the grave by my persecutors. But I forgive them all. The will of their God is the will of the great God who is master of us all, and there I also expect to get justice to the justice of an innocent man. Whether or not the perpetrators of this crime of which I am charged are disgraced, I will leave to the God who now, but I say this day will be a shame to the great State of California. I forgive everybody who has persecuted me, an innocent man whose hands have never been stained with blood. I will leave my God with forgiveness for all men."

TWO MORE HANGED.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 8.—Tom Cyrus and John Johnson, domestic in the home of Gov. Atkinson. The noise slipped from the roof of the house and death resulted from strangulation.

Bainbridge, Ga., Jan. 8.—Simon Hopson, a convict, was hanged for a confession to the effect that he inveigled a friend named Harris into a swamp and killed him.

DR. TANNER, GREAT FASTER.

In Prime Condition at 65 and Telling the Tale of His Forty Days' Fast.

(Detroit Free Press.)

Dr. Henry S. Tanner, who fasted 40 days and nights in New York city, in his lecture at Detroit, has an excellent health at 65 years of age, and thinks he could repeat his feat if he were called to do so. When he made his celebrated fast, in the first fourteen days he did not use even water, but he began to drink milk every day to Central Park to drink from a spring.

"The New York fast was held under the eyes of several physicians during the 40 days I fasted 38 pounds. When I started everybody predicted I could not hold out more than twelve days. At the end of my fast I received a cable message from my first meal. One doctor in New York advised me to take a square meal a day, and I had begun to eat. Another thought that this would overdo my stomach, and advised a good dinner at some well-known restaurant. One and all predicted that my stomach would prove to be a wreck. My digestive apparatus, they claimed, was irretrievably ruined. I might consider that my days were numbered few. On the morning of the last day of the fast a small boy came up to me nibbling a ripe peach. I asked him to give me a piece. He did so, and I wanted to taste of it, but that would give everybody a chance to say I had weakened, and wanted to eat. I can imagine that it required some exertion of the will to hand it back to him; but I did it. I asked him to come back at noon when my time would be up. He did so, a matronly woman with him. I saw her put her hand in her pocket, and take from it a big, ripe yellow peach and give it to him. I suppose she was his mother. Then the little fellow trotted over to where I sat, and an immense crowd looked on as I grabbed it from his hand and took one big, long, juicy bite from it. The memory of that flavor lingers with me yet. I devoured every bit of the fruit."

"The general supposition is that my first eatable after the fast was a watermelon. This rose from the fact that I had always declared that I would begin on a melon. Not long after the peach incident they brought me three pineapples, which I ate, and an immense Georgia watermelon, weighing about 40 pounds. Between that time and midnight I had devoured all of it, and felt much refreshed. I did not care to put more solid food into my stomach. In due season I ate to meat and vegetables, and became, to all intents and purposes, a normal human being."

"Yes, the practice of medicine derived some good from my achievement. The physicians learned that the use of alcohol stimulants was not necessary to arrest the wasting of tissue. I used only my fast, and ever since then the use of the stuff in the sick room has been greatly decreased."

When miners are immersed in a mine and shipwrecked sailors are marooned on a barren island—nothing to eat in the case of the being the limit of life without sustenance, so they give up and allow death to take possession of them. Whereas, had they the will power they could starve it off as long as he did, and perhaps longer, and give others a chance to save them."

MOODY ON SUNDAY LABOR.

"There are one or two principles which apply directly to the frequent difficulty which men meet in the Christian Sunday labor there is a certain amount of work that must be done on Sunday, both for the needs and health of the community. But in necessary work it should be dispatched as quickly as possible, and not be used as an excuse for idleness."

When the Lord ordained a day of rest it was for man's best interests. Physically, mentally and spiritually, and any man who hinders the day of rest to gratify the selfish interests of his body is always the loser. Man needs for the welfare of his soul, as well as his body, at least one day in seven to devote to its special needs. I know, from personal experience, that no man can work seven days in the week, not even in religious work, and do the best work he is capable of, either for God or man. And I have no right to take from my neighbor what I prize myself."

Insurance.

A. N. DUDY, INSURANCE AGENT.
Office, 733, 735, 737, 739, 741, 743, 745, 747, 749, 751, 753, 755, 757, 759, 761, 763, 765, 767, 769, 771, 773, 775, 777, 779, 781, 783, 785, 787, 789, 791, 793, 795, 797, 799, 801, 803, 805, 807, 809, 811, 813, 815, 817, 819, 821, 823, 825, 827, 829, 831, 833, 835, 837, 839, 841, 843, 845, 847, 849, 851, 853, 855, 857, 859, 861, 863, 865, 867, 869, 871, 873, 875, 877, 879, 881, 883, 885, 887, 889, 891, 893, 895, 897, 899, 901, 903, 905, 907, 909, 911, 913, 915, 917, 919, 921, 923, 925, 927, 929, 931, 933, 935, 937, 939, 941, 943, 945, 947, 949, 951, 953, 955, 957, 959, 961, 963, 965, 967, 969, 971, 973, 975, 977, 979, 981, 983, 985, 987, 989, 991, 993, 995, 997, 999, 1001, 1003, 1005, 1007, 1009, 1011, 1013, 1015, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1023, 1025, 1027, 1029, 1031, 1033, 1035, 1037, 1039, 1041, 1043, 1045, 1047, 1049, 1051, 1053, 1055, 1057, 1059, 1061, 1063, 1065, 1067, 1069, 1071, 1073, 1075, 1077, 1079, 1081, 1083, 1085, 1087, 1089, 1091, 1093, 1095, 1097, 1099, 1101, 1103, 1105, 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Gas Driving Out Steam

A Change That Increases the Oil Operator's Profits.

The Decreasing Pressure of Natural Gas—Economy of the Gas Engine.

A Bolivar, N. Y., dispatch says: The steam engine is being replaced by the gas engine in pumping oil wells, and the change will mean a saving of thousands of dollars every month to oil operators. In all the oil fields that embrace the 40-mile stretch from Niles, N. Y., to West Union, W. Va., the gas pressure has been decreasing steadily, and on hundreds of leases it has been necessary either to burn crude oil or to buy coal and wood, all three expensive and requiring more labor than when natural gas is the fuel that generates the steam. For instance, here in Allegany county there are 1,000 oil wells producing on an average one-half barrel each a day. It is safe to say that more than two-thirds of the leases do not produce gas enough to supply the steam boilers with fuel. The yield of oil is so small that the question of fuel is an important one, and the same condition prevails all over the old fields of Pennsylvania. Then the question of water for the boilers is an important one, as a supply is often difficult to obtain.

In these respects the gas engine has advantages over the steam engine. The amount of gas consumed by a gas engine varies from 11 to 15 feet an hour per horse power, making the cost for a ten hours' run of a 10-horse power engine from 11 to 15 cents as against 1,000 feet, the price varying between the figures named in different localities. As it usually requires only from one to three hours to pump off a string of oil wells, the expense for fuel is reduced to almost nothing compared to the cost of crude oil, coal or wood. On one lease near Bolivar, consisting of eleven old wells, there was not gas enough produced by all the wells to fire a boiler. After a gas engine had been set up it was found that the gas from only one of the wells was required to run the engine that pumps off the eleven.

During the past year more than 300 gas engines have been placed on oil leases and are doing satisfactory work. The engines vary from 15 to 50-horse power, and cost about the same as a boiler and engine of equal power. Every big machine shop in the oil regions is turning out gas engines. The machine shops themselves are also using the gas engine to drive their own machinery. A machine shop at Olean has reduced its gas bill from \$5 to 50 cents a day by using a gas engine in place of steam. After a six months' actual test by meter it has been demonstrated at Bradford that a 20-horse power engine can be run ten hours, doing actual 20-horse power work, at an expense of 22 cents for natural gas, which costs 19 cents per 1,000 feet in that city. The presses in nearly all the oil region newspaper offices are run by a gas engine, and in one case a cylinder press and two job presses are run by a gas engine at an expense of 50 cents a month for power. The largest office building in Oil City is lighted by a dynamo run by a gas engine. The same engine also runs the elevator in the building, and the total expense for gas is less than \$5 a month.

During the past year twenty of the Standard Oil Company's pipe line pump stations have been equipped with gas engines, and in all the new stations and in all old ones where new machinery is to replace the old, the gas engine gets the preference over steam. A Standard superintendent, after careful figuring, informs the writer that oil can be forced through the pipe lines with the gas engine at just one-fourteenth the expense of the steam engine, with either coal or gas for fuel. Less machinery is required, and less labor. Where natural gas cannot be had, as is the case with some of the pumping stations, and where coal was formerly used, the gas engines are supplied with gasoline, which answers the same purpose at a slight increase in cost over natural gas.

Of course the oil operator who has plenty of gas on his lease will not be in a hurry to throw aside his steam plant for a gas engine, for gas engines are expensive, but the man who has gas to spare is gradually getting to be the exception. The waste of gas in all the oil fields has been sinful, and gradually the pressure has decreased to a point that may well alarm the owners of oil-producing territory, for it means that the gas has gone for good. It is like the nine-fifths of gas that were stripped off before the oil came there—there is no second crop.

Few old men believe that the gas engine will ever take the place of the steam engine for drilling wells, at least not until many improvements

have been made. A McKean county machinist is now at work on a gas engine that will explode gas at both ends of the cylinder, and will be reversible. This is the engine that the oil region contractor is waiting for, and if it comes up to expectations it will revolutionize the engine business. In the deep-well territory, where the oil man was sure that the gas engine would not fill the bill, it has exceeded the expectations of its friends. In one instance, in the lower oil country a man with a lease of five wells was using three cords of wood a day for fuel and employed two men on his lease. When he planted a gas engine on the lease he discharged both men. Now he sets the engine going, comes around to see it occasionally until the wells are pumped off, and then shuts it down until the next morning. There is no need to handle, no steam gauge to watch, or injector to look after and he needs no helpers.

At one of the pump stations near Bolivar the Standard Oil Company is experimenting with one of the oldest engines yet seen in the oil country. It is a gas engine that uses gasoline instead of gas, and generates its own gasoline. Crude oil is run into the water jacket to cool the cylinder instead of water. The oil is heated by the hot cylinder and runs off into a retort, where the gasoline caper separates from the other elements of the crude oil, condenses and is returned to be exploded in the cylinder of the engine. The expense of running this engine averages 14 cents a day. The Standard officials are so well pleased with it that they are having more engines built like it.

Gas engines require little attention. In the face of a steadily decreasing gas pressure from the wells, the gas engine is proving a blessing to the oil man, for it keeps down the expense account and swells the profits. It marks the beginning of the end of the steam engine in the oil country, as the first trolley cars marked the finish of the horse car.

Toddlin' Hame.

Toddlin' hame, when the gloamin' is fae,
Weary and worn, wi' his face to the west,
Lang he has toiled sin' he left i' the davin',
Now he is toddlin' hame till his rest,
Hame till his rest, where his wife is smilin',
Hame till his rest, where his bairns are smilin',
There he has his hopes and his fame—
Toddlin' hame!

Toddlin' hame, frae schule and frae
Down the wee laddie gae whuslin' in pride;
Blythe is his welcome, and sweet the carol,
In the wee cottage by yon burn,
Yon burnside, 'mang the hills o' the heather—
Yon burnside, where his day-dreams gather—
Where the wee laddie shall mak' him a name—
Toddlin' hame!

Toddlin' hame, in our thoughts and our dreamin',
Back to the land that our orisons name,
E'en as the sun, wi' his mornin' licht beamin',
Blythe brings till us a message frae hame!
Message frae hame on the wings o' the mornin',
Message frae hame, dionhorn, aye scornin',
Dearest Auld Mither! we honor thy name!
Toddlin' hame!

Toddlin' hame, when this life has grown weary—
Daylight is dune, and the gloamin' is nigh;
Peace to the pilgrim! nae journey is dreary,
Airit by the angels, and led to the sky!
Led to the sky, by a way that ye kenna—
Led to the sky, gin it binna yae name—
Lead to the Lovin' Ane—blest be his name—
Toddlin' hame!

—Rev. William Wye Smith, St. Catharines.

NOVEL OCCUPATION.

Breeding of Angora Cats Presents Financial Possibilities for Some-Tied Women.

Forrest Crissey, in discussing "The Breeding of Angora Cats as a Vocation," in the January number of the Woman's Home Companion, says: "It is the general opinion of these cat fanciers that the culture of Angoras is an occupation which any young woman with a fondness for pets and a little of the commercial instinct may pursue with profit as well as pleasure. It is an occupation in which success does not depend upon a special talent. One cannot succeed in literature, music, the arts, or in teaching, without a course of training, and an inborn adaptability, but the rearing of cats calls for no mental preparation or for any rare power in any particular direction. Capital, however, is necessary. Angora cats bring a high price, and it will cost you something to establish a kennel. The amount will depend upon the magnitude of the beginning. One may expend a few hundred dollars and secure, perhaps three choice thoroughbred adults, or at an outlay of \$25 or thereabouts, one may purchase a male and a female kitten, and rear them herself. The essential of a suitable kennel need not cost much, but there are important points in the construction and care of the kennel which should not be neglected, and which any owner of Angoras is always ready to explain. The essentials of a successful Angora kennel are not elaborate. Most important is an ample outdoor runway, made of wood, and with a roof of the same material. This should connect with a cosy house or dormitory. Both apartments should be provided with elevated shelves, as the cats like to sleep as far from the ground as possible. They also enjoy the exercise of jumping up to and down from their elevated perches. Fresh grass and pure milk are absolute necessities. The Angora has been a much-lauded animal. The general public believes it to be delicate in physique and surly and treacherous in disposition. This is as far from the truth as possible. They are almost uniformly amiable and affectionate in disposition, and possess hardy and vigorous constitutions. They are full of interesting eccentricities, however."

GIRLS IN New Guinea have small chance of eloping. Every night they are put in a little house at the top of a tall tree. The ladder used to reach it is then removed.

Is the Air Giving Out?

Oxygen Consumed Much Faster Than It Is Generated.

The most novel and interesting problem at present confronting mankind is the threatened exhaustion of the oxygen in the earth's atmosphere—a calamity which, if it should only begin to arrive, would bring about a speedy extinction of the human race.

The suggestion of such a possibility would be deemed ridiculous and unworthy of attention save for the fact that it is being seriously considered by a number of eminent scientific men who call attention to the fact that the oxygen of the air is now undergoing depletion at a rate enormously beyond what is replenished by growing plants, which are practically the only oxygen makers. At the same time the plant life of the world is being annihilated at an alarming rate incidentally to the spread of human civilization. Every forest wiped out is an oxygen factory destroyed.

It has been imagined hitherto that the supply of the life-sustaining gas in the atmosphere was inexhaustible. Lord Kelvin declares that "this notion is a mistake. He says that it is being used up at a rate which threatens an oxygen famine at no very distant date. He shows that the weight of the entire atmosphere of the earth is only 5,750,000,000,000 tons. One fifth of this is oxygen, or 1,150,000,000,000 tons. Thanks chiefly to the immense consumption of coal and other fuel in the industries of civilization, the available oxygen supply is diminishing yearly, daily, and even hourly."

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The human population of the world is probably not far from 1,400,000,000. An exact reckoning is out of the question, chiefly because of proper census of China has never been taken and the interior of Africa is only partly explored. Not long ago the Government of the United States attempted to make an estimate on this subject, arriving at an approximation of 1,600,000,000, but it was to some extent guesswork, and the more conservative enumeration had better be accepted. It will do, at all events, for present purposes.

A man in breathing destroys every twenty-four hours about one and a half pounds of oxygen. This may seem small, but it must be understood that about one-third of the oxygen taken into the lungs is consumed; the other four-fifths is exhaled again, together with a proportion of carbonic acid equal to about 4 per cent of the whole quantity. At this rate the entire human population of the earth would destroy somewhat more than a million tons of oxygen per diem, or, to state it roughly, 400,000,000 tons a year. The latest estimates made by the department of agriculture, state the number of horses in the world at 67,000,000; the cattle at 312,000,000; the sheep at 511,000,000; the swine at 102,000,000; and the goats at 23,000,000. This makes a total of 1,035,000,000 farm animals. Generally speaking, the consumption of oxygen by mammals is in direct proportion to their weight. Hence a steer in breathing uses seven or eight times as much of the previous gas as does a man. A horse uses six times the quantity perhaps. But for the sake of convenience, the multitudes of sheep and goats being smaller than man—let it be assumed that the average farm animal consumes only as much oxygen as a man. This would give the total consumption of the gas by them as about 275,000,000 tons per annum.

There is no possible way of reckoning with accuracy the number of wild animals in the world, but it is only guessed at. Put it at twice the number of the domestic animals. That does not seem unreasonable. What then the untamed beasts of large size may be set down as consuming 540,000,000 tons of oxygen per annum, and the smaller mammals, the birds and other air-breathing creatures—say 275,000,000 tons. This makes a grand total of 815,000,000 tons of oxygen used up annually by all the air-breathing animals on the globe, including the human race. The complete proposition is summed up in the following figures, which represent the world's annual consumption of oxygen:

Used for breathing.....6,615,000,000 tons
Used for fires.....2,500,000,000 tons

Total annual consumption.....9,115,000,000 tons
More than nine billions of tons of oxygen used up and destroyed annually! Just think of it! What a quantity to subtract from the total stock! The total stock, as previously stated, is only 1,150,000,000,000 tons. If the oxygen were not resupplied constantly every bit of it would be gone in a little over 100,000 years.

Now, it may be assumed that nature could stand the drain of oxygen for breathing, being able to resupply the human beings and other animals. But 6,615,000,000 tons consumed annually by the item of consumption by fires is purely artificial and alarmingly big. Is the balance being maintained? That is the question. Practically, the only production of oxygen is by plants. Every tree, every shrub, every tiny grass-plant is an oxygen-maker. But the world's total annual production of oxygen is unquestionably much less now than it used to be, owing to the immense destruction of forests incidental to the spread of civilization. All of which being considered, there is good cause for suspicion that the earth's atmosphere is running down—that it is undergoing, as Lord Kelvin says, "a steady loss of oxygen."

The atmosphere, according to a statement made by Lord Kelvin the other day, is somewhere between 15,000 and 20,000 miles high. How distant is this conception from that held a generation ago, which was that the gaseous envelope of the earth was only half a dozen miles thick at the utmost. However, its density diminishes so rapidly with the altitude that half of its entire mass is below the three-mile level. At ten miles above sea-level its density is only one-ninth of what it is at the surface of the earth, and its temperature remains at about 65 degrees below zero all the way down to the top of the atmosphere.

From that point it thins off gradually into the void of outer space. Human beings cannot live through any length of time beyond four miles.

The highest level ever attained by man was reached in 1895 by Dr. Benson, who arrived in a balloon at an elevation of nearly six miles. He breathed oxygen which he carried along with him in a tank. The loftiest mountains—such as Mounts Everest and Dhaulagiri in the Himalayas, 29,000 and 28,000 feet respectively—will never be climbed, because there is not oxygen enough on their highest slopes to support human life. The highest inhabited place in the world is the convent of Hanle in the Himalayas—15,500 feet above the sea.

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Across the Au Sauble Chasm.

The famous gorge in the Adirondacks known as the Au Sauble chasm was, 70 years ago, spanned by a rude wooden bridge which hung 125 feet above the water. One night a fearful windstorm came and blew away this bridge—all but a single stringer or timber, 15 inches square. Of the bridge was not replaced, but this single timber engaged him in conversation. The bridge was not replaced, but this single timber engaged him in conversation. The bridge was not replaced, but this single timber engaged him in conversation.

One pitch-dark night, ten years after the bridge over the chasm had disappeared, a stranger drove up his horse in front of the tavern at Au Sauble Forks, and presently entered the taproom. The bar was full of villagers, and the man was eating his supper in a corner of the room the landlord engaged him in conversation. The bridge was not replaced, but this single timber engaged him in conversation.

"Dark night outside," he said. "Yes—black," answered the newcomer. "Have any trouble finding your way?"

"No! I used to live in this neighborhood over twenty years ago." "Which way did you come?" "Right over the bridge across the Au Sauble."

Everybody in the room started at the man. "You are crazy," exclaimed the landlord. "There hasn't been a bridge over the Au Sauble for ten years."

"I guess you're mistaken," said the stranger. "I certainly rode my horse over that bridge not three-quarters of an hour ago."

"Impossible, sir! That bridge blew down ten years ago."

"Again I tell you, my friend, that I rode across it this very night," the stranger insisted. "It was too dark for me to see, but I heard the clatter of my horse's feet on the planks, and the noise of the water in the chasm below."

Everybody supported the landlord, but the stranger said: "Wait until daylight, and we will see if there is any bridge there."

Next morning everybody at Au Sauble Forks was at the chasm. There, sure enough, the bridge of olden days, of a horse's feet, leading from the end of the stringer. A daring youth walked across, and the bridge was found to be the same hoof-prints leading down to the timber on the other side.

The stranger had told the truth. In the darkness, the horse had crossed the chasm on a single narrow and rotten plank.

It is declared that, when the stranger saw the perilous path over which he had so unthinkingly risked the necks before, and glanced down into the chasm he trembled as if he had been struck with a palsy.

13 RUNNING SORES.

There is nothing that will so waste and wear away the health as a running sore. Burdock Blood Bitters heals and dries up sores and ulcers, no matter how large or of how long standing, by cleansing the blood of all impurities and sending rich pure life-giving blood to the diseased part, thereby supplanting the decaying tissue with healthy healing flesh.

Mr. Stephen Wescott, Freeport, N.S., found (Burdock Blood Bitters) a wonderful blood purifier and gives his experience as follows: "I was very much run down in health and employed our local physician who attended me three months, finally my leg broke out in running sores with fearful burning. I had thirteen running sores at one time, from my knee to the top of my foot. All the medicine I took did me no good, so I threw it aside and tried B.B.B.; when one-half the bottle was gone, I noticed a change for the better, and by the time I had finished two bottles my leg was perfectly healed and my health greatly improved."

FREE TO BALD HEADS. We will mail on application, free information how to grow hair upon a bald head, stop itching scalp and cure dandruff. Address: Dr. J. E. Box 79, Cincinnati, Ohio. J. E. B.

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DO YOUR HANDS OR FEET SWELL? IF SO YOU HAVE WEAK KIDNEYS, DOAN'S PILLS WILL STRENGTHEN THEM.

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SOMETHING WORTH KNOWING. HEADACHES, DIZZINESS, FRIGHTFUL DREAMS, DISTURBED SLEEP, DROWSINESS, FORGETFULNESS, COLD CHILLS, NERVOUSNESS, ETC., ARE OFTEN CAUSED BY DISORDERED KIDNEYS.

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