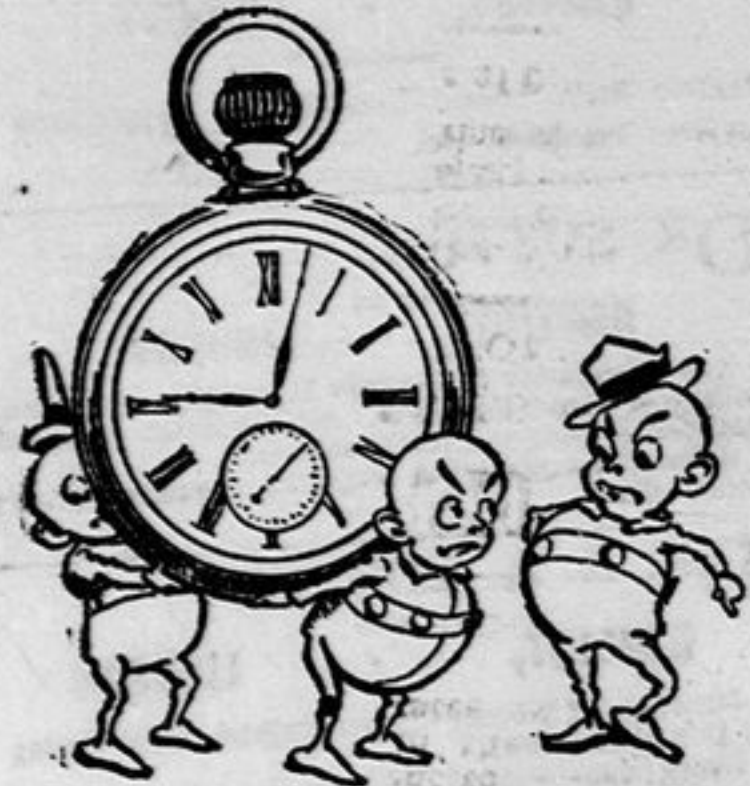


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TURKEY TALK FROM ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

How the Englishman Regards this Growing Canadian Industry

The Birmingham Post, which by the way is Hon. Jos. Chamberlain's official organ has the following article on turkeys from Canada in its issue of Christmas Day:

The development of the poultry industry of this country is one of the most remarkable features of the last quarter of the century, just about to expire. This advance is mainly due to the cultivation of a varied taste in the household. No doubt taking the year through the pride of place on the dinner table is still enjoyed by the "roast beef of old England," but at certain seasons, and notably at Christmas time, the poultry competes on very favourable terms with the butcher for the public patronage. As the demand for table poultry has so extensively increased an impetus has been given to an important branch of agriculture which is steadily becoming more valuable and profitable. The supply of home-bred birds, however, is by no means equal to the demand, and just as we have to depend upon foreign countries in a great measure for other sources of our food supply, so we also have to rely upon the foreigner to make good our deficiency in poultry. Until within recent years we were dependent upon our neighbours across the English Channel, but now, thanks to the improved facilities for the carriage of meat, provided on the steamships this country has become a prominent customer of countries further away, and particularly of many of our colonies. Canada, the home of so many of our kindred, is one of the colonies which is making rapid progress in the business of agriculture. For some years she has supplied us with corn and beef, and she is now anxious to extend her trade with us in poultry.

The principal features of the poultry market is the steadily increasing demand for turkeys, specially prepared for the table, birds which are characterised by speedy growth, fine quality of flesh, and great breast development. The birds reared in Great Britain, under prevailing conditions, are naturally the best, and they command the highest prices, but Canada is the home of the turkey—the breed was introduced into Europe from North America early in the sixteenth century—and efforts are being made to place upon the British markets Canadian birds which will bear favorable comparison with those from any other country. It is now about ten years since an attempt was first made to bring Canadian poultry to this country for the Christmas markets. At that time the facilities for the carriage of perishable goods on board ship were in a very crude state. The birds were packed loose in their feathers in cases, and conveyed in the ship's hold to Liverpool. The journey usually occupied nine or ten days, and as the birds remained so long in a close atmosphere they were found to be in very poor and almost unsalable condition on their arrival. Trade consequently was poor, and the experiment of shipping dead poultry to England was a failure. The steamboat companies were appealed to, but very little improvement was made, and during the next three years not more than one or two thousand birds were consigned to this country. Still the merchants on both sides of the Atlantic did not despair, and ultimately representations were made to the steamship companies that the poultry trade might be enormously developed, and made to pay all parties, if only proper storage on the boats were provided for the birds. In the belief that something would be done measures were adopted for sending over altogether about 50,000 birds, but the experiment was again disastrous, and the shippers suffered severe losses. Then the Canadian government took the matter up, and in 1896 communicated with several salesmen in England asking for their views on the important question of the packing and shipment of poultry. One Birmingham gentleman who was written to, impressed upon the government the necessity of a proper system of cold storage upon every boat, and the adoption of an improved method of packing the birds, so that their quality might not be impaired on their journey. If those principles were carried out, he predicted a great future for the Canadian poultry trade generally. These suggestions were acknowledged in a letter of thanks, and on the technical lines which had been emphasised by all their correspondents the Canadian government approached the steamship companies. The result was that before the next season commenced several new vessels which had been added to the service, as well as the

old vessels, were fitted with cold air chambers.

The New Method

The previous season had been so disastrous that the merchants were somewhat afraid, and during the winter of 1896 the consignments of turkeys were not more than half those of the previous year. The result, however, was fairly satisfactory and the trade in the succeeding years advanced enormously in comparison with previous seasons. But while the cold-air process succeeded, the packing was decidedly poor, and the conditions of the birds was not so good as it should have been. It was obvious, therefore, that unless the method of packing was improved the trade must again fail, and so during the past summer two or three poultry experts were sent from England to Canada to teach those engaged in the Canadian business how to collect and pack the birds. Their experience has been very beneficial, and now for the first time the poultry is being brought over under the most favorable conditions for the market. The merchants first of all visit the farmers in the autumn and buy the birds, which are delivered alive on specified dates at the important centres such as Toronto and Montreal. Then they are killed and plucked and hung for twenty-four hours in cold chambers. At the end of that time each bird is separately wrapped in parchment paper, and they are packed in cases, each case containing a dozen birds. The cases are conveyed by train to the ports of Portland (Maine), St. John (New Brunswick), or to Boston, and placed in cold-air chambers on board ship. Cold air is pumped into the chambers by day and night, and the temperature is maintained just above freezing point. The birds are never frozen, but kept in a chilled state, and as the quality of beef and venison is said to be improved by hanging for several days in the larder, so also it is claimed that the quality of the Canadian birds, which are placed on the British markets within fourteen days of being killed, is quite as good as that of birds killed in the ordinary way in this country. At present the season for Canadian turkeys in England commences the week before Christmas and continues until the middle of January, or about a month altogether. The birds are rather larger than the English birds, ranging from about 8lb. to 30lb. in weight. The breed is that of the American bronze, but as the trade develops, smaller birds will be cultivated, and then Canadian turkeys may be expected in our markets all through the English season, which commences at the beginning of December, and continues until the end of March.

The article is under the heading of "Turkeys from the Far West" and is a quarter longer than the extract.

A LITTLE OF EVERYTHING Gleaned From Our Exchanges It's all off with the Jeffries-Ruilin fight, which was slated for Cincinnati a week from Friday night. Governor Nash has been authorized by the State Emergency Board to spend \$50,000 if necessary in calling out troops to stop the fight. Mr. Fortier will ask the House of Commons to declare that the salaries of public officers or government employes should be attachable as those of ordinary citizens. People often wish that persons who have nothing to do would go somewhere else to do it. In a recent discussion before the police commission, Ald. Woods stated that a factory in Toronto employing 150 girls had for its only fire escape a hemp rope attached to timbers in the fourth story. Joseph Gould of Uxbridge, was in a reminiscent mood the other day. "Before the building of the old Toronto and Nipissing, and Whitby, Port Perry and Lindsay lines," said he, "farmers from all the north riding of Ontario teamed their grain either to Whitby on the one side or across the lake to Bell Ewart on the other. We had three teams hauling grain to Whitby then and we made \$75 a week by doing so. Grain was hauled from within five miles of Orillia to the county town of Ontario county. Hotels were plentiful at that time. There were four or five at Borilla, a place that is now almost unknown, just outside Port Perry, while at Brooklin there were three."

The early publication of a life of Queen Victoria by the Marquis of Lorne, the husband of Princess Louise, one of her late Majesty's daughters, is announced. Mr. P. Shee, of Gravenhurst, is in luck. Last week he received a letter postmarked Kingston containing \$7 conscribed money, and the one word "restitution" written on the

inside of envelope.

Orillia Packet: Mrs. Thos. Vanderpump has a curiosity which is of special interest at the present. She was standing in front of the crowd where the wedding procession of the Prince of Wales, now King Edward VII., was passing, and being pushed too close to the horses for safety, darted past them and beneath the coach occupied by the Prince and his bride. As she passed the horse's head, she accidentally touched one of the favours with which it was decorated; it fell off, and Mrs. Vanderpump snatched it up. Looking upwards at the moment for the first time discovered who occupied the carriage, and was somewhat dismayed to see the royal bride and groom, laughingly watching her effort to escape. The favour is a rosette, bearing the likeness of Queen Alexandra, and though somewhat faded, the features are still distinguishable.

A Goderich township farmer hired a very inexperienced boy a short time ago to help about the place. One morning he told the lad to go and salt the calf in the pasture. The boy took about a quart of salt, rubbed it all over the calf, working it into the hair. A gang of colts in the pasture scented the salt and got after the calf. They licked the hair all off the calf's back and tried to lick the hide off too. The farmer tried to catch the calf and wash it off, but the creature thinking he wanted to lick, too, kept out of his way. The boy, calf and farmer were all unhappy, the colts being the only ones that got any fun out of it. This story is true; so the Seaforth Expositor says.

Near Pere Marquette, Wis., an old man formerly earned his living as a cabinet-maker has resided for several years in the stump of a tree. The tree was a great linden, but was sawed off about fifteen feet from the ground, and the old man has used the skill of his craft to make the interior of his strange abode comfortable and even luxurious. The stump has both door and window.

Orillia News Letter: The following letter has been received at the Marine Department from Lord Strathcona: "Whilst staying at Seator, in Devonshire, a few days since, I happened to see a bottle which had been washed up by the tide. On opening it two sheets of paper were found, which contained the following pencil written statement: 'Toronto, Ont., Canada, 1900 Thursday, June 3rd. John McDermond, born in the village of Lefroy, Simcoe county, April 5th, 1874, sailed from Montreal July 13, 1899, for Liverpool, founded at sea.' Thinking this may be of interest to you, I have taken the liberty of sending you a copy as if the man had friends, he may probably be traced by the fact of knowing his birthplace. The bottle was covered with barnacles, and had evidently been in the water some time. The bottle was picked up by William Tolman, a sailor of Seator.

King Edward I. was 6 feet 4 inches in height, and the Scots called him Longshanks. Queen Victoria during the past 40 years has spent £300 per year out of her private purse sending three sovereigns to mothers of triplets. Nearly thirty years ago Jonas Silverman, a farmer living near Springfield, O., was swindled out of \$1,500 by sharpers while on the train near Valpariso, Ind. The criminals escaped and ere long one of the three died. The other two drifted to the Klondike a year or two ago became rich and have just returned to the States. They hunted up Mr. Silverman, paid him the \$1,500 and gave him \$1,000 more by way of interest on the forced loan. This has formed a bad precedent.

Bishop Latimer, the martyr, who perished at the stake in Queen Mary's reign, was (claims the Rev. W. Cowan, in the February number of the Quiver) a humorist of the true type; and with this weapon he lashed the vices and follies of his own time. In rebuking the slothful, self-seeking prelates of the day, he says in a sermon preached at Paul's Cross, "Who is the most diligent bishop and prelate in all England, that passeth all the rest in doing of his office? I can tell, for I know him who it is, I know him well. But now I think I see you listening and harkening that I should name him. There is one that passeth all others, and is the most diligent prelate and preacher in all England. And will ye know who it is? I will tell you. It is the devil. Among all the pack of them that have cure, the devil shall go for my money, for he appeareth his business. Therefore, ye unpreaching prelates, learn of the devil to be diligent in your office. If ye will not learn of God, for shame learn of the devil."

W. W. LOGAN



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1901--February--1901

We present to our many Patrons for the month of February a Double Attractive purchasing Event, First--this is our annual stock-taking month, which means a great many lines of goods we do not want to write into the stock book, and carry over to another season, but which you will find serviceable and you can buy them now at Prices That Will Save Your Cash. This applies to each of the departments of the store and will continue during February, and the increase in sales will reach as much as January exceeded the same month last year, we will be well satisfied.

New Spring Goods

Next week we open our first shipment of New Spring Goods comprising..... Prints, Shirtings, Tickings Cottonades, Skirtings, Laces, Embroideries, Velveteens, etc.,

with many other lines to follow later. Our purchases in staple cotton goods were made before the recent big advances, and Prices will be of interest to Cash Buyers. No trouble to show goods or quote prices. Special purchase of Cashmere Hosiery will also arrive next week, including very special value in Ladies fine quality at 25c per pair and up to the very finest qualities, also every size in medium and fine quality children's hose; assortment, quality and price will all be found satisfactory on inspection. Every department always kept fully stocked with new and seasonable goods, so that customers are sure of getting all wants supplied. When visiting the store you are cordially invited to look through stocks.

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