THE ADVANCE.

One of the leading Local and Family Newspapers in Northern Ontario. Published

Every Thursday,

FROM THE OFFICE,

Gollingwood Street, - - Flesherton, Ont.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

$1.00 per annum in advance; $1.50 if not paid until the end of the year. No paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid up; and no subscriptions taken for less than one year, except when special arrangements for shorter periods are made with the publisher.

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Flesherton Meat Market.

SEPT. GOOD, - PROPRIETOR

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Fresh Meats constantly on hand for Cash. Orders promptly filled.

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FLESHERTON.

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FLESHERTON,

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Shop in W. Clayton's Boot & Shoe Store, Flesherton.

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THE POLES MUST GO.

Germany to Buy Polish Estates and Colonize them with Germans—The Poles to be Gradually Exterminated—A Sensational Speech by Bismarck.

A Berlin cable says: Prince Bismarck yesterday, in a debate in the Prussian Landtag on the expulsion of the Poles from Germany, made a remarkable speech, occupying two hours in its delivery. He said the primary cause of the Government's action was the disloyalty of the Poles to the German Crown. They were, he said, constantly engaged in intrigues against the Government, and had made themselves a steady annoyance to Prussia. By acting as the accomplices of the Opposition in the German Parliament they effected a majority against the Government, and the Crown could do nothing less than either deny the demands of such a majority or else destroy the evil element which made the majority possible. The Polish agitation in Germany, Prince Bismarck said, had always appeared an element of danger and had compelled him to keep watch upon Russia. The Poles had been constantly and not always unsuccessfully endeavoring to set foreign States against Prussia. "Hence," continued the Chancellor, "we have determined to buy out all the real estate owned by the Polish nobles in Prussian Poland and place German colonists on the lands hitherto occupied by the expelled people. In order to make colonization inure permanently to the benefit of the Empire, the colonists will be prohibited from marrying Poles." The cost of the undertaking will be about three hundred millions of marks (about $75,000,000), but the State will lose no more than 10 per cent. of this, a loss made necessary by the exigencies of the case—buying out an alien class and reselling to Germans—while the gain to the Empire will be immeasurable. "The Government," spoke out the Chancellor with great animation, "will never concede the restoration of Poland nor a hair's breadth in that direction. Whosoever refuses to help to protect and maintain the State is not entitled to claim anything from the State. As for me, I am ready to save my country, although it cost me my head and honor. If anybody dares to attack Prussia's frontiers, I shall say, like Mr. Gladstone, 'hands off.'"

Referring to the insinuation that the Government's religious prejudices had a great influence in its treatment of the Poles, Prince Bismarck said: "Religion is in nowise connected with the expulsions. As the policy of kindness has failed, it became necessary to reduce the Polish element in Germany, and to increase the German element. This is the real case. As for the expulsions, the Government has determined to persist in this work, despite the opposition of the Reichstag, and in conclusion I will say that, before allowing the fatherland to be endangered, I would counsel the Emperor to make the Federal Government independent of obstructionist tactics in the Reichstag, so far as the constitution and the laws of Germany would permit; for I would hold any Minister to be a coward who should hesitate to stake everything to save his fatherland from danger."

The Chancellor's speech was the principal topic of conversation in the capital to-night. It is generally conceded that the speech is equally capable of being interpreted to foreshadow either a dissolution of the Reichstag or a *coup d'etat*.

The occasion of Prince Bismarck's speech was the discussion of the resolution introduced on Saturday last, expressing satisfaction at the passage in the speech from the throne promising measures for the protection of German interests in East Prussia. Herr Achenbach moved that the resolution be adopted, and the motion was supported by Herr Wehr. Dr. Windthorp opposed the motion. After Prince Bismarck's speech the discussion was adjourned until to-morrow.

THE BIRCH IN THE BOUDOIR.

English Homes Excited Over the Question of Corporal Punishment.

A London cable says: We are threatened with a controversy similar to that which raged some years ago in the *Queen*, the *Family Herald*, and other journals, under the title of "The Birch in the Boudoir," on the subject of corporal chastisement as an adjunct of education. Recently there appeared in a weekly Church paper an advertisement for a governess, which read: "Education wanted for a young lady. Strict discipline indispensable, and applicants must undertake to resort to corporal chastisement if requested." This has already produced a number of letters either lauding or condemning the use of the rod. As a specimen of the former, "A Mother" writes to an evening paper saying: "I have educated a family of four girls, and from 5 to 18 years of age they were at all times liable to be invited to my boudoir to receive a severe chastisement for carelessness in study, disobedience or other offences. The instrument I employed was a leather strap, divided at the end into six thongs, with which I could inflict a very severe punishment, and the results have proved most satisfactory." This is a curious comment upon the decision of a magistrate in Norwich, who one day last week fined a local schoolmaster ten shillings and costs for "committing an assault" upon a refractory pupil by caning him on the hands.

SUICIDE AT NINETY.

Preferred Death by Her Own Hand Rather Than Become a Pauper.

A Hartford, Conn., despatch says: A pitiful story, illustrating alike the attachment of the aged for their homes and their horror of the poorhouse in their closing days, comes from Durham, a little country place in Middlesex county. Widow Elias Miller, 90 years old, very feeble and with no one to care for her, has been aided by the authorities for many years and has lived alone in a dilapidated farmhouse, which had been her home nearly all her life. Finding that she was too helpless to be left alone longer, the town authorities recently told her to prepare for removal to the poorhouse. The old woman protested in vain. The night before the day fixed for her removal, a passing stage-driver noticed an unusual light in her window, and forcing the door found the poor old creature writhing on the floor in flames. The surroundings indicated that she had set fire to her clothing with suicidal intent and with a resolve not to die in the poorhouse. She lived but a few hours.

Taking the Baby's Picture.

"Great heavens!" roared the policeman, springing upstairs three steps at a jump, and dashing, with uplifted club, into the photographer's studio, "what are you fighting about up here? Are you all in this row?" Grandpa and Uncle John and Aunt Sarah and pa and ma and Cousin Bessie and young Mr. Thinlegs, her young man, and the two cousins from Polk county and Uncle Charley and grandma all looked kind of silly, and were quiet, but the photographer said: "O, that's all right, officer, there's no row; we're just trying to keep the baby quiet while we take its picture, bless it." Exit policeman. Chorus: Ram, bang, smash, jingle, whistle, crash, slam, slam, slam, toote te toote, bang, bang, smash! Picture is taken.

Absent-Mindedness.

(It is always safer to listen to what is said to you, even if your "best young man" is proposing to another girl within earshot): Mr Percy Goosehead (in excited narrative)—And then he said I was a jackass. Miss Kate—And were you?—*Harper's Bazar.*

REMARKABLE TENACITY OF LIFE.

The Victim Breathes Two Weeks After a Fatal Dose of Morphine.

A Malone, N. Y., telegram says: On the 12th inst., John S. Gillett, a commercial traveller for a New York grocery house, went into a drug store here and, taking a sixty-grain bottle of morphine off one of the shelves, swallowed its entire contents. He immediately relapsed into unconsciousness, and a few minutes later was pronounced dead. Shortly after signs of life were discovered, and vigorous applications of a galvanic battery brought the unfortunate man to life. Since then he has lingered between life and death until yesterday, when he died. He was delirious during the entire period. It is considered a very remarkable fact that he should have lived two weeks after having taken so large a dose of the deadly drug.

FROZEN ON THE PRAIRIE.

What Happens to the Man Who Loses His Way in a Colorado Snow Storm.

The Denver *Tribune-Republican* tells a story which is not exactly encouraging to persons intending to go west.

On January 6th three men left Wono, Kan., for places a short distance to the west. Wono is near the Colorado line. The names of the three men were Cherry, Carson and Cassler. Cherry was going to his home, a distance of sixteen miles south, and Carson and Cassler were bound for Gaudy, a small station eighteen miles further on. It was storming when they left Wono, but they had no fears of going across the country. The night following was the worst period of the storm, and their friends at Wono became apprehensive of their safety.

As days passed, and neither of the three men made their appearance, a searching party to look for them was made up. It was rough experience for the searchers, as the regular paths of travel were obliterated, and the country could only be traversed by cutting across. The snow was piled in huge drifts, oftentimes presenting the appearance of miniature mountain ranges.

Five days afterward one branch of the relief party discovered the bodies of the three men totally covered in a drift. The horses were still hitched to the sled in which the men travelled. They had fallen in their tracks. On the sled were three bales of hay, and this hay, projecting through the drift, was the only thing which indicated to the searchers the whereabouts of the lost party. The three men were found lying side by side on the sled, covered up in blankets. The three bales of hay were piled up, as if for protection against the beating storm, and the men had crouched down behind them. They had evidently proceeded through the storm as long as it was possible for the horses to make any headway. When they could go no further, the luckless men abandoned the horses to their fate and sought what protection for themselves they could. That they had lost their way was evident from the location, far away from the trail, in which they were found. Knowing that it would be useless, therefore, for them to strike out on foot, they had piled up the hay bales, drawn their blankets around them and lain down on the sled, huddling closely together. Such inaction was a bid for death, and they never awoke from the unconsciousness which the cold produced.

The men had twenty gallons of kerosene and some matches, but it is supposed they were unable to kindle even a fire which the hay and the kerosene would have produced.

The surroundings went to show that the men died in the night time, having travelled throughout the day. They had wandered so far out on the prairie as to be farther away from their destination than they were at the starting point.

The bodies were carried to the respective homes of the men. They all leave families.

ON AN ICE FLOE.

Terrible Sufferings of Four French Canadians Forty Hours in a Storm.

A Quebec despatch says: Napolean Comeau, telegraph operator at Godbout River on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, his brother, and two of his brothers-in-law named Labric, all experienced a miraculous escape from death during the terrible storm of ten or twelve days ago. They had gone out hunting seals and ducks upon the ice when a seal, which the Labric brothers were trying to kill, ferociously attacked them. The Comeaus went to their assistance. All were upon a floating field of ice, which was gradually drifting farther out from the shore, and they soon found that they were unable to return. To add to their difficulty they had continually to take to their canoe, as the ice broke beneath them. The storm which raged around them soon prevented them from seeing the shore and they were slowly carried out toward the opposite coast. In this position they existed for forty hours, with no other food that two frozen ducks. Two of their number were so badly frozen that they would probably have perished but for Napoleon Comeau. They were finally enabled to land on the south shore near Anne Des Mondes, whence they were driven to Metis, a distance of twenty-six miles, and thence by I. C. R. to this city. During the time they were on the ice the party drifted nearly ninety miles, and their escape was nothing short of miraculous. They will return home by the north shore, a distance of about 240 miles, driving to Sault-Au-Cochon and walking the remaining eighty miles on snowshoes.

A BALLOON TRAGEDY.

Three Aeronauts Reported to Have Been Lost With Le Fugitif Off Brest.

A Brest, France, cablegram says: It is now believed as certain that the balloon Le Fugitif has been destroyed in a recent gale and that three aeronauts, Aime Girod, a musical composer; Jules Renaud, the baritone once attached to a theatre in New York, and Dubois Carroul, have perished. Le Fugitif was last seen on Saturday circling over Brest in a gale of wind. The aeronauts made frantic efforts to land and they threw overboard all the objects in the car—carpet bags, overcoats, rugs, shoes, watches and instruments. Just as the balloon descended nearly fifty yards from the ground a sudden gust whisked it seaward and out of sight. A Russian steamer now arrived reported that on Sunday, six miles off Brest, it passed a wrecked balloon and car answering exactly to the description of Le Fugitiff. Scarcely any hope remains that the aeronauts have not perished.

A CEMETERY KEEPER'S DEATH.

Hacked to Pieces in a Lonely Hovel.

A Halifax (N. S.) despatch says: Alex Gillies has been convicted in Charlottetown of the murder of Pat Callaghan, cemetery keeper, last May. The trial lasted more than a week, being concluded last evening. The jury returned to the court room at a late hour with a verdict of guilty. The crime with which the prisoner was accused was a most cold-blooded one, the victim being hacked to death with an axe in a lonely hut in which he lived near the cemetery.

A 12-year-old daughter of John Spitzer, of Pocahontas county, W.V., complained of one of her teeth aching and requested her father to pull it. He found it loose and pulled it out with his fingers. A flow of blood followed, and before it could be stopped the little girl had bled to death.

A roof pronounced superior to that of slate, because of its lightness and other advantages, is now made of any fibrous pulp.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

Opening of the Third Session of the Fifth Parliament.

RETROSPECTIVE AND PROSPECTIVE REVIEW.

Some Important Public Measures to be Introduced.

THE LIQUOR LAW QUESTION.

TORONTO, Jan. 28.—The third session of the fifth Ontario Parliament was opened to-day, at 3 o'clock, in a very quiet manner. There was the customary guard of honor escort. The attendance of members was about an average on opening day. 'C" Company, Infantry School, furnished the guard. Lieut.-Governor Robinson read the following

Speech from the Throne:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

It has once more become my agreeable duty to convene you for the discharge of the high public functions devolving upon this House—for your annual review of Provincial administration—for such measures in legislation as may keep pace with the rapid strides of this great Province, and for providing the supplies necessary to administer the Government and give effect to your enactments.

THE REBELLION.

Immediately after the rising of the House last year the attention of our people was anxiously drawn to the Northwest Territory by most unhappy occurrences. That vast Territory, like the intervening Province of Manitoba, is allied to Ontario by the closest ties of affection and kindred. Many of the pioneers in those distant settlements are the sons of your constituents, or lately were themselves your constituents, and their hardships and dangers touch very directly the hearts and homes of Ontario. When the volunteers were called out to restore order, it was gratifying to observe the spirit in which our Ontario youth answered the summons and undertook what in every civil strife must needs be a most painful duty. While sincerely deploring the necessity for their services, we all felt a natural and just pride in our citizen soldiers as we witnessed their patient endurance on the march and their unflinching, courageous action. When tranquility was restored it was again gratifying to observe the alacrity with which they returned to their civil duties and resumed the avocations of peaceful industry.

PROGRESS OF AGRICULTURE.

I am rejoiced to see by the official statistics that Ontario continues to maintain the lead of all Provinces and States on the continent in agricultural industry. The field crops of the past year have, with two or three exceptions, been very bountiful, though low prices and a widespread disease in the potato have not permitted our farmers to realize the usual profits of some former years.

I notice with pleasure that the increased attention which is given to mixed farming and to live stock and dairy products has widened the basis of our agricultural prosperity and greatly limited the injury arising from the failure of a single crop or a single branch of this most important of the occupations of our people.

THE FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

The recent organization of farmers' institutes by the Commissioners of Agriculture has furnished most important agencies for the exchange of valuable experience and for the diffusion of scientific principles and methods among our whole farming community. These institutes have been largely attended and highly appreciated. The professors of the Agricultural College have personally interested themselves in the proceedings and have established between the college and institutes cordial relations of the greatest mutual advantage.

ADVISORY BOARD OF FARMERS.

In order to secure the permanent affiliation of practical husbandry with scientific research a measure will be submitted for the formation of an Advisory Board of Farmers whom the Commissioners may consult in the management of the College and Experimental Farm.

THE DOMINION LIQUOR LAW.

I congratulate you upon the result of the appeal taken to the Imperial Privy Council by the Government of Canada respecting the Dominion Liquor License Acts. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council have declared these acts to be wholly null and void. Thus their Lordships have not only sustained the Provincial jurisdiction to the extent adjudged by the Supreme Court of Canada, but have sustained the full contention of Ontario, and have declared the entire subject of tavern, shop, vessel and wholesale licenses to belong exclusively to Provincial jurisdiction.

THE NORTHWESTERN TERRITORY.

Notwithstanding the decision of Her Majesty in Council in 1884, determining in favor of the Province the long pending dispute respecting our westerly boundary, the settlement of the territory (now called the Rainy River district), and the development of its resources, have been further delayed by a claim recently set up that all the Crown lands in this territory belong to the Dominion as Indian lands, though in the case of the other provinces all lands similarly situated are admitted to belong to the Province within which they lie.

THE TIMBER STEALS.

The Dominion Government having covered large tracts of the awarded territory with licenses to cut the timber, my Government, to preserve the Provincial domain from further waste, applied for and obtained an injunction against some of the licensees, the effect of which has been to deter, so far as known, all Dominion licensees and other trespassers from further operations in the territory. The Court granting the injunction decided that in Ontario, as in all the older Provinces, the title to such lands lies, not in the Dominion, but in the Provinces. An appeal from this decision is still pending. A measure will be submitted to you for the opening and settling of the lands of the Rainy River district to take effect as soon as the claim of the Dominion Government has been abandoned or set at rest by the tribunal of last resort.

INTEREST TO BE PAID MUNICIPALITIES.

I regret that, notwithstanding the earnest efforts of my Government, no progress has been made towards a settlement of accounts between Ontario, the Dominion and the Province of Quebec. In view of this further delay and of the apparent uncertainty as to the time when a settlement may be arrived at, my Government deem it inadvisable to any longer postpone paying to the municipalities entitled the interest on the Land Improvement Fund derived from the sale of school lands prior to Confederation. The principal, though not yet received, having been advanced by the Province to the municipalities in 1882. Provision for this purpose will be made in the estimates.

SETTLEMENT OF NORTHERN LANDS.

The early settlement of lands recently made accessible by railroads and highways continues to receive the earnest encouragement of my Government. The past year witnessed a partial revival of the mining industry, and our valuable deposits of minerals and metals are again attracting attention.

THE TIMBER SALES.

I congratulate you upon the liberal bonuses received at the timber sale, deemed necessary last fall, of a limited area of scattered and exposed limits upon the north shore of the Georgian Bay.

THE SMALLPOX.

An unusually severe visitation of smallpox in the commercial metropolis of the adjoining Province excited much sympathy with our afflicted neighbors. The virulent character of the epidemic occasioned my Government the most anxious and watchful solicitude on account of our close business relations and constant intercourse with that city. Prompt and energetic measures were taken through our Provincial Board of Health to maintain a vigilant quarantine on the frontier and to insist on the examination and vaccination of passengers and the disinfecting of railway carriages and merchandize. Local Boards rendered effective service as well in enforcing general vaccination among our own people as by other precautionary measures. In devising and carrying into effect the preventive measures necessary the enlarged powers conferred last session by the Public Health Act were of eminent service. The result of the vigorous action taken has been that nowhere within our limits did the epidemic obtain any dangerous foothold, and that our towns and villages generally have enjoyed complete immunity from the dreaded disease.

CONSOLIDATION OF THE STATUTES.

During the recess I issued a commission for the consolidation of the Provincial Statutes, now again dispersed through many volumes. Substantial progress has been made in this important work, and it is hoped that a report by the Commissioners may be ready for submission to the House during the present session.

PROSPECTIVE LEGISLATION.

Bills will be laid before you embodying improvements in the law recommended by the Commissioners or suggested in their discussions. Other measures are to be submitted for your consideration, including a Bill for the auditing of the public accounts of the Province, a Bill for increasing the usefulness and efficiency of Mechanics' Institutes, a Bill for the amendment of the law relating to the estates of deceased persons, and a Bill respecting the liability of employers for injuries suffered by their workmen.

NO ASSISTED IMMIGRATION.

I regret that in many branches of industry the present supply of labor seems so far to exceed the demands as to depress wages and render employment uncertain. Under these circumstances my advisers continue to regard it as unwise for this Province to stimulate the immigration of the working classes from abroad, lest the hardships of the present situation should be aggravated.

I had hoped that the past year would have witnessed active operations on the projected Parliamentary and Departmental Buildings, but unexpected difficulties in the plans have intervened. I derive, however, much pleasure from the confident anticipation that early in the present season these much-needed buildings will be in course of erection.

INCREASED ACCOMMODATION FOR INSANE.

The urgent need of increased accommodation for the lunatic and idiotic of our population was recognized last session, and appropriations were voted for additional buildings at Hamilton and Orillia. It was found, however, that before the intended structure at Hamilton could be made available some interim accommodation for lunatics must be provided in order to the immediate relief of our jails and over-crowded asylums, the Department was so fortunate as to secure, under a five years' lease, the use of Regiopolis College as a branch asylum, which has been placed under the management of the officers of the Blackwood Asylum. After some repairs and slight alterations, very suitable accommodation was thus provided for one hundred and fifty patients. This will, it is hoped, be found sufficient for the public wants until necessary permanent provision is made.

REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED.

The reports of the various departments of the public service for the past year will be laid before you. There will also be submitted the first report of the Master of Titles on the operation of the Land Titles Act of last session, and the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the complaints made against the Warden of the Central Prison.

THE ESTIMATES FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

have been prepared with a view to economy and efficiency, due regard being had to the varied requirements of this great and progressive Province. I feel assured that your legislative labors will, as heretofore, be marked by earnestness of purpose and by a sincere and disinterested consideration of the public welfare.

After the submission of the Lieut.-Governor's Speech,

The Speaker informed the House that he had issued his warrants to the Clerk for new writs for the following electoral districts: Algoma East, Algoma West, East Kent, Lennox; and the following persons had been elected for vacancies: Robert Ferguson, Kent; George Douglas Hawley, Lennox; Charles Drury, East Simcoe; Robert Adam Lyon, Algoma East, and James Conmee, Algoma West.

At this stage Mr. James Conmee was introduced to the Speaker by Hon. A. S. Hardy and Mr. Awrey. He was loudly applauded.

Hon. O. Mowat moved the first reading of the Bill for the Administration of Oaths of Office to Justices of the Peace.—Carried.

Hon. O. Mowat moved that the Speech of His Honor the Lieut.-Governor be taken into consideration to-morrow.—Carried.

NOTICES.

Notices have been given for the following Bills:

Hon. O. Mowat—For the amendment of the law relating to the estates of deceased persons.

Hon. C. F. Fraser—To secure compensation to workmen in certain cases.

Hon. C. F. Fraser—To amend the Act respecting compensation to the families of persons killed in accidents and in duels.

Hon. C. F. Fraser—To further amend the Assessment Act.

Hon. C. F. Fraser—To further amend the Municipal Act.

Hon. A. M. Ross—For the creation of an Advisory Board in connection with the Agricultural College and Experimental Farm.

Hon. A. M. Ross—Relating to the auditing of the public accounts of the Province.

Hon. G. W. Ross—Relating to Mechanics' Institutes.

FRIDAY, Jan. 29.—The Speaker took the chair at 3 o clock.

Mr. George D. Hawley, member for Lennox, was introduced to the House by Hon. C. F. Fraser and Hon. James Young.

Mr. Robert Ferguson, member for Kent, was introduced by Hon. A. M. Ross and Mr. Balfour.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The Attorney-General—On Monday next—Select Committee to strike the Standing Committees ordered by this House.

Mr. Waters—Bill to enable widows and unmarried women to vote for members of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton)—On Monday next—Bill to amend the revised statute respecting master and servant.

Also, Bill to amend the Assessment Act.

All wood is not buoyant in water. A perfectly dry stick from any one of some sixteen species of trees growing in the Southern and Southwestern States will sink. One kind—the Florida ironwood—30 per cent. heavier than water.

HUNT FOR MILLIONS.

The Lawrence-Townley Heirs Raise Funds, and a Committee will Go to England and Get the Estates.

The Lawrence-Townley heirs have agreed to spend just $5,000 more in trying to find out whether there is an unclaimed estate in England which they can get at. For that purpose three delegates will be sent to England to visit the estates and inspect the titles.

The proceedings held yesterday afternoon had an air of earnestness, for which S. H. Blake, the eminent Canadian, was largely responsible. Mr. Blake was chosen to go to England to carry on the investigation. So enthusiastic are these prospective heirs that it requires but a short time to raise the required $5,000 in money and pledges.

The same enthusiasm which starts Mr. Blake off with such a flourish will denounce him if his efforts are not crowned with success. Private talks with some of the prospective heirs found five who say they will surely go to England on their own account, and to watch Mr. Blake. That is the history of the struggle for the past fifty years. Mr. Blake will meet an heir at every turn, when he gets over to London, and like hundreds who have gone before him, the engagement will be heartily repented on both sides as soon as the attorney fee is gone. The sentiments of one old man, spoken in yesterday's meeting, expresses the hopes of the thousands who have taken the delusive infatuation into their hearts, "I want to see this thing settled in this generation. It has ruined my life, and my father's before me, and I don't want to leave any such terrible legacy of misery to my boys and girls"—*Detroit News.*

PRESENCE OF MIND.

Terrible Church Calamity Averted by the Pastor's Courage.

A La Salle, Ill., despatch says: Six hundred people gathered in the new hall in the rear of the Methodist Episcopal Church Thursday to celebrate Robert Burns' birthday. The hall is on the second floor and supported from the cross-beam above by a bolted iron rod. During prayer the floor began to sink and a total collapse of the building seemed imminent. Rev. Mr. White, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, perceiving the danger, began to sing. The immense congregation paused and the interval of inaction saved countless lives, for the next instant the sinking sensation ceased. In accordance with the advice then given the crowd dispersed in small details. An investigation showed that the thread of the rod had stripped off inside the bolt because of the weight below. If a rush and a consequent disturbance of the floor had followed the settling, the rod must have been wrenched from the bolt and the building wrecked. There being a large coal fire on the floor and only one escape by a spiral stairway, the ensuing horrors can be easily imagined. A subscription list is being circulated and generously signed to reward the quick-witted pastor.

Writing From Dictation

A shorthand writer of 20 years' experience recently said to a Washington *Star* reporter:

"A Congressman once said to me, 'Can you come up to my home to-night? I want to dictate a speech.'

'All right,' said I, 'but it will cost you an X.'

'What! Ten dollars for an evening's work! I can get it done for $5.'

'You won't have the least trouble in getting it done for $5,' I replied.

A few days afterward I met him, and he said, 'I wish you would help me out on that speech.'

'Didn't you get your $5-man to do it,' I asked.

'Oh, yes,' he replied, 'but the d—— fool took down everything I said, word for word, and made the worst mess I ever saw. I am obliged to commence all over again.'

"To show you how dependent upon their stenographers men can become," he went on, "I will tell you that for 13 years I was private secretary to Gen. Garfield, and a great deal of the time he did not see nine-tenths of his correspondence. I would furnish him with blank sheets of paper and indicate where his signature was to be written. I would afterward write his letters and end them at the signature, and address and mail them. Of course, I had taken a great deal of dictation before I was trusted to such an extent, and I knew just about what he would want to say. I was at Mentor the time the New York *Tribune* telegraphed to Gen. Garfield to know if he was the author of the Morey letter, and was awakened from a sound sleep in the middle of the night by Gen. Garfield. He showed me the telegram and said: 'Did I ever write that letter?' I was able to pronounce it a forgery at once. I knew I had never written it, and I was so familiar with Gen. Garfield's style that I was satisfied he never could have written it."

Beautiful Snow in the West.

We left Sioux City last Thursday evening in weather that we thought was pretty cold. Our destination was Waterloo, Ia. We hadn't gone far when the train stopped, and, looking out, we saw the sign of a railroad lunch counter. This had the effect of emptying the car, as all the boys were glad of the chance to get a cup of coffee. We thought the stop was only for a few minutes, so everybody jostled and scrambled for pie and sandwiches, thinking to make the most of his time.

Just as the proprietor had decided that he would have to close up for want of stock, the conductor came in, and we all asked: "How much time have we?" The conductor answered: "Don't hurry, gentlemen; you will have all the time you want"; and we did. We were there five days.—*Chicago News.*

Peripatetic Satchels.

"Madam, your hand-satchel is walking away."

"Oh, dear, the naughty thing won't stay still," and Madam grabbed the peripatetic bag and yanked it back to a spot on the counter directly in front of her. After she had gone the saleswoman said:

"Her satchel was made of alligator skin of a kind that seems to retain its elasticity, and keeps constantly on the move. I have known bags of that sort to move a foot or two in five minutes. Queer, isn't it?"—*Philadelphia Press.*

A New Temperance Lecture.

A very recent and altogether lovely agony of these agonizing days is for a young lady to beg, borrow or buy a squalty looking black bottle with a long neck and a bunch of cheap straw wickerwork around it. She then proceeds to gild it with bronze paint, and after it is completed, transmits it per special messenger to her best young man. The deep, innermost significance of this is 'You are gilding the road to ruin which leads from inside the bottle." Thus a temperance lecture is palmed off as a "work of art."—*Hartford Post.*

The Northern Railway of Russia is using peat as fuel to a great extent, and saves half the cost of wood or coal by the operation. The peat is found chiefly near Moscow, and is cut mostly by steam machinery, which can penetrate to a depth of twenty feet from the surface of the bog.

In Germany a printed formula at the head of the postal cards reads: "Only a few lines to-day." Then the space left for the message is followed by the printed formula: "God be thanked, I am in good health, and hope to hear you are also. The weather is ——; write soon, and give my love to all. In haste."

PENNY GROCERIES.

Their Number Increasing—How the Poor Manage to Live.

Within the last six months a number of Italians and Germans have started penny groceries in the parts of the city populated by the poor, and these places all seem to be prosperous and thriving. Ten cents is thought by these grocers to be a big bill, and the investor of a quarter is inevitably regarded as a millionaire. In conversation with a reporter a leading retail grocer said

"There is no doubt these penny groceries are on the increase. They are an evil, and the penny grocer is really the poor man's enemy, instead of his friend. In the penny grocery the poor man pays twice as much for his provisions in the long run, and does not get as good a quality as if he bought them in moderate quantities from larger stores. The penny groceries are stocked with what the poor man is likely to buy. The quality of the provisions is not good; the coffee and tea are especially poor, and the vegetables invariably stale. Many of the penny groceries sell bad whiskey to their customers, but few allow it to be drank on their premises.

An Italian who keeps a penny grocery in South Fifth avenue, near Bleecker street, gives the following list as an illustration of what can be done in a penny grocery with a silver quarter:

	Cents.
Three ounces of coffee	1
One ounce of tea	1
Three ounces of rice	1
Small loaf of stale bread	1
Six sticks kindling-wood	1
Three onions	1
Four potatoes (old)	1
Three ounces of barley	1
Three ounces of brown sugar	1
Four ounces of starch	1
Thin slice bar soap	1
Enough raisins for rice pudding	1
Small teacup of black molasses	1
Lampful of oil	1
Quarter of a yard of lamp-wick	1
Quarter pound of oleomargarine	4
Scuttle of coal (mixed)	1
Three ounces of lard	1
Two pickles	1
Total	25

A small family can live for a day on these purchases. The coffee will be sufficient for a big potful, and the tea is enough for two drawings. The rice and raisins make a small pudding. The stale bread will serve for a meal, and there is enough sugar to sweeten the tea and coffee. The onions, potatoes and barley, with the addition of a beef-bone or piece of meat, and a penny bunch of pot-herbs, will make a stew or soup. There is enough soap to wash the dishes and scrub the children's faces, enough oil and wick to last all night, a scuttle of coal and wood to kindle the fire in the morning. Then there are lard, molasses, and the next thing to butter, oleomargarine, and the two good-sized pickles for a relish. The penny grocers buy small stale loaves for half a cent each, and retail them at a cent. Medium-sized stale loaves cost them 1½ cents and sell at 2 cents, and large stale loaves they retail at 3 cents. The coal they sell is coal-yard sweepings screened, and contains a good deal of slate.—*New York Mail and Express.*

ROOFS OF PAPER.

Pronounced Superior to Either Slate or Shingle Covering.

A roof pronounced superior to that of slate, because of its lightness and other advantages, is now made of any fibrous pulp, says the Boston *Journal of Commerce*. From this material tiles of any shape desired are formed by pressure under machinery or by any other method which may suggest itself. Pressed into the design wished for, the pulp tiles are partially dried, previous to being subjected to a water-proof solution. Thoroughly impregnated with the preparation to resist moisture, they are baked to harden in them the water-proof mixture. After the baking the tiles are treated to a mixture imparting an enamelled surface; to this is added a coating of sand, whereby the pulp is rendered proof against the action of heat or flame. By the use of different colored sands a variety of tints may be imparted to the tiles, which, after the application of the enameling mixture and sands, are baked a second time, after which they are ready for use. Besides the inherent lightness of pulp tiles, which obviates the necessity of a heavy frame to support a weighty roof, the pulp tile, being tough and not brittle like slate, is far less liable to be broken from blows, stones thrown upon them or human footsteps. Again, slate tiles cannot be laid compactly together on a roof on account of their brittleness, which prevents their being drawn tightly together by nails. Through the fibrous pulp nails may be driven as close home as in shingles, thereby binding them closely to the bed and together without any possibility of lateral movement or being blown away in a high wind, as slates loosely fastened on roofs so frequently are. Nails penetrate the pulp tiles more easily than shingles, and lie closer together, being more elastic than wood.

Courtship in Kaffirland.

When a resident of the Cape, or Kaffirland, yearns for a life partner he has an interview with the father of the lady. If the old gentleman thinks well of the youth, and that he will do honor to him as a son-in-law, he says: "Well, can you give me 200 cattle for my daughter?" That is, it might be 200, or it may be more or less, just as the old man values his daughter or appraises the stock owning or getting capacity of the prospective son-in-law. If the young Kaffir is determined to wed the young maiden whose hand he seeks, he will always reply that he can fill the bill as to cattle, no matter if he hasn't enough on hand to make a good-sized dish of hash, and never expects to have. He'll fix that. There are plenty of Kaffirs, who have cattle galore, and he gathers together a few congenial friends and they stroll over to some convenient kraal of a neighboring tribe and walk away with the requisite number of cattle to make the bridegroom happy. Of course the owner of the cattle raises very strong objections to this exchange of property, and there may be a number of woolly heads broken before the expectant bridegroom secures the herd. If he gets them all right to his kraal that settles the matter. The man who lost them knows that other tribes have cattle, and that he may want to marry somebody himself without having the necessary stock on hand to win the bride. Then he will forage on his neighbor in the same way. Thus is Hymen's torch kept lighted in Kaffirland.

Mottoes.

"I doan' go much on mottoes an' sich," said Brother Gardner as he opened the meeting of the Lime Kiln Club. "I once knowed a man what carried the motto of 'A penny saved is a penny airned,' in all his pockets, an' no person ever found him wid a dollar in cash to his name. He was all on de save an' nuffin on de airn. Doan' you git de ideah in