THE ADVANCE.

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

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Editor and Proprietor.

Flesherton
Meat Market.

SEPT. GOOD, - PROPRIETOR

Cash paid for fat Cattle and Sheep.

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

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HARNESS SHOP

FLESHERTON

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The Tinsmith, - Flesherton.

Repairing, Eavetroughing, and in fact everything in the business will receive my prompt and careful attention at reasonable prices.

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CLAYTON'S
HARNESS SHOP!
FLESHERTON,

Is the place to get your Harness Collars, &c, made up in good style.

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

EUGENIA
Grist Mill,
SAW and Lath Mill.

Having made extensive improvements in my Grist Mill, I am confident I can give good satisfaction.

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Good Flour always on hand.

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and Bills filled on the shortest notice. Lumber and Lath always on hand.

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TRY CHASE'S CATARRH CURE. A safe and positive remedy. Price, 25 cents.

TRY CHASE'S KIDNEY AND LIVER PILLS. 25 cts. per box.

SOLD BY ALL DEALERS

FERMANSON & CO., Sole Agents, Bradford

BUCKET-SHOP GAMBLING.

A Kingston Lawyer Disappears, Leaving Some $20,000 Debt Behind Him.

A last (Thursday) night's Kingston despatch says: Kingston has another sensation. For the first time a Kingston lawyer has appropriated funds belonging to his clients. J. A. McMahon, an attorney, left this city suddenly about a week ago, and his departure creating suspicion an investigation was held, when it was found that he took about $14,000 of his clients' money with him. It seems J. A. McMullen, of Pittsburg, borrowed $6,700 from Thos. Polly, of Amherst Island, in order to pay off certain mortgages to Walkem & Walkem. Polly mortgaged his farm, and handed the money over to McMahon to pay Walkem & Walkem, but the money was not paid. R. H. Toye, a young merchant, gave McMahon $2,300 to pay Mr. J. M. Britton, from whom he had purchased property, and this money is missing also. John Saunders, butcher, paid McMahon $2,000 purchase money of the estate of the late A. Jones, butcher, to be paid into court for the widow and children. This money is gone too. Lucas Lasher, of Bath, borrowed $2,000 from the Trust and Loan Company at Toronto. The cheque was sent to McMahon, who sent his clerk to Bath to get it endorsed but Mr. Lasher refused. Later an endorsed cheque was presented at the Federal Bank by McMahon and the money received. Mr. Greet, manager of the bank, claims that the signature is that of Mr. Lasher, but the latter, who is in town, says he did not endorse the cheque. This case will be the means of having McMahon extradited if caught in the States. His defalcations are expected to amount to $20,000, caused by bucket shop speculations. McMahon, who came from Dundas about eight years ago, was well liked and respected, which made it all the easier for him to secure money. He had a fair law practice. He took his wife and family and a mastiff dog away with him. Bucket-shop speculations are said to be at the bottom of the troubles. Recently he made a $6,000 deal and lost the margin, for which he had given his cheque, notwithstanding he had no funds in the bank. H. Budden, cashier in the bucket shop, who accepted the cheque, saw trouble ahead of him, so he emptied the till and cleared on the same night that McMahon went away.

Late Scottish News.

Sheriff Mackintosh, Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, Edinburgh, has been made a Q. C.

The Glasgow City and District (Underground) Railway was opened for traffic on March 15th.

Lord Rosebery has accepted the office of First President of the Scottish National Rifle Association.

The British War Office has sanctioned the erection of a six-gun battery on a site adjoining Fort Matilda, on the Clyde.

The custodiers of the National Wallace Monument, Stirling, have accepted an offer of the Marquis of Bute to provide a bust of King Robert the Bruce to be placed in the monument.

Two manuscript volumes of Burns' poems have been sold in Edinburgh for 310 and 270 guineas each, and a copy of the Kilmarnock edition of his poems dated 1786 for 80 guineas.

Mr. Walter Richard, formerly senior partner in the firm of Miller & Richard, type-founders, Edinburgh, died at Bournemouth, England, on the 7th ult., at the age of 84 years. He was a man of much enterprise and business sagacity, and made Scotch type-founding famous all over the world.

The remains of the late Rear-Admiral Fellowes were interred on the 18th inst. in presence of a large gathering of the general public in Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh, the funeral being of an almost private character.

Frederick Knight Gregeon, who was formerly Assistant Manager of the Commercial Bank of Scotland, and who is charged with embezzling £750 which had been sent to him by depositors, was committed for trial in London on the 18th ult.

Pauperism in Paris.

A Paris cable says: The gaunt, hungry-looking men to be seen on the streets, the women and girls to be met everywhere in looped and ragged attire, tell a sad tale of poverty-stricken Paris. That the fearful distress prevailing is constantly on the increase is apparent without the aid of merciless statistics. But the latest official figures supplement the cry of suffering humanity. In 1861, just a quarter of a century ago, the number of families requiring relief was 86,713, comprising 99,287. Sixteen years later, in 1877, when the Republic had taken the place of the Empire, the number of pauper families had increased to 39,866. In 1880 there were 46,815 families, comprising 125,735 members, depending upon relief. At the beginning of the present year 180,000 persons were known to be in want of assistance. In other words, within the last quarter of a century the number of paupers has been doubled, and during the last three years Paris has been depopulated by about 60,000 persons. The misery at present existing in the city constitutes a fruitful source of danger for the capital.

Working Forty Years for a Bride.

Wm. L. Leach was married a few days ago at Erie, Pa., to Miss Lizzie Herrick, to whom he has been engaged for 40 years. They were lovers in youth, but Miss Herrick's parents, who were in good financial circumstances, objected to her marriage to a poor young man. Leach resolved to overcome this objection, and went West to accumulate a fortune. After many years of discouragement in mining he "struck it rich" in Idaho, and returned for the girl he left behind 40 years ago, and found a bride of 57 instead of 17. The proud parents who thought their daughter too good for a man with no other wealth than his muscle and brain, have in the intervening years become poor, and are now dependent on his bounty.

A Cruel Crime.

Lord McLaren recently passed sentence in the High Court of Justiciary at Edinburgh, Scotland, on the woman Margaret Robertson or Brown, who was found guilty of culpable homicide in connection with the death of her two young grandchildren by burning. His Lordship sentenced the prisoner to ten years' penal servitude, stigmatising her crime as one of a most cruel and detestable nature.

She Misunderstood Him.

"I am an instructor, madam. I coach deficient collegians."

"Eh—what's that?"

"A tutor, madam, I am a tutor."

"Oh, one of them gents that plays in the band, eh? All right; I didn't know but what you was one of them poor miserable fellers that gets their livin' by teachin'. Come right in, sir.—*Burlington Free Press.*

Ruskin on Modern Progress.

I know of nothing that has been taught the youth of our time except that their fathers were apes and their mothers winkles; that the world began in accident and will end in darkness: that honor is a folly, ambition a virtue, charity a vice, poverty a crime and rascality the means of all wealth and the sum of all wisdom.—*From Ruskin's Autobiography.*

An Alabama cotton gin manufacturer has just shipped ten of the most improved machines to Russia. They are consigned to Moscow, and it is thought that the Russian Government wants them experiment in cotton culture in the Black Sea provinces.

PIG TAILS.

The Chinese Head-gear and What it Betokens—A Plea for Depriving Prisoners of Their Queues.

Mr. J. E. Vrooman, in a letter to Mr. N. Shakespeare, M.P., speaking of the custom among the Chinese of wearing queues, says that the general impression among white people that it is in accordance with some religious rite or ceremony peculiar to that people is a most erroneous one. It has nothing whatever to do with religious connections or belief. The Chinese wear queues as a token of submission to the present Emperor, who is a foreigner, being a descendant of the Tartar monarch who conquered China some two and a half centuries ago. Before that period the Chinese wore no queues. This fact is illustrated every day in Chinese theatres, which are supposed to have nothing but historical plays. Mr. Vrooman believes that it would have a most salutary effect upon the criminal class of Chinese to have them understand that as sure as they commit a crime they will be punished for the same, and be made to conform to the sanitary regulations prescribed by law and intended for all criminals, among which is head-shaving, as soon as they enter the doors of the prison. In this connection it is not out of place to ask why the Government countermanded the order given several months ago to the jailer, to cut the hair from the heads of Chinese prisoners the same as from white men? According to Mr. Vrooman, who has spent many years in China and is well informed about the people, it should cause a Chinaman no more pain or regret to lose his queue than it does a white man to don the prison garb. And yet the rule is not enforced against them on the plea that it is an offence against some sort of religious belief!—*Victoria (B. C.) Times.*

The Morals of a Shorter Day.

D. R. Dewey writes from Johns Hopkins' University, Baltimore, Maryland, to the Chicago *Daily News*: One of the most frequently repeated objections to an eight-hour day is that the leisure thus obtained would be devoted to vice. Such critics say that it is better for the bricklayer to lay his bricks in the hot sun than to carry schooners in a lager beer saloon. In other words, a shorter day of work involves a long day of saloon tippling and demoralizing idleness. According to such argument Southern Australia or Victoria should be the most immoral spot on the globe's surface. It is far otherwise. Victoria is often declared to be the happy home for workingmen; and for nearly thirty years the eight-hour day has there prevailed in the trades, factories and mines. The inauguration of this day was brought about in a peaceable and legitimate manner. In 1855 a mason, James Stephens, during the intervals of work on the Government buildings at Melbourne, talked with his fellow-workmen of the hardships of laboring nine and a half hours a day. Meetings were held by the masons, and it was resolved that an eight-hour day would "be greatly beneficial to our trade and improve our social and moral condition." The hot Australian sun also sent conviction to many a doubting heart. Soon the agitation was taken up by the bricklayers, carpenters, painters, plumbers and cabinet-makers. No strikes were contemplated. It was even resolved that the question of wages be left to rule itself by supply and demand. Thus success was achieved, although the eight-hour day, in spite of frequent attempts, has never been legally recognized. A recent Government commission, however, recommended the necessity for positive legislation to secure the earlier closing of stores, and that the employees in factories and shops be prohibited from taking work to their homes. There is, of course, some intemperance in Victoria. Our Consul-General reports that this community of less than a million inhabitants expends at least $15,000,000 annually upon intoxicating liquors. But this is far from an alarming statement as compared with other countries. Thrift and economy prevail there to a great extent. One in every eight is a depositor in a savings bank, with an average individual deposit of more than $100. In brief, the American Consul says that "the moral and physical condition of the people is sound and healthy."

Nor can the opponents of a shorter day's work find much consolation in the experience of England. Intemperance is certainly not increasing; but, on the whole, there is a higher moral standard among the working people than in the past generation of longer hours. Among our own industrial observers there is abundant authority which also makes against the argument that an eight-hour day will be followed by increased vice. The very conservative chief of the Connecticut Bureau of Labor Statistics, Mr. Hadley, has recently written that "he is not disposed to believe that increased leisure simply means idleness, or even something worse." It is still an open question whether intemperance is not largely caused by overwork. The English economist, Mr. Fawcett, said that "no small part of the intemperance which is laid to the charge of our laborers is directly to be traced to excessive toil." As a rule the trades unions are throwing their influence positively on the side of temperance. Their constitutions recognize intemperance as an evil. No liquor seller can become a member of the Knights of Labor. In the great Bricklayers' Hall in Philadelphia there is strict provision that no liquor shall be sold, not even in the rented premises, although the privilege could be disposed at a profitable sum.

From another standpoint the legal mind might argue that the workman could honestly claim the eight-hour day as his heritage. Thorold Rogers, the great explorer into the condition of English labor in the last six centuries, is authority for the statement that the hours of labor for the mediæval artisan were not more than eight. Extra hours were also worked, but were paid at rates a little in excess. Thus the artisan in summer had time for some agricultural employment. Since then the workman has lost ground. There are many other aspects of this subject to be considered. The influence of a shorter day's work upon the development of home life is an important consideration. A home feeling cannot be developed in one who spends most of his time outside of these precincts. Greater longevity of life would undoubtedly follow, for statistics demonstrate that the life of the workman is relatively a poor risk for insurance companies.

Finally, a shorter day of work would undoubtedly result in the better political education of the masses. To say nothing of advantages for joining industrial educational classes, the opportunity for newspaper reading would be of the greatest benefit in securing sounder political ideas and of making good administration.

Down, Down Below!

One day last week while one of the divers was on the deck of the Oregon, over one hundred feet below the surface of the sea, a curious fact was noticed. It has been a matter of speculation for years as to how far beneath the surface the roll of the ocean could be felt. Antonio Anderson, the diver on this occasion, says that in one of the alleyways between the house on the deck of the Oregon he seized a trunk, and while trying to make fast to it and send it up to the surface, the roll of the sea continually swept him and the trunk athwart-ships. On Saturday it was ascertained by soundings that the Oregon lies in nineteen fathoms or 114 feet of water. Two miles off the depth is twenty-two fathoms.

Rev. T. E. Calvert, M. A., of Goderich has tendered his resignation of assistant pastor to Dr. Ure. The Session has engaged Rev. J. A. McGillivray, B. A., a student of Knox College, as assistant.

THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

When the Order was Organized—Who are Eligible to Membership.

Among the great batches of mail which reach the *Journal* office every day there are scores of letters of inquiry from mechanics, laborers, working girls, and, in some cases, from employers, who want to know something about the Knights of Labor and how to gain membership.

The organization was started on Thanksgiving Day, 1869, in Philadelphia by Uriah S. Stephens, a garment cutter, who had six other garment cutters associated with him. They formed what was afterwards known as Local Assembly No. 1 of the Knights of Labor. The Order was confined to garment cutters, but eventually other branches of industry were organized under the shield of the Order.

The organization grew slowly until January 1st, 1878. It was all that time without a recognized head. Through the efforts of a few energetic members, a general convention was held in Reading, Pa., on January 1st, 1878, when the General Assembly was formed with Mr. Stephens as Grand Master Workman and Charles H. Litchman, of Marblehead, Mass., as Grand Secretary.

There were about 1 200 branches of the Order formed up to that time. They worked secretly until January 1st, 1882, when the existence of the Order was publicly proclaimed.

Since that time the growth of the Knights of Labor has been wonderful and enormous. So great has been the increase that the chief officers have decided not to allow any more branches to be started until April 15th.

To gain admission a person must be engaged at some honorable branch of industry. Both sexes are admitted to membership. As a rule it is useless to apply for admission, because it is a rule of the order to select members. Thus a person may be proposed and rejected without ever knowing it. Men are usually proposed by friends who judge them worthy of fellowship.

Business men can join. In an assembly 100 strong, seventy-five members must be employees.

Meetings, as a rule, are held weekly, but some assemblies do not meet so often. It is a mistake to suppose that the Order favors strikes, as one of the Order's fundamental rules is that labor difficulties must be settled by arbitration. If a trade orders a strike without first trying arbitration it will not get any financial support from the Order.

The Order is not oath bound. Each member takes a solemn pledge and if he violates it he is expelled and blacklisted all over the country. Violation of the rule renders a member liable to a suspension ranging from one month to five years.

There are two kinds of assemblies—trade and mixed assemblies. A trade assembly is composed of men engaged at one special branch of industry. A mixed assembly is composed of mechanics, laborers, clerks, professional men and so on.

If a printer is willing to join, and if the printers have an assembly convenient to his home, he must join the printers' assembly. If not he is at liberty to join a mixed assembly. The same rule applies to all branches of industry.

Local assemblies are governed by a district assembly which may include five or 500 local assemblies. The district assembly is in turn governed by the general assembly.

The Order is benevolent, protective and educational. The expenses of members are very light. A man may admit that he is a member, but he is not allowed to give the names of other members without their consent.—*New York Morning Journal.*

The Earl, the Lawyer, and the Candles.

A noble earl, known to have a touch of madness in his brain, had a tenant who had fallen into difficulties. These had brought him under the power of a certain lawyer whom we shall call Mr. Hardie. Mr. Hardie used his power over Sandy in a remorseless way, and presented him with a bill which was most unreasonable and which the poor man was unable to pay. Sandy went to the earl and told him all. "Leave him to me," said the earl, "and I will settle with him." He sent for Mr. Hardie, and bade him bring a full statement of all that was due to him by Sandy L——. On the appointed day the lawyer appeared and presented the bill. Taking him to his private room, he asked, "Now, are you sure that you have put down everything which he owes you?" "Quite sure, my lord." The earl then locked the door, placed on the table a brace of loaded pistols, opened a drawer, and handed to the lawyer the full tale of guineas. "Now, Mr. Hardie," he added, "you'd better have a little refreshment." "Thank you, my lord, you are very kind, and I do feel rather thirsty." "It's not drink I have for you," said his lordship; "but you see these two tallow candles; you shall eat every morsel of them before you stir from this room." The lawyer looked aghast, but smiled as if it were a joke. "You hear me," said the earl, in tremendous emphasis; "eat these candles!" It was a serious situation, in a locked room, before an enraged earl, known to be half-mad, and who was now beginning to handle the pistols. There was nothing for Hardie but to succumb; the only relaxation he could get was liberty to use his pen-knife to cut out the wicks. The task was at last completed; the earl grimly bowed him out, and told him to remember his repast the next time he made out his account against a poor dog like Sandy.—*Quiver.*

British Royal Invalids.

I regret to say that the Princess of Wales is in a very unsatisfactory state of health. She is suffering from an extremely unpleasant affection of the eyes, about which she consulted an eminent oculist the night before she left town for Torquay. It appears that the trouble is not in the eye itself, but it is connected with the severe diphtheric sore throat with which the Princess was attacked this winter. Curiously enough, the young Princess Louise has caught this eye affection from her mother. The Princess of Wales is also suffering from a bad foot, and is so out of health and spirits that she requires a thorough rest and change. It is to be hoped that the comparative warmth of Torquay will restore Her Royal Highness to her wonted health and good looks before long, for it would be a dull season indeed that was not graced with our pretty Princess' charming presence.—*London Life.*

War Prices in the South.

A few days ago a party of gentlemen were discussing high prices in the South during the latter part of the civil war.

"I paid $30 a yard for a suit of gray cotton jeans," said the first speaker, "and the suit of clothes cost me $360 after being cut and made."

"The biggest trade I made during the war," said No. 2, "was $30 for a spool of cotton thread."

"And I," said No. 3, "paid $15 for a shave."

"How could a man carry enough change in his pocket to buy anything?" I ventured to ask.

"They stuffed it in their hats, boots, pockets or most anywhere it would stick," replied No. 1.—*Barnesville (Ga.) Mail.*

The City of Berlin, with about the same population as New York, has 380,000 more square yards of streets than the American metropolis. It has comprehensive educational and charitable systems, and maintains 25 free circulating libraries. Its annual municipal expenditures are under $10,000,000. The annual expenditures of New York are nearly $36,000,000—over $10,000,000 being required for salaries of office-holders alone.

CURIOUS DISHES.

Some of the Strange Foods Relished by the Nations of the Earth.

The old saying that what is one man's meat is another man's poison is realized in the opposite tastes of people.

The Turks shudder at the thought of eating oysters.

The Digger Indians of the Pacific slope rejoiced in the great locust swarms of 1875 as a dispensation of the Great Spirit, and laid in a store of dried locust powder sufficient to last them for several years.

The French will eat frogs, snails and the diseased livers of geese, but draw the line at alligators.

Buckland declares the taste of boa constrictor good, and much like veal.

Quass, the fermented cabbage water of the Russians, is their popular tipple. It is described as resembling a mixture of stale fish and soapsuds in taste, yet, next to beer, it has more votaries than any other fermented beverage. A tallow candle washed down with quass forms a meal that it would be hard to be thankful for.

In Canton and other Chinese cities rats are sold at the rate of $2 a dozen, and the hind quarters of dogs are hung up in the butchers' shops alongside of mutton and lamb, but command a higher price. The edible birds' nests of the Chinese are worth twice their weight in silver, the finest variety selling for as much as $30 a pound.

The negroes of the West Indies eat baked snakes and palms fried in their own fat, but they cannot be induced to eat stewed rabbits.

In Mexico parrots are eaten, but they are rather tough.

The Guachos of the Badda Oriental are in the habit of hunting skunks for the sake of their flesh.

The octopus or devil-fish, when boiled and then roasted, is eaten in Corsica and esteemed a delicacy.

In the Pacific Islands and West Indies lizards' eggs are eaten with gusto. The natives of the Antilles eat alligator eggs, and the eggs of the turtle are popular everywhere, though up to the commencement of the last century turtle was only eaten by the poor of Jamacia.

Ants are eaten by various nations. In Brazil they are served with resinous sauce, and in Africa they are stewed with grease or butter. The East Indians catch them in pits and carefully wash them in handfuls like raisins. In Siam a curry of ants' eggs is a costly luxury.

The Ceylonese eat the bees after robbing them of their honey.

Caterpillars and spiders are dainties to the African bushman.

After they have wound the silk from the cocoon the Chinese eat the chrysalis of the silk-worm.

Spiders roasted are a sort of dessert with the New Caledonians.

The Two Promised Comets.

A prominent astronomer writes: We have been promised by some of the European astronomers two brilliant comets, visible in the heavens at the same time near each other, early in May—that of Professor Barnard, which I considered, when its orbit was first calculated, a model comet, and that of Fabry, the Paris comet, from which I did not expect anything. Both comets were then very distant from us, both pursuing a very similar orbit and both likely to pass quite near us. Then came the announcement that the American comet had postponed its perihelion passage for a month, and that the French comet had hastened its perihelion passage; the result of which was that the predictions were that the French comet would be high in the heavens at the appointed time and the American comet nearly lost in the twilight; but still it was hoped that both would be visible. Still later comes another orbit for the French comet, carrying that, too, down into the twilight. It is true that in both cases the computation is that the brightness will be on the 1st of May several hundred times that at the time of discovery, but this increase of brightness depends almost exclusively upon their nearness to the earth, for neither of them passes near the sun. In the dark sky it would not make much difference whether the luminosity was spread over a large surface in consequence of proximity to the earth or concentrated in consequence of proximity to the sun. But in the twilight it makes a very great difference, and especially for an object so extended as the tail of a comet, which even in the darkest night is only visible where it is most intense. If an object one-tenth the size of the moon is obliterated by the twilight it would make it more visible to bring it a thousand times nearer us, so as to make it by the formula a million times brighter. So, unless still further revision of the orbits as they approach us shall carry the comets out of the twilight in the evening of the 1st of May at sunset, Barnard's comet will be in the northwest and Fabry's in the west, each but a few degrees above the horizon; "You will not see them, but they will be there all the same."

Fattening Properties of Salt.

"So you think I am growing stout?" said a young man yesterday, in reply to a question by an acquaintance, writes a contributor of the Albany *Express*. "Well, I am, and have been for a couple of months." "What is the cause?" queried his friend, "too much beer?" "No; chloride of sodium; or, in plain English, common table salt," was the reply. "By its use I have gained something like forty pounds in two years. How did I ever come to take salt? I began to take it for stomach troubles. At that time I was so thin the boys used to call me spare-rib and ramrod. Salt promotes digestion. I found that by taking one-half teaspoonful twice a day my appetite was improved, my weight and strength increased, and I have no more headaches or attacks of indigestion. Say, I don't look much like a spare-rib now, do"

Lighting up a Thighbone.

An interesting surgical operation was recently performed at the New York Post Graduate Medical School, in which electricity played a very important part. Disease was suspected in the hip of a young man of 22, and the doctors introduced a small drill, or electric-osteotome, into the bone, gradually with its aid cutting away the diseased portions, in order to see which a tiny electric lamp, no larger than a pea and with a filament as fine as a hair, was placed in the hole in the bone and "flashed up" at intervals of a few seconds, the filament being so fragile that it could bear the current only for an instant at a time. It is said that the light made the interior of the bone as clear to the eye as if were laid open on the dissecting table.

Intimidation.

An Orange lodge at Augher, in Ireland, recently tried one James Mulligan on a charge of disloyalty to the Queen and the constitution, because he did not vote for one of the Irish Tory candidates. The lodge, however, has been caught napping and its members are being prosecuted under the Corrupt Practices' Act for intimidation. Under the new British law, this offence after an election, is as punishable as if it occurred before.

Kingsville several months ago voted a bonus to Green & Barber as an inducement to the firm to erect a manufactory in the village. The village fathers now refuse to pay the bonus, for various reasons, and the firm has begun a $5,000 suit for damages.

The explored coal beds of Ireland, according to the latest blue book, contain about 209,000,000 tons of working coal, chiefly anthracite.

The water in the Hudson River is lower than it has been for twenty years.

CHILDREN, PAST AND PRESENT.

A Revolution in the Treatment of the Young—The Age of the Chatterbox.

(Agnes Repplier in the Atlantic Monthly.)

"The necessity of self-repression," says a recent writer in "Blackwood," "makes room for thought, which those children miss who have no formalities to observe, no customs to respect, who blurt out every irrelevance, who interpose at will with question and opinion as it enters the brain. Children don't learn to talk by chattering to one another, and saying what comes uppermost. Mere listening with intelligence involves an exercise of mental speech, and observant silence opens the pores of the mind as impatient demands for explanation never do." This is true, inasmuch as it is not the child who is encouraged to talk continually who in the end learns how to arrange and express his ideas. Nor does the fretful desire to be told at once what everything means imply the active mind which parents so fondly suppose, but rather a languid perciplence, unable to decipher the simplest causes for itself. Yet where shall we turn to look for the "observant silence" so highly recommended? The young people who observed and were silent have passed away—little John Ruskin being assuredly the last of the species—and their places are filled by those to whom observation and silence are alike unknown. This is the children's age, and all things are subservient to their wishes. Masses of juvenile literature are published annually for their amusement; conversation is reduced steadily to their level while they are present; meals are arranged to suit their hours, and the dishes thereof to suit their palates; studies are made simpler and toys more elaborate with each succeeding year. The hardships they once suffered are now happily ended, the decorum once enacted is fading rapidly away. We accept the situation with philosophy, and only now and then, under the pressure of some new development, are startled into asking ourselves where it is likely to end.

Lord Randolph's Ancestor.

(From a London Letter.)

Lord Randolph Churchill had the folly to trot out his ancestors at his great fiasco in Belfast. We know that the origin of many of England's aristocratic families is of a "shady" character, and will not on the part of the present members bear reverting to with pleasure, and not one of them could bear the scrutiny with less gratification to the existing representatives than that of the Churchills. Arabella Churchill was a great favorite with James II., and through this came the fortunes of the penniless ensign, John Churchill, afterwards Duke of Marlborough and founder of the family of which Lord Randolph is one of the descendants. Barbara Parmer, Duchess of Cleveland, a woman of infamous memory, conceived a passion for handsome Jack, and ultimately presented him with $25 000—a big sum a couple of centuries ago. Ultimately James II. made him Lieutenant-General of the Kingdom, but he deserted to William III., and a modern historian tells us that the day before he did so "he drew his sword and said he would shed his last drop of blood in defence of James." All this he explained by "the dictates of conscience." Subsequently he was charged with having pocketed money that he had no right to amounting to $16,000,000. The then House of Commons passed two resolutions. "(1) That the taking of bribes from contractors for furnishing bread and bread waggons—another Jachne—was unlawful, and (2) that moneys given for the soldiers' pay which he had pilfered should be accounted for." Not a penny was recovered, but he got the perpetual pension of $16 000 a year, which was commuted for the other day by his present worthy descendant for over $500 000. Macaulay says he was thrifty in his very vices, and levied contributions on ladies enriched by the spoils of more liberal lovers. Pope stigmatises his name with infamy in the scathing couplet:

The gallant, too, to whom she paid it down
Lived to refuse his mistress half a crown.

What is the Proper Time to Take Medicines?

The question whether a prescribed medicine should be taken before or after a meal is often put to the physician, and occasionally requires some special consideration. The medicines which act as local irritants, such as the salts of copper, iron, zinc and arsenic, in large doses, are to be taken after a meal when the stomach is full, while small doses of medicines acting on the gastric terminations of the vagus ought to be taken before a meal. In some instances, we have to consider chemical changes. Oxide and nitrate of silver, if intended to act locally on the gastric mucous membrane, must likewise be administered when the stomach is empty. It is not generally known, or at least observed, that iodine and its salts are to be administered on an empty stomach, as the presence of starch and acids, modifying or decomposing the preparations of iodine, would reduce or prevent their effect. The acids intended to affect the gastric juices are to be taken before a meal, in order to prevent an ample secretion of the gastric glands. If alkalies are to modify the gastric juices, they must be given during the meal; but, if their absorption into the blood is desired, they ought to be ingested on an empty stomach, in order not to hinder the process of chymification by weakening the acids. Metallic salts, especially corrosive sublimate, likewise tannic acid, alcohol, and other drugs, modify or destroy the digestive power of pepsine, and are hence to be administered solely before meals. Small quantities of alcohol, as contained in the ordinary and medicinal wines, do not injuriously affect pepsine like the liquors rich in alcohol. Iron, phosphates, cod-liver oil, and similar medicines, may be taken during meal-time. (*Bull. Gen. de Therap.*)

Why He Got Married.

Silas is a country character, who means well. He tries to earn a living, and "tinkers around" at odd jobs and chores and whatever he can get to do, but he works a good deal as he talks, with a painful drawl that is very suggestive of that state of natural restfulness which his ilk call "born tired." Silas came to mend a fence the other day for one of his patrons in the suburban village where he belongs, with a peculiar air of festivity about him. He had on a bright new neck-tie of blue Japanese silk, and his honest face was covered by an expansive grin all the time that he was receiving his orders.

"You seem happy, Silas," said Mr. Blank, with some curiosity, when he had finished about the fence.

"Ya-as," drawled Silas. "Ya-as, I've been a gittin' married this mornin'."

"Married! You? Why, Silas, man alive, what on earth have you gone and done that for? You can't support yourself as it is!"

"Well," said Silas, "I ken pooty near support myself, 'n' I think its a durn pity if she can't help some!"—*Boston Record.*

During a snow-squall at Cortland, N.Y., a few days ago, there was a shower of insects. In some places the ground was literally covered with myriads of small, black, creeping insects about a thirty-second of an inch long and as large round as a cambric needle. They were provided with innumerable legs and as hard to catch as fleas.

It is understood that Mr. Robert Campbell has received the appointment of lighthouse keeper at Goderich, in place of Mr. G. McDonald, resigned.

A Windsor book agent named James Barrett was fined $23 at Amherstburg the other day for pedling Bibles without a license.

On a Naughty Little Boy, Sleeping.

Just now I missed from hall and stair
A joyful treble that had grown
As dear to me as that grave tone
That tells the world my older care.

And little footsteps on the floor
Were stayed. I laid aside my pen,
Forgot my theme, and listened—then
Stole softly to the library door.

No sight! no sound!—a moment's freak
Of fancy thrilled my pulses through;
"If—no" and yet, that fancy drew
A father's blood from heart and cheek.

And then—I found him! There he lay,
Surprised by sleep, caught in the act,
The rosy vandal who had sacked
His little town and thought it play.

The shattered vase; the broken jar;
A match still smouldering on the floor;
The inkstand's purple pool of gore;
The chessmen scattered near and far.

Strewn leaves of albums lightly pressed
This wicked "Baby of the Woods;"
In fact, of half the household goods
This son and heir was seized—possessed.

Yet all in vain, for sleep had caught
The hand that reached; the feet that strayed
And fallen in that ambuscade
The victor was himself o'erwrought.

What though torn leaves and tattered book
Still testified his deep disgrace;
I stooped and kissed the inky face,
With its demure and calm outlook.

Then back I stole, and have beguiled
My guilt, in trust that when my sle
Should come, there might be one who'd keep
An equal mercy for his child.

—*Bret Harte.*

Song of Labor.

There's a murmur and an echo, there's a rumbling underground,
And an aspect somewhat threatening as if earth would leap and bound;
Mighty knowledge is dissolving a black fetid mist before,
Like the sun at break of morning a dark haze on marshy shore.
'Tis the cloud of human ignorance darker than Plutonian shade,
That for ages dimmed the human, made him fall below his grade.
There's another change incoming, there's reaction like a wind,
What no kingly power can hinder, 'tis man's brotherhood defined.
Every false, ignoble despot must resign his place on earth,
Life! true manhood! peace and plenty! toesin that will ring henceforth.
There's a chain of slave submission man must sever like a thread,
As his high and noble spirit wants to toil, not slave, for bread.
Ah, ye vain unyielding lordlings, robed in silk with gold embossed,
Take due warning, staunch your hauteur, right is right at any cost!
There's a rain cloud nearing downward and its force will cleanse all life,
And the thund'ring and the forking, omen that its pour is rife,
Some the sound will strike with terror, but the true courageous show
That the floods will cut new channels, straighter with a broader flow.

J. A., Hamilton, Ont.

The Deadly Hanging Lamp.

The supremacy of the toy pistol and the rabid dog as agents of destruction is being seriously threatened by a powerful rival. The rival is the modern hanging lamp. A few months ago the use of these illuminators became again so general as to constitute what might be called a hanging-lamp renaissance, and although the fashion is not yet worn out the effect of wear seems to be discernible upon the hangings of some of those which were earliest in use. At any rate the lamps are beginning to fall. An accident of this kind which occurred in this village a few days ago is not the only one that has recently been reported in the newspapers, and in some cases they have caused serious results. Probably no one who has had one of these lamps hung has not looked forward with more or less certainty of belief to a time when the lamp would come down by itself; and the instances in which such accidents have occurred show the apprehension to have been not entirely a nervous one. The succession of improvements which have been made in the lamps have added to their appearance, but have also added to their weight, and they often seem provided with insufficient means for safe suspension. When such an amount of metal, earthenware and glass as some of them are composed of comes down with a crash it is a good deal of a loss and a shock in itself, even if no one or nothing else is injured. But of course the principal danger is that of fire being caused, and if this sort of thing continues it may not be impossible to find the ever-vigilant insurance companies classing houses where these articles are in use in the "extra hazardous risk." Those who have advice to give upon domestic affairs may turn their attention to this fresh subject.—*Seneca Falls (N.Y.) Tribune.*

The Forget the Curve.

During the recent struggle of the Union Pacific with the snow blockade a newly appointed official in the mechanical department of the road found occasion to make of himself a first-class butt for ridicule. The story, as told by one of his subordinates, is this, in brief: Hitherto it had been the custom to send out heavy trains which had to break the snow, with four or five engines coupled together in the ordinary fashion. The unequal motion of the locomotives when "bucking" a heavy drift served to lessen the power of the attack, because the force could not be brought into a single impetus, this circumstance being due to the fact that the engines were loosely coupled together. The official in question, after studying the problem, decided that it would be a fine scheme to have the engines coupled together by means of long timbers placed on either side, and riveted strongly to each locomotive. In this way all the engines would move at once against the drift and scatter it to the four winds of heaven. The scheme was tried. Everything went swimming until a sharp curve was met. The engines being coupled together in a manner which left no play of action it was impossible to round the curve. Before the danger was noticed, however, it was too late, and every one of the five engines was ditched.—*Omaha Herald.*

Longfellow's Tribute to His Wife.

In the portfolio of Mr. Longfellow soon after his death were found the following lines, which were written by him in July, 1879, and which were not made public until recently:

In the