Subscribers who do not receive their papers regularly will please notify us at once.

Apply at this office for advertising rates.

THE ADVANCE.

FLESHERTON, ONT.

Stray Bits of Information.

One-tenth of the world is still unexplored.

Canada has recently spent $16,000,000 on her canals alone.

Liquor dealers in Indiana paid in fees and fines last year $945,325.

County expenditures for paupers in Indiana in 1898 were 24 cents per head of population.

Stockings first came into use in the eleventh century. Before that cloth bandages were wound round the feet.

The telephone subscribers of the whole world number about 1,500,000. The United States stands at the top with 900,000.

Contracts made on Sunday may be enforced in Minnesota, according to a decision of the supreme court of that state.

There never was, and never will be, a universal panacea, in one remedy, for all ills to which flesh is heir—the very nature of many curatives being such that were the germs of other and differently seated diseases rooted in the system of the patient—what would relieve one ill in turn would aggravate the other. We have, however, in Quinine Wine, when obtainable in a sound unadulterated state, a remedy for many and grievous ills. By its gradual and judicious use, the frailest systems are led into convalescence and strength, by the influence which Quinine exerts on Nature's own restoratives. It relieves the drooping spirits of those with whom a chronic state of morbid despondency and lack of interest in life is a disease, and, by tranquilizing the nerves, disposes to sound and refreshing sleep—imparts vigor to the action of the blood, which, being stimulated, courses throughout the veins, strengthening the healthy animal functions of the system, thereby making activity a necessary result, strengthening the frame, and giving life to the digestive organs, which naturally demand increased substance—result, improved appetite. Northrop & Lyman of Toronto, have given to the public their superior Quinine Wine at the usual rate, and, gauged by the opinion of scientists, this wine approaches nearest perfection of any in the market. All druggists sell it.

Money in Growing Nuts.

Nut growing is profitable, but it requires years to bring a nut tree to a stage of growth where it will pay well, hence only young farmers are induced to devote land in that direction. Walnuts, chestnuts and butternuts would improve with cultivation. In a few years walnut trees will be so scarce that the farmer who has a grove will secure his own price therefor, the timber being valuable.

TRUTH WILL OUT.

The Merits of Dodd's Kidney Pills Can't Be Hidden.

Mr. C. S. Griggs, of Hamilton, Tells of His Experience—He Suffered With Bright's Disease for Eight Years—Dodd's Kidney Pills Cured Him.

HAMILTON, Feb. 20.—"Mr. Griggs, is it true that you were cured of Bright's Disease by Dodd's Kidney Pills, after eight years' suffering and when no other medicine could do you any good?"

This question was asked a few days ago by a gentleman who wished to investigate for himself the statement made in last week's papers to the above effect.

"It is true," answered Mr. Griggs, emphatically. "I was cured by Dodd's Kidney Pills when every other medicine I had tried had utterly failed to do me any good."

"When I was advised to try Dodd's Kidney Pills I did not think they would help me any more than other medicines had. I was so sick that I was willing to try any means if it gave a hope or a chance of cure.

"Well, soon after I started using the Pills I began to feel different. I found in a week or so that I was actually getting better. I kept on taking the medicine until I had used three boxes. After that I didn't need any more. I was cured, completely and permanently. You may know what I think of Dodd's Kidney Pills when I tell you that I never let my house be without them."

Dodd's Kidney Pills are the only known positive cure for Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Gout, Sciatica, Gravel, Stone in the Bladder, Diseases of Women, and other Kidney Diseases.

Dodd's Kidney Pills are sold by all druggists at fifty cents a box, six boxes $2.50, or sent on receipt of price by The Dodds Medicine Co., Limited, Toronto.

Last Pensioner Dead.

France has paid its last pension to Napoleon I.'s soldiers. In 1869 a law was passed granting $50 a year to all non-commissioned officers and privates who had served ten years in the armies of the first republic or of the first empire and had received a wound. For the first year the payments amounted to $600,000; last year the sum was $50, and the last recipient is now dead at the age of 105 years.

An Infant Philosopher.

Friend—He is a bright child, isn't he?

Papa—Bright? Why he has learned already that perseverance overcomes obstacles, and he makes himself a nuisance until he gets what he wants.

How to Cleanse the System.—Parmelee's Vegetable Pills are the result of scientific study of the effects of extracts of certain roots and herbs upon the digestive organs. Their use has demonstrated in many instances that they regulate the action of the Liver and the Kidneys, purify the blood and carry off all morbid accumulations from the system. They are easy to take, and their action is mild and beneficial.

CANADA LIFE

ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Sound and Prosperous

The Same Officers Re-elected

The Fifty-second Annual Meeting of the Canada Life Assurance Company was held at Hamilton on the 14th inst., and the report shows that the company is in a most sound and prosperous financial condition, and that it still continues to hold its place as the leading life assurance company of the Dominion. The following is a short synopsis of the report:

During 1898, 2089 applications for $6,152,764 of insurance were received. Omitting the declined and deferred applications, the actual issue of the year was 2040 policies for $5,473,319. This amount is an advance upon the business of the past two years.

The total business in force at 31st December last was $75,236,241 of assurances, under nearly 35,000 policies, upon over 25,000 lives. The payments of policyholders amounted to about $1,200,000.

The sum of $225,000 was set aside as a special provision towards a higher reserve basis, to which the lower rates of interest now obtainable makes it a prudent look forward. After making the provision for the reserve upon policies and all other liabilities, there is left a surplus over all liabilities amounting to $1,818,747.

FINANCIAL ABSTRACT FOR YEAR 1898.

Premium Income (net)	$2,107,488 72
Interest, Rents, etc.	898,959 72
	$3,006,449 44
Paid Policyholders	$1,205,970 45
Expenses, Taxes, etc.	493,201 76
Balance	1,306,774 23
	$3,006,449 44

ASSETS, JAN 1st, 1899.	
Ledger Assets	$19,235,660 01
Other Assets	813,157 32
Total Assets	$20,048,817 33
LIABILITIES.	
Assurance Reserve Fund (4 per cent.)	$17,631,216 00
Special Reserve towards higher standard	225,000 00
All other Liabilities	373,600 41
	$18,229,069 41
Surplus over all Liabilities.	$1,818,747 89
	$20,048,817 33

The President, Mr. A. G. Ramsay, in moving the adoption of the report, said:

"It is the twenty-fourth year in which I have had the honor, as President, of submitting a report to you, and it is with the same satisfaction and confidence as I have happily had upon all these occasions, and, indeed, during all the forty years of my connection with the company, that I am able to point to the success and the sound position which the company occupies.

"The new business during the year was in excess of that of the previous year. Such a result speaks well for the public confidence which the company enjoys. Our new business has been obtained without undue expense and with a scrupulous care not to mislead applicants."

Mr. Ramsay pointed out that it is possible to injure a Life office by giving it too much new business, obtained at too great cost. He pointed out that there is too great a disposition for companies to congratulate themselves upon a big new business and being in an apparently prosperous condition, when, as a matter of fact their reserve may be inadequate, funds badly invested, expense of management ruinous, and profits imaginary. The big new business is like charity in covering a multitude of sins, but a big new business is not so much a matter of merit as a matter of price. Mr. Ramsay also pointed out that there are already indications that companies which have been unduly expanded and differently conducted from the Canada Life, are suffering the effects of their different course, and that the great companies whose business is of the largest amount, and whose enormous growth makes them apparently of the most progressive and prosperous character, are just those who have been the most conspicuous in the decline of the profits which they have been able to give to their policyholders.

The ratio of the Canada Life's expenses to income was 16.01 per cent. in 1898, and Mr. Ramsay invited those present to compare that with the corresponding ratio of any other company doing business in Canada, pointing out that "mere magnitude of business without regard to its cost, is a distinct and direct injury and an injustice to our older policyholders, whose advantage and security should be our first care."

President Ramsay also called attention to the continued decline in the rate of interest obtainable on satisfactory investments, and looking to the fact that a life assurance company's obligations are based upon an assumption of interest to be obtained during very long periods, up to sixty fifty years, it is a matter of prudent regard to the solidity and safety of the company and its policyholders that the company should prepare to still further strengthen the reserves upon policies. With that in view, a sum of $225,000 has been set aside as a special fund towards a higher valuation standard. The wisdom and prudence of this course will commend itself to all interested in the company.

The Vice-President, Mr. F. W. Gates, seconded the adoption of the report, which was unanimously carried. By a vote of 1328 shares to 984, it was resolved that it would be in the interests of the company that its chief place of business should hereafter be in the city of Toronto.

The following Directors were elected to fill the place of those retiring:

Mr. A. G. Ramsay, Adam Brown, Wm. Gibson, M.P., J. W. Flavelle, John Hoskin, Q.C., and Z. A. Lash, Q.C.

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors Mr. A. G. Ramsay and Mr. F. W. Gates were unanimously re-elected President and Vice-President respectively.

Ask for Minard's and take no other.

He Wasn't Prepared.

"Would you advise me to take an ocean trip, doctor?" asked the invalid.

"No," was the reply; "I think a series of mud baths would benefit you more."

"But, doctor," said the sick man, in tones that savored of hopelessness and despair, "I can't afford to go into politics."

You think I look so much better: yes, and I feel better—Miller's Compound Iron Pills did it.

Hot Place to Go To.

Mrs. Crimsonbeak—I wonder where in the world the alarm clock has gone. I saw it on the mantel yesterday.

Mr. Crimsonbeak—It was there yesterday, but I heard it going off this morning.

"Well, I hope it hasn't gone where you told it to go."

My daughter has improved so much that you would hardly know her—Miller's Compound Iron Pills did it.

Two Opinions.

"Conversation is only the art of talking back."

"Not much; conversation is the art of getting somebody to listen to you."

MESSRS. C. C. RICHARDS & Co.,

YARMOUTH, N. S.

Gentlemen.—In January last, Francis Leclair, one of the men employed on me, working in the lumber woods, had a tree fall on him, crushing him fearfully. He was, when found, placed on a sled and taken home, we greatly feared were entertained for his recovery, his hips being badly bruised and his body turned black from his ribs to his feet. We used MINARD'S LINIMENT on him freely to deaden the pain, and with the use of three bottles he was completely cured and able to return to his work.

SAUVEUR DUVAL.

Elgin Road, L'Islet Co., Que., May 26th, 1898.

They Ought To.

Larkin—I wonder why so many girls elope with coachmen?

Gazzam—Under the impression that they will make good grooms, I suppose.

Health for the children. Miller's Worm Powders.

Miss Sue—Come quick, doctor; brother is hardly able to breathe.

Dr. Kurenon—I'll soon stop that.

Sore Feet.—Mrs. E. J. Neill, New Armagh, P. Q., writes: "For nearly six months I was troubled with burning aches and pains in my feet to such an extent that I could not sleep at night, and as my feet were badly swollen I could not wear my boots for weeks. At last I got a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil and resolved to try it and to my astonishment I got almost instant relief, and the one bottle accomplished a perfect cure.

A curious fact has been noted by arctic travelers—snow when at a very low temperature absorbs moisture and dries garments.

Advertise High in the Air.

The latest means of advertising theaters and newspapers in London is to send up stationary balloons at night with large letters painted on the outside and electric lights within.

Not a Nauseating Pill.—The excipient of a pill is the substance which enfolds the ingredients and makes up the pill mass. That of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills is so compounded as to preserve their moisture, and they can be carried into any latitude without impairing their strength. Many pills, in order to keep them from adhering, are rolled in powders, which prove nauseating to the taste. Parmelee's Vegetable Pills are so prepared that they are agreeable to the most delicate.

Suspicious.

"What are those roses worth?"

"Those are $2.50 a dozen."

"Is that your regular figure, or have you marked them up because I'm a plumber?"

Miller's Worm Powders cure fever in children.

Could Afford It.

Brown—What a beautiful complexion your wife has.

Jones—Yes; she buys the best.

Keep Minard's Liniment in the House.

Pictures of the Stomach.

A German physician, Dr. Riegel, has made some important discoveries relating to internal diseases by making patients swallow a miniature photographic apparatus and taking pictures of the interior of the stomach.

Miller's Worm Powders are the best laxative medicine for children; as nice as sugar.

Ruskin's 64 books bring him in $20,000 a year. Swinburne, who has written little, makes $5,000 a year by his poems.

IF YOU HAVE **CANCER**

Send 6c. in stamps for Treatise. Home Treatment. No knife or plaster is used.

T. N. STOTT & JURY, BOWMANVILLE, ONT.

Are you thinking of buying a new wheel? If so, be sure and see the

GENDRON

before you purchase. Write for a Catalogue, either English or French.

Gendron Mfg. Co.,

TORONTO, Ont.

FREE — FOR ONE DAY'S WORK

WE GIVE this fine WATCH, with a chain and charm, for selling 2 dozen gold-topped, enamelled Lever Collar Buttons at 15c. each, or a lady's watch and guard for selling 3 doz. *No Money Required.* You can be rich. Write and we send the Buttons, postpaid, with our big Premium List. Sell the Buttons, return money, and we send watch, *free of all charge.* Unsold buttons returnable. Liberal commission if preferred. Be the first in your field. Send your name and address now. To-day. In writing, mention this paper.

LEVER BUTTON CO., TORONTO, ONT.

Plant for Liquefying Air.

A Boston refrigerating company has fitted up a plant for liquefying air at the rate of 1,500 gallons per day and at a cost of 20 cents a gallon. The air will be placed at this factory in steel tubes or cylinders five inches thick for shipment. Each of these cylinders will be arranged to release the contents a very little at a time, and the material may thus be used for refrigerating or cooling purposes as desired.

Solid Growth.

The annual statement of the British American Assurance Co., published in another column of this issue, shows that the past year has been "a growing time" with this company. The British American Assurance Co. continues to show solid growth from whatever standpoint the business is measured. Their report is interesting reading.

FREE We give this fine WATCH with chain and charm, for selling two doz. Whitelight Wicks at ten cents each. *No Money Required.* Write, and we will send the Wicks, postpaid, and our big Premium List. When you have sold the Wicks, return the money, and we will at once send your watch free of all charge. Hundreds have earned fine watches working for us, why not you? *In writing, mention this paper.*

WHITELIGHT WICK CO., TORONTO, CAN.

All Should Work Together.

Good roads assist in making prosperity for farmers. Prosperous farmers bring prosperity for cities. Prosperous cities and farming districts, when coincident, mean happy and healthy people—healthy because happy. A happy and healthy people is the goal of existence. Good roads are a great force in reaching the goal. Therefore all classes should assist in securing them.

New life for a quarter. Miller's Compound Iron Pills.

Reason Enough.

"Why did they operate on him for appendicitis?"

"They wanted to find out what was the matter with him."

Minard's Liniment is used by Physicians.

A Hater of Women.

Everybody dislikes a "hateful" woman. By "hateful" woman is meant one who says mean things when they are unnecessary.

HOW TO DO IT.

CURE Pains and Aches WITH

St. Jacobs Oil

Then it is done, Well done. Saves money, time and suffering.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure Deafness and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and the tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circular, Free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

The people of the United States and Canada use about 250,000 lead pencils each day.

FOR LADIES ONLY

ORDERED CORSETS

ALL MADE TO ORDER.

For sample to canvass, remit us $1.45 in cash by registered letter or post office order, and we will send you, free charges prepaid, to fit your own figure perfectly, one of our best $2.50 Sateen Corsets, any color, beautifully trimmed and finished, to be used as a sample only among your friends. If you send us further orders we will pay a liberal commission on sales afterwards at our regular prices—$2.50 each pair. When sending for sample be sure ful to send your own Bust, Waist and Hip measurements, Under Arm and length of Front. This is an opportunity for every lady to make money and be independent. Be sure and send your correct address. We reserve the right to supply sample orders only at above figure, and will not furnish two orders to any one party at price named for samples, which is below cost. The Perfecto Corset Co., 202 Queen St. W., Toronto.

Solid Sterling Silver Best Quality Thimbles. Manufactured Solid Gold Jewelled Gold Plated Corset Settings.

EARN one of these handsome premiums by selling to your friends 24 Silver Aluminum Thimbles at 10 cents each. They are more durable than steel or sterling silver. Tape Measure or package of needles given free with each thimble. Every lady buys as soon as she sees them. No money required. Send us your name and address and we will send the goods and catalogue of premiums postpaid. Thimbles to be returned if not sold. Men, women, boys and girls are selling them—why not you? Try. When sold send us our money and we will send the premium you select. Mention this paper.

Guaranteed Good Timekeeper.

CANADIAN NOVELTY CO., Toronto, Ont.

FREE. ACENTS WANTED in Canada to earn one of our valuable premiums, (no trash but all solid useful goods), for selling for our goods, consisting of Tonic (vocal or instrumental, regular price 50c. and 4c. per copy) Patent Lever Collar Buttons, Scarf Pins, Aluminum Thimbles, Medicated Lamp Wicks and other goods. For selling two dozen of the above goods at 10c. each you get your choice of a Watch and Guard, Air Gun, Sporting or Hockey Skates, Violin and Bow, or Guitars, Accordeons, Boxing Gloves, Punching Bag, Fonsie (vocal or instrumental), or other goods to choose from. We send you our premium list with your first order. No money required. We send you the goods to sell, you return us the money and we send you your premium. Get to work at once. When you write state which line you require to sell. Dominion Novelty Co., 153 Church St., Toronto.

BILLIARD AND POOL TABLES, New and Second-Hand.

BOWLING ALLEYS AND SUPPLIES Large catalogue free.

THE REID BROS., 297 King West, Toronto.

T. N. U. 208

STEM SET, STEM WIND WATCH FREE

To introduce Dr. Weston's Improved Pink Pills we give this fine watch free to any people, delicate ladies, those with kidney diseases, those with nervous troubles, those generally ailing. Write for 6 pills FREE. This gold-plated watch, lasting or timekeeper, is given FREE to introduce the pills. The Pills are 50c. per box, 25.00 for 6 boxes. Send the money and you receive a box and the watch, or write for particulars. This is a reliable offer.

THE DR. WESTON PILL CO. 164 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont.

A BEAUTIFUL PIRATE

By Guy Boothby.

Disregarding this polite speech, which was uttered with a leer that made my fingers itch to be alongside his head, Alie led the way up the plank and on board the launch again. We pushed off from the shore and began to steer ahead. Then Alie nodded to me, and I tapped the engineer on the shoulder and signified that he should stop. He looked surprised, but obeyed. Ebbington, however, did not like this interference on my part and sprang to his feet.

"Why did you tell that man to stop?" he cried angrily. "I'll trouble you to remember that I'm"—

"And I'll just trouble you to sit down where you are and hold your tongue, Mr. Ebbington," said Alie, dropping her American accent altogether and drawing a revolver from beneath her cloak. "The game is over as far as you are concerned, so you may as well submit with as good a grace as possible."

"What does this mean, Miss Sanderson?" he cried excitedly.

"Sit down there as I tell you," she answered, "and don't make any noise, or you'll get into trouble. I shall answer no questions, but if you attempt to move I promise you I'll shoot you there and then."

"What does this mean, Miss Sanderson?" he cried excitedly.

He said no more, but sat between us, trembling like the arrant coward he was. Alie went forward to the engineer and said something in Malay. Then, after a moment's conversation with one of the crew, she returned aft, took the tiller and steered for the open sea. The little craft famed and fussed on her way for an hour or so, tossing the foam off either bow and covering the distance in first rate style.

Suddenly the lookout posted forrard uttered a cry, and next moment we saw ahead of us a green light. It was obscured and revealed three times. This, I knew, was the yacht's signal, and in less than a quarter of an hour we were alongside, had hitched on and were safely aboard. The launch's crew was then suitably rewarded and sent back to Singapore.

As we reached the deck Ebbington must have read the yacht's name on a life buoy and realized into whose hands he had fallen. For a moment he stood rooted to the spot; then he staggered a pace forward, clutched at a stay, and missing it, fell upon the deck in a dead faint. As I stooped to see what was the matter with him I felt the tremor of the screw. Our errand was accomplished. Singapore was a thing of the past. We were on our way back to the island once more.

CHAPTER X.

RETRIBUTION.

I had seen nothing of Alie since I had said good night to her the previous evening, nor did I receive an invitation to visit her until breakfast had been over some time. Then Walworth entered my cabin.

"Her ladyship," he said, taking a seat on my locker, "has sent me to say that she would be glad to see you aft, if you could spare a few moments. Before you go I want to explain the situation to you. The matter on hand, as you may guess, is the case of that scoundrel Ebbington, and as he will be present she thinks it best that a little precaution should be observed."

"In what way do you mean?" I answered. "Of course I am ready to do anything she may wish, but I'd like to have my instructions clearly explained to me first."

"Well, I have been commissioned to inform you that she thinks it would be better in case of accident that Ebbington should suppose she has abducted you as well as himself. That is to say, instead of being her guest on board the schooner you are her prisoner. Do you understand?"

"Perfectly. She is afraid lest any harm should occur to me, when I leave her yacht, by reason of my association with her. It is like her thoughtfulness."

"Shall we go?"

I signified my assent, and we set off. When we reached Alie's cabin, we found her reclining on a couch at the farther end, the bulldog as usual at her feet. She held a packet of papers in her hand, which previous to our arrival it was evident she had been perusing. At the other end, near the companion ladder, but on the starboard side, between two sailors stood the prisoner, Ebbington. He looked, as well he might, hopelessly miserable. He opened his eyes in astonishment when he saw me enter. I, however, crossed the cabin with Walworth and stood on the port side without letting him see that I recognized him. Then solemn silence fell upon us all for nearly a minute. While it lasted Alie sat with her chin on her hand, staring steadfastly at Ebbington. Under her gaze he lowered his eyes, and when I noticed that his fingers twined convulsively over and round each other I could imagine the state of his mind. The fellow was plainly as frightened as it was possible for him to be. Then Alie lifted her head and spoke in a voice as soft as a kitten's purr.

"Mr. Ebbington," she said, "do you know me?"

He did not answer, but I saw the first finger and thumb of his right hand clutch at his trousers leg and hold it tight. That action was more significant than any words. Again she spoke:

"Mr. Ebbington," she said, "my rusted servant, my faithful friend, my honorable agent, Flask you again do you know me?"

Once more he refused to answer.

"You seem undecided. Well, then, let me trespass upon your time and tell you a little story, which will perhaps help you to remember. You may listen, Dr. De Normanville, if you please. You must know, Mr. Ebbington, that once upon a time there was a woman who, for no fault of her own, found herself at enmity with the world. She had necessarily to be continually moving from place to place and to be always on her guard against betrayal. The better, therefore, to conduct her business she engaged a man to reside in a certain place and to supply her from time to time with certain important information. The man was poor; she made him rich. He had nothing; she gave him everything. He was despised; she made him honored. He was in trouble; she saved him, not once, but twice, and made him happy.

"You, Mr. Ebbington, who are such an honorable man, would think that that man would have been grateful, wouldn't you? Well, he pretended to be, and perhaps for a little time he really was. But his feelings soon underwent a change toward his benefactress. When he had money, he wanted more. He knew his employer's secret, and it was, as a brilliant finale, he resolved to trade upon it. Then what ideas do you think came into that faithful servant's mind? You will never guess. Why, neither more nor less than the betrayal of his benefactress to her enemies. And for what reward, think you? Millions? A million? For half a million? A quarter? No, no! For the miserable sum of £5,000. It seems incredible that a man could be so foolish and so base, doesn't it? But, nevertheless, it is true. Perhaps he thought the woman, having escaped so often, must inevitably be caught before long, and being a business man he remembered the old adage that 'a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.' At any rate, he went to the authorities—this noble, trustworthy, grateful man—and, like Judas, proffered his perfidy for a price. But he was bargaining without his host—or hostess. For if he could be so clever the woman could be cleverer still. She was warned in time, and thereupon hatched a counterplot for his destruction. How well that plot has succeeded I don't think I need tell you, Mr. Ebbington. Dr. De Normanville, I am exceedingly sorry that you should have been drawn into it too. But under the circumstances you will see that it was quite impossible for me to leave you behind to give evidence against me. You need have no fear, however. If you will pass your solemn word to me that you will reveal nothing concerning me or my actions when you go back to civilization, I will trust you so far as to give you your freedom again, and on the first possible opportunity. Do you think you can let me have that promise?"

I saw the part I was expected to play and at once fell in with it. Affecting to take time to consider, I presently said:

"What can I do? I am in your hands entirely, and it would be worse than useless for me to resist. I will give you that promise, of course."

"Very good. Then I will let you go."

To the men guarding Ebbington she gave an order in their own tongue, and they at once removed their prisoner. Then, turning to Walworth, she said:

"The mailboat is evidently in sight. Were your instructions explicit to the men on board her? Do you think they thoroughly understand what work they have to do?"

"Thoroughly," he answered. "I schooled them myself. There will be no bungling, you may rest assured. Matheson is in command, and he has never failed us yet."

"In what capacities did they ship?"

"Matheson as a missionary bound for Shanghai, Calderman as a tourist for Nagasaki, Burns as a tea merchant for Fuchau, Alderney as a newspaper correspondent to the east generally, Braham as an American mill owner traveling home via Yokohama and San Francisco, Balder as an Indian civilian on furlough visiting Japan."

"Very good. And you instructions to them?"

"Will be rigidly carried out. As they come up with the yacht, after seeing our signal of distress, Matheson and Balder will make an excuse and get upon the bridge. Once there they will cover the officer of the watch with their revolvers and do the same for the skipper if he is there or directly he comes on deck. They will then compel him to heave to. Burns by this time will have taken his station at the first saloon companion ladder, Alderney doing the same at the second. Calderman will be at the engine room door and Braham at the forecastle. Then we shall send a boat and take off our man."

"That will do, Mr. Walworth. You have arranged it admirably, and I am sincerely obliged to you."

A flush of pleasure rose on the man's usually sallow cheek. He did not answer, however; only bowed and went on deck. Then Alie turned to me.

"Dr. De Normanville," she said, "I have not yet thanked you for your help in this last adventure. Without your assistance I don't know whether I could possibly have brought it to such a successful issue."

"You must not thank me," I answered. "Is it possible that you can imagine I would have let that scoundrel betray you? Alie, you know how much I— But there, I have given you my promise, so I must not say what I want to do."

She took my hand and looked into my face with a sweet smile that was very different from the one she had worn when she talked to Ebbington.

"Not yet," she said very softly. "Some day you shall say it as often as you please. In the meantime we must get to business. Will you come on deck and see this comedy played out or would you rather remain down here?"

"I should like to go on deck with you," I answered, and we accordingly went up the companion ladder together. When we emerged from the hatch, what a change was there. I looked and could hardly believe my eyes. Aloft, where only an hour before the two well staid masts had reared their graceful heads, now hung a raffle of broken timber and disordered cordage. Forrard of the foremast the port bulwark was completely broken down, or appeared to be, while over the side from it hung another display of broken gear. In spite of the gay awning aft and the R. C. Y. S. burgee at the gaff end the Lone Star presented the appearance of a complete wreck. But the meaning of it all was what puzzled me. However, I had not very long to wait before I received enlightenment.

Alie had gone aft and was now leaning against the port bulwark watching with a glass the movements of a large steamer fast rising on the horizon. I strolled up just in time to hear her say to Walworth and the officer of the watch, who were both watching it:

"She is steering directly for us. Run up the English ensign to half mast, Mr. Patterson, and when you think she's near enough throw out more urgent signals for assistance."

Her orders were carefully obeyed, and before very long the vessel was near enough for us to distinguish her answering pennant. The wind had completely dropped by this time, and the sea was as smooth as glass.

When the vessel was scarcely more than two miles distant, Alie turned to her chief officer and said:

"I think she's close enough now. Tell her that we're going to send a boat."

While she was speaking a string of flags had broken out upon the mailboat.

Walworth read them through the glass he held in his hand.

"She wants to know our name."

"Reply 'Yacht Sagittarius, owner Lord Melhurst, from Rangun to Nagasaki.' He is one of the directors of the company, and that will induce them to give us their immediate attention, or I shall be very much surprised."

She was quite right, for no sooner had the message been deciphered than another went up.

Again Walworth reported. This time it ran:

"Send your boat."

"Dispatch the boat," said Alie.

Instantly Walworth and the tall man with the scar on his face, whose name I have said was Patterson, went forrard, and within three minutes Alie's own gig was manned and overboard. Walworth, I noticed, was in command of her, so I took up the glass he had left upon the skylight and brought it to bear upon the mailboat, now less than a mile distant. She presented a handsome picture as she lay there, her great bulk ridingupon the smooth water as securely as if it would be possible for her to defy the elements, whatever storm might rage.

With the aid of the strong glass I was using I could plainly distinguish her, and from the scarcity of passengers on her decks it was evident that something unusual was occurring on board. Presently our boat got alongside and the gangway was lowered. A consultation seemed to be going on upon the bridge, and after a few moments a man was seen to ascend and descend the steps leading to it. Five minutes later two men passed down the gangway, and once more our boat put off to us.

When she had overcome about half the distance, I chanced to look forrard. To my surprise the raffle, which a few moments before had been disfiguring the side, was gone, and even the bulwark itself had recovered its proper shade and comeliness. Moreover, the tarpaulin which had hitherto covered the center of the deck was being removed, and by the time the boat had completed three parts of the distance that separated us from the steamer a funnel had been uncovered and erected. The chief officer came aft.

"Is everything prepared, Mr. Patterson?" inquired Alie.

"Everything, madam," replied the officer, looking at the boat.

"Steam up?"

"It has been for the last five minutes."

"Very well then, pipe all hands to quarters and stand by to receive the boat when she comes alongside."

As she finished speaking the officer blew a whistle, and immediately the crew, who had hitherto been ordered to remain below, appeared on deck and placed themselves at their respective posts. Against the foremast I noticed a curious mechanical contrivance, the use of which at any other time I should have inquired. Now, however, there was a look upon Alie's face that warned me not to be too inquisitive.

At last the boat came alongside, the gangway was lowered, and a moment later Walworth, accompanied by a big, clumsily built man with a heavy, sensual face, small ferretty eyes, a curled mustache and dark hair, appeared up the side. He seemed to wonder what was required of him, and it was evident that so far he had no idea into whose hands he had fallen. I glanced at Alie as he appeared on deck, to discover that she was regarding him out of half closed eyes, just as she had looked at Kwong Fung before she had ordered him off to execution aft at Ebbington in the cabin half an hour before.

"Will you let me say that I am more than pleased to see you, Mr. Barkmansworth?" she said in her silkiest tone as he gained the deck. "It was only last month I heard that you were coming to China to take up your residence among us. It is my desire to offer you a warm welcome to the east, hence this reception in midocean. Mr. Walworth, will you be good enough to bring Mr. Ebbington to me?"

Walworth went below and presently returned with the prisoner.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Detecting False Jewels.

By looking at objects through a screen of two glass plates, one laid upon the other and one being of a blue tint obtained from oxide of cobalt, while the other was of a yellow tint got from oxide of manganese and iron, Henri Cross finds that objects which to the naked eye appear the same in color look different through the screen. Thus a green emerald looks a rosy violet through the glass, but a false green emerald looks green. True sapphire keeps its natural blue through the screen and false blue sapphire appears a rosy red. An Egyptian cup of Sevres blue paste appeared blue save a part restored, which was red. He was able to conclude that the Egyptian paste had a base of copper blue and the restored part one of cobalt.—London Globe.

His Reward.

Some years ago, as the mailboat from Ireland was entering Holyhead harbor, a lady fell into the water. One of the sailors, an Irishman, jumped overboard and rescued her from death by drowning. When she was safe on deck again, the husband, who was a calm spectator of the accident, handed the brave sailor a shilling. The spectators did not hesitate to express their indignation at the man's meanness, when the sailor, with native shrewdness, threw a new light on the matter by saying: "Arrah, don't blame the gintleman. He knows best. Maybe if I hadn't saved her he'd have given me half a crown."—Macmillan's.

He Didn't Know.

At Devonport some years ago a soldier was brought before the commanding officer for selling part of his kit, when the following dialogue took place:

Colonel—Now, Private Murphy, why did you sell your boots?

Private Murphy—I'd worn 'em for two years, sorr, and thought they were my own property.

Colonel—Nothing of the sort, sir. These boots belong to the queen.

Private Murphy—I'm sure I'm sorry, sorr, but I didn't know the lady took twelves. (Collapse of colonel.)—London Standard.

An Unexpected Call.

"You are just going out, I see?"—

"Yes, an important engagement. What was it you wanted?"

"It was about that little debt I owe you."

"Ah, yes! Take a seat."

"I was going to ask you for a little delay"—

"Oh—excuse me, but I'm already late."

"I say, I was going to ask you for a little delay when I met a fellow who paid up what he owed me, and"—

"Why on earth don't you sit down? Will you take a glass of wine?"

Her Idea.

He—Oh, yes, I can quit smoking cigarettes whenever I want to.

She—Why don't you consult a physician and see if he can't give you something to make you want to?—Chicago News.

THE AMERICAN VOICE.

Canadians Speak in a More Pleasant Tone Than That Heard Across the Line.

The subject of the disagreeable qualities of the American voice was treated at length in a recent address in Brookline, Mass., by Richard Wood Cone. It is not an ineradicable fault, Mr. Cone says, and it is not due, as has been claimed, to the extreme and frequent climatic changes. He points out that the people of far more trying climates than ours—notably our neighbors, the Canadians—speak with much more sweetness and suffer far less difficulties of the vocal mechanism than we. Again, the nervous temperament and supersensitiveness of our people are suggested as causing the high pitch which is so commonly heard, especially among women; also, the hurry and rush of business, the crowding and pushing noticeable in all fields, professional, commercial and industrial. None of these reasons, however, are thoroughly satisfying to Mr. Cone, "since it is demonstrable," he says "that the voices of Americans may be quite as musical as those of French or Italians. For generations sharp, high-pitched voices, used with a reckless disregard of all the laws pertaining to vocal melodious speech, have so fastened these faults upon us that the result is the unpleasant tone which is so nearly universal and which is designated as 'American.' A mistake the commonest among our many faults, and fatal to the production of a musical tone, is the too great exertion of muscular effort in the throat and chest; herein lies the main cause of indistinctness as also of hoarseness and exhaustion. The voice should be purely pulmonic, this being its natural quality, attained when there is absolute freedom of the vocal parts." To correct the faults enumerated, Mr. Cone recommends that a scientific method of voice training be engrafted into the public school system.

A Neolithic Dame.

We should hardly expect to have a handsome and accurate portrait bust of an upper class lady from Neolithic times. But the marvels of science do not diminish. At the last meeting—in August—of the German Association of Physicians and Naturalists, Professor Kollmann of Basle exhibited the bust of a female whose skull and portions of whose skeleton had been exhumed from a Neolithic grave in one of the caverns of southern France. The principles of reconstruction, as well as modern examples of the method, prove its accuracy. The soft parts of the head and chest can be restored without risk of error. This Neolithic dame was rather good-looking and presented the undoubted features of the white race, demonstrating, as Professor Kollmann insisted, that empires may crumble and states decay, but the essential features of each human race persist indefinitely and unchanged.—D. G. Brinton in Science.

The Mind-Healer's Fee.

Some years ago a young friend of mine went to a mind-cure for a lark. There was nothing in the world the matter with him, but he pretended to be the victim of terrible headaches. The wonderful healer asked no questions as to the cause of the ailment. He did not care about that, for he had one panacea which sufficed for every ill. Said he to the young investigator: "Go home, and whenever the headache comes on sit down quietly and put your whole mind on it, thinking with all your might that you have not got a headache. Then you will not have it, and will be cured."

"That's easy," said my young friend. "What is your fee?"

"Five dollars."

"Well, sir, you put your whole mind on it and think with all your might that you have that $5. Then you will have it, and will be paid."—John Gilmer Speed, in Leslie's Weekly.

Literary Assistance Required.

A Liverpool correspondent sends the following for the truth of which he vouches. Some time ago the Liverpool Tramways Company (now absorbed by the corporation) posted the following not