DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Notes of the Proceedings in the Canadian House of Commons.

BRITISH YUKON RAILWAY CO.

Mr. Fraser, of Guysboro, introduced a bill respecting the British Yukon Railway Company. He explained that the company's present charter does not empower them to build their lines beyond White Horse, and the object of the present bill is to enable them to extend the road from White Horse to Dawson City.

THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.

Mr. Clarke was informed by Mr. Paterson that under the regulations governing the preferential tariff manufactured goods entitled to be admitted to Canada under the preference must be finally manufactured in Great Britain or one of the British possessions named in the Act, and there must have entered into the production of such articles British labour to the extent at least of two per cent. of the value. Exporters of such articles to Canada are required to sign a certificate setting forth that the conditions have been complied with. In certain cases where doubt has arisen enquiry has been made through the High Commissioner's office as to the proportion of British and foreign labour and material represented in the articles. Quite a large proportion of the manufactured articles imported under the preference are entirely grouped in respect both to material and workmanship.

FRUIT PACKAGES.

The bill offered by Mr. Smith, of Wentworth, to amend the Weights and Measures Act so as to provide a standard size for fruit packages, was read a second time and referred to committee.

DRAINAGE ACROSS RAILWAYS.

Mr. Robinson's bill respecting drainage, on and across the property of railway companies, was read a second time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

ALIEN LABOUR LAW.

At present proceedings for the deportation of aliens under this Act can only be taken upon the sanction of the Attorney-General at Ottawa, but as this does not seem to meet with general approval, this bill will authorize the law to be put in force upon the authority of the Attorney-General of the Dominion, the Attorneys-General of the proinvces, or any judge. The labour men desire to have the right to go direct before the magistrate and secure orders for the deportation of any foreigners brought into Canada under contract, but the Ministry considers it desirable that this provision should be maintained.

GAME PRESERVATION ACT.

Mr. Sifton introduced a bill to amend the Unorganized Territories Game Preservation Act of 1894. He explained that the object was to change the clause which now provided that articles confiscated shall belong to the convicting magistrate. The Government have come to the conclusion that this arrangement is not in accordance with good policy.

SCHEDULING CANADIAN CATTLE.

Mr. Fisher, answering a question by Mr. Bickerdike, said that the Government had done its best to secure the repeal of the Imperial statute scheduling Canadian cattle imported into the United Kingdom. Mr. Fisher added that he hoped to proceed to England again this spring, and would make it his business to press this matter with the utmost insistence upon the Imperial authorities.

ALIEN LABOR LAW.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier introduced a bill to amend the Act to restrict the importation and employment of aliens. He said:—

"The leading feature of the amendment which is proposed by this bill concerns the third section of the present Act, which provided for a penalty for violation of this Act, of $1,000 no more and no less. The object of the amendment is to make the penalty not more than $1,000 and not less than $50, giving the judge discretion to apply the penalty according to the offence. Then it is stated in the Act that the penalty is to be recovered only by the consent of the Attorney-General. We propose to modify that section and to provide that the penalty shall be recovered with the consent either of the Attorney-General of the province or of the judge of any court in which the penalty is sued.

"The second amendment concerns section 5 of the Act, I have not the Act before me, but section 5 provides that a settler, that is to say, an intending settler, may bring with him a relative or a personal friend. It has been found in practice that this phrase 'personal friend' is too elastic for practical purposes, and that it may be made an occasion for evading the law; therefore, we propose to strike out the words 'personal friend.'

"Section 6 of the said Act provides that if there has been a violation of the Act, the party who has been introduced into the country illegally shall be sent back at the expense of the person previously contracting for the services.' It is proposed to strike out these words and to substitute in lieu thereof:—'At the expense of the person, partnership, company, or corporation, violating any of the provisions of section 1 of this Act."

Then it is proposed to repeal section 8 of the Act altogether, and to substitute the following section therefor:—

That it shall be deemed a violation of this Act for any person, partnership company, or corporation to assist or encourage the importation or immigration of any alien or foreigner, who resides in, or is a citizen of, any foreign country to which this Act shall apply, by promise of employment through advertisements printed or published in such foreign country, and any such alien or foreigner coming to this country in consequence of such an advertisement, shall be treated as coming under a contract as contemplated by this Act, and the penalties by this Act imposed, shall be applicable in such case. Nothing in this Act contained shall be held to affect or control the Government of Canada or of any province of the territories in respect of promoting immigration.

This last amendment has been inserted at the suggestion of the labour organization who have strongly pressed for its adoption.

The bill was read a first time.

LIQUOR IN THE YUKON.

Mr. Sifton tabled the order-in-Council of Feb. 25th, making new regulations for the issue of permits to take liquor into the Yukon. It provides that hereafter permits shall be issued by the Commissioner of the Yukon, instead of by the Minister of the Interior, as formerly. Permits shall, however, be granted only to licensed wholesale dealers, who shall dispose of it in quantities of not less than five gallons or one dozen bottles, and only to licensed retailers.

The fee for each wholesale license is $2,000, and for each gallon of liquor imported $2. The fee for each permit is $10. An order-in-Council of the 5th of March inst., makes provision for enforcing the license laws of the Yukon and prohibiting illicit distilling. The revenue will belong to the Yukon.

C.P.R. LAND EXEMPTION.

Mr. Davis, Saskatchewan, gave notice of a motion to the effect that the Government should take such steps as may be open to it under the law to obtain an authoritative declaration of the meaning of the contract with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company in relation to the exemption of land from taxation, and that the patenting of lands earned by railroad companies be proceeded with all possible speed.

CLERGUE COMPANY.

The petition of the Clergue Iron and Nickel Steel Company of Canada for a Dominion Act of Incorporation was reported favorably by the Standing Committee this morning. The petition covers powers to manufacture at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., at or near Quebec, and elsewhere in the Dominion, to acquire mines, timber limits, and other sources of fuel supply, and to operate steamships, tramways, telegraph and telephone lines.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

What the People's Representative Are Doing at Toronto.

Mr. Whitney introduced a bill to amend the Ontario Elections Act. Clause 1 substitutes for section 9 of the Ontario Act section 5 of the Dominion Act. This makes the time for petitioning 40 days after the holding of the poll instead of 21 days after the receipt of the return from the returning officers, as at present; so that in the event of delay on the part of the returning officer time may be allowed the party suffering by reason of such delay to get his petition in.

If there is bribery subsequent to that time the petition can be filed 30 days from the time of such corrupt practice, but if so the sitting member has 15 days to file his petition against his opponent.

A second clause adds to the Ontario Act section 19 of the Dominion Act. This provides that when no corrupt practice has been committed by the candidate personally, and the acts complained of were committed without his sanction or connivance; and where the candidate has taken all reasonable means to prevent corrupt practices, and where the offences are of a trivial and limited character; and where in all other respects, so far as disclosed by the evidence, the election has been free from corrupt practice by the candidate and his agents, the election shall not by reason thereof be held void.

MR. GIBSON'S MEASURE.

Hon. Mr. Gibson introduced a bill to amend the election. It in effect makes the laws applying to the impersonation of voters extended to those who fraudulently impersonate a deputy returning officer. The penalty is $200 fine and imprisonment for not more than six months. It also imposes a penalty of $200 on deputies who wilfully miscount ballots or render a false statement with reference thereto.

TO PREVENT APPLE STEALING.

Mr. Malcolm introduced a bill to provide that no school site shall be selected within one hundred yards of an orchard, garden, or dwelling-house without consent of the owner.

TO DISTRAIN ON PROPERTY.

Mr. Graham introduced an amendment to the Municipal Light and Heat Act whereby towns and cities owning municipal plants may distrain on the property and chattels of consumers in default of payment.

HAWKERS AND PEDLARS.

Mr. Tucker presented a bill to bring those who solicit orders for merchants in the country under provisions of the Act relating to hawkers and pedlars.

CONTRACTORS' LIENS.

Mr. Leys introduced a bill to extend the time for the registration of a lien by a contractor or sub-contractor from 30 to 60 days after the completion of the contract.

FISHERY OVERSEERS.

Mr. Joynt was told by Mr. Latchford that 22 fishery overseers were appointed under the Ontario Fisheries Act in 1900, only one of whom took the place of former overseers under the Dominion Government. Eleven of the old officers are retained. The maximum salaries of overseers is $600 and the minimum $25. The total amount paid in salaries last year was $11,949.99, and the total revenue derived up to December 31st, 1900, from fishery licenses was $34,595.82.

UNCLAIMED BALANCES.

Mr. Carscallen moved the second for the licensing of persons in charge of stationary boilers and engines, for the protection of life and property, stands over until Mr. Dryden's bill to amend the Factory Act comes down. Mr. Latchford stated that Mr. Dryden's amendments would cover some points advocated by Mr. Carscallen.

INSURANCE RETURNS.

Mr. Carscallen has given notice of a motion for an order of the House, naiming unclaimed for over five years. He said he would not be surprised if a good deal over $100,000 was in the hands of loan companies which should find its way into the pockets of the heirs of deceased persons.

The Attorney-General said enquiries had been made, and it was found that in only four or five loan companies in the province could it be said that deposits had been lying for five years.

After further discussion, the bill went to the Legal Committee.

LICENSING OF ENGINEERS.

Mr. Carscallen's other bill providing reading of his bill requiring all institutions receiving money on deposits to publish a list of all deposits re-that the inspector of insurance and registrar shall hereafter cause to be published in his annual reports the names and places of residence respectively of the president, vice-president, directors, and general manager of every insurance company and insurance corporation of every nature transacting business in the province.

COUNTY COUNCILORS.

Mr. Joynt, Leeds and Grenville, moved the second reading of his bill to abolish the double vote in the County Council elections. Mr. Joynt criticised the working of the present law, showing that in his own county the warden had to be elected two years in succession by casting lots. The new Act had also injured the Township Councils, as responsible men did not care to be candidates for them, but preferred to run for the County Council.

Hon. Mr. Davis asked Mr. Joynt to leave the matter in abeyance, as there would be another session of the House before the next County Council elections, and a further consensus of opinion could be obtained in the meantime. The object of the double vote was to prevent political parties obtaining control of elections.

TO ABOLISH TRADING STAMPS.

A deputation, numbering 150 of the Retail Merchants' Association of the province, waited on the Government and asked that a bill permitting the municipalities of the province to pass by-laws prohibiting the use of trading stamps be put through the House this session.

TIMBER SALE POSTPONED.

The Ontario Government's timber sale, which was to have taken place on March 15, has been postponed sine die. The reason therefore is the prevalence of smallpox in the Algoma region. This has prevented prospective bidders from obtaining estimates, especially in view of the fact that the quarantine at Cartier, the chief station of the timber region, is especially strict.

IMPORTATION OF TREES.

The Ontario Government is sending out notifications to those interested, that the seasons for importing trees from the United States are, by the Dominion Government's order-in-Council, from March 15 to May 15, and from October 7 to December 7 of each year.

A FLYING COLUMN.

Men Are in the Lighest Possible Marching Order.

A despatch from Cape Town says:—A British column has left Rosmead with the evident intention of driving the Boer invadera from the Zuerberg fastnesses.

Gen. Gorringe's flying column covers a lot of ground with remarkable rapidity. The men are in the lightest possible marching order. When their horses become exhausted from hard riding they are shot and fresh mounts commandeered.

BOER POSITIONS.

President Steyn Reported to Be at Smithfield.

A despatch from Aliwal, North, Cape Colony, says:—The Boers are occupying positions at Rouxville, 25 miles north of here in the Orange Free State, Bishmenskop, and elsewhere, in parties of from 200 to 400. President Steyn is reported to be at Smithfield, 25 miles north-west of here in the Orange Free State.

General Bruce Hamilton's column is here, preparing to advance.

FORTY BOERS SHOT.

They Mistook an Armoured Train for Horse Transport.

A despatch from Cape Town says:—The bodies of forty Boers have been found near Roodehoogte, as a result of an engagement with an armored train. It appears that a horse train left Roodehoogte and proceeded for some distance, when the sentinels of the engine discerned some Boers in an ambush. The horse train backed to a siding, and the pilot notified the engine driver of an armoured train, who started forward at once.

The Boers evidently thought the armoured train, was the horse train returning, and allowed it to come within close range before opening fire. Then the armoured train sent in hot fusillades on the Boers, who fled in great haste. Many of them threw away their rifles in their anxiety to escape.

BLOODY ENCOUNTER.

Five Nova Scotians in a Fight Near Shubenacadie, N. S.

A despatch from Halifax, N. S., says:—Lawlessness is not completely absent from Nova Scotia. A wholesale shooting melee occurred in broad daylight on Sunday near Shubenacadie, 40 miles from this city, on the line of the Intercolonial railway.

There has been an old quarrel between the Lantz brothers on the one side, and David Emack and Melrose Ettinger on the other. Emack and Ettinger stated that hety would get even with the Lantz brothers at the first opportunity. They armed themselves, and carried their weapons on Sunday as well as on week days. Sunday the three brothers went to church, attending the Anglican service. Emack and Ettinger knew this, and waylaid them on their road home. At 12.30 the parties met, and the fracas began by Emack striking the youngest Lantz with a stick. This was quickly followed by the drawing of a revolver by Lantz. The other two brothers were not idle while this was going on, nor was Ettinger. Everybody took to shooting, and it did not cease until Emack fell wounded, shot with three bullets, one of them in his stomach, Ettinger also was shot, and so was the youngest Lantz, who received a bullet in the hip.

With the two assailants wounded, the battle was over. The two Lantz boys who were uninjured went to a Shubenacadie justice of the peace, where they offered to give themselves up and await trial. The magistrate declined to accept them as prisoners, saying he knew nothing of the affair.

Emack's injuries are exceedingly serious, and the doctors fear he will not recover. Ettinger's wound was not so serious, nor was the injury to young Lantz considered particularly dangerous.

DE WET AGAIN ESCAPED.

With 400 Men He Eludes the Pursuing British.

A despatch from London says:—The Times publishes the following despatch from Aasvogelkelp, March 9:—Gen. De Wet has escaped northward by a forced march with 400 men. His objective is believed to be the vicinity of Kroonstadt.

"Four other Boer leaders are still in the south-eastern part of Orange River Colony.

"Now that Gen. De Wet is back in his own country, it will be almost impossible to operate against him. Just as soon as he is pressed, his commando dissolves, to meet again a few days later. Only a few bands of Boers are now left in Cape Colony."

MALAYS MAKING TROUBLE.

Twenty-Two Deaths and 102 Cases of Plague in Cape Town.

A despatch from Cape Town says:—The official reports regarding the progress of the bubonic plague in Cape Town say the outbreak shows a total of 22 deaths and 102 cases.

The Malays gathered together on Sunday to oppose the removal of a Malay who had been attacked by the disease and of several persons who had come into contact with the victim. The police were overpowered and the persons who had come into contact with the Malay made their escape. In the event of a repetition of this experience it will be necessary to employ an armed force. More trouble is anticipated.

REMARKABLE OPERATION.

A Man's Stomach Lifted Out and Restored to Its Former Place.

A despatch from New York says:—Lewis J. McKenna, a clerk in an insurance company in St. Luke's hospital, recovering from a surgical operation, one of the rarest known to modern science.

The operation is known as gastro anterostomy, and consists of removing the patient's stomach, cutting away the pyloris, and several malignant growths in its vicinity, and restoring the stomach to its former place.

MARKETS OF THE WORLD.

Prices of Cattle, Cheese, Grain, &c in the Leading Markets.

BREADSTUFFS, ETC.

Toronto, March 12.—Wheat—Red wheat, low freights to New York, sold at 66 1-2c, and white wheat at 65 1-4, middle freights, to go to Portland. About 20 cars sold, Manitobas steady. Quotations are as follows:—Red wheat, 66 1-2c, white, 66 1-2c; an dgoose, 66 1-2c, low freights to New York; red and white, middle freights, 65 1-4 to 65 1-2c; Manitobas; No. 1 hard, do. g.i.t., 98 1-2c; No. 2, 94 1-2c; No. 1 hard, North Bay, 97 1-2c; No. 2 hard, 93 1-2c.

Millfeed—Scarce and firm. Ton lots, at the mill door, Western Ontario points, sell as follows;—Bran, $14 to $14.50; and shorts, $15.

Corn—Easy; American, No. 2 yellow, on track here, 46 1-2c, and No. 3, 45 1-2c.

Peas — Steady; No. 2, middle freights, at 63c; and east at 63 1-2c.

Barley—Prices are steady, and demand still continues. Prices are as follows:—No. 2, G. T. R., east, 43 1-2c; C. P. R., east, 43c; and middle freights, 42 to 42 1-2c; No. 3 extra, C. P. R., east, 42 1-2c; and 42c, G. T. R., east.

Rye—Steady. Car lots, 49c west; and 50c east.

Buckwheat—Quiet. Car lots, west, are quoted at 51c; and east at 53c.

Oats—Steady. No. 1 white, C.P.R. east, 29 1-2c; No. 2 white, north and west, 28c.

Flour—Export agents continue out of the market to-day. Holders of 90 per cent. patent, buyers' bags, middle freights, asked $2.60 per bbl; while exporters say, on to-day's cables, they could not bid more than $2.55.

Oatmeal—Car lots of rolled oats, in bags, on track here, are quoted at $3.25 per bbl; and in wood, at $3.35 per bbl.

Buffalo, March 12.—Flour — Steady. Wheat—Spring dull; No. 1 Northern, old, carloads, 84 1-4c, in store; do., c.i.f., 88 1-4. Winter wheat—Offerings light; little demand, closing bids, No. 2 red, 77 1-2c; No. 1 white, 76 1-2c; mixed, 77c, local billed. Corn —Steady; No. 2 yellow, 44 1-2 to 44 3-4c; No. 3 do., 44 1-4c; No. 2 corn, 44 1-4c; No. 3 do., 44c, through billed. Oats — Quiet and easy; No. 2 white, 31 1-4 to 31 1-2c; No. 3 do., 30 1-2 to 30 3-4c; No. 2 mixed, 29 3-4 to 29c; No. 3 do., 28 1-4 to 28 1-2c, through billed. Barley—Unchanged; to arrive at opening navigation quoted at 56 1-2 to 60c, on spot, 53 to 65c. Rye—Dull in store, 58c; No. 2 on track, 55 1-2 to 56c.

Minneapolis, March 12.—Closed:—Wheat—Cash, 74 3-8c; May, 74 3-8c; July, 75 3-8 to 75 3-4c; on track, No. 1 hard, 76 3-8c; No. 1 Northern, 74 3-8c; No. 2 Northern, 67 5-8 to 70 5-8c. Flour and bran—Unchanged.

Milwaukee, March 12.—Wheat—Steady; No. 1 Northern, 75 1-4 to 76c; No. 2 do., 71 1-2 to 73 1-2c. Rye—Higher; No. 1, 52c. Barley—Steady; No. 2, 57c; sample, 46 to 52c.

Duluth, March 12.—Closed:—Wheat —Cash, No. 1 hard, 75 1-4c; No. 1 Northern, 73 1-4c; No. 2 do., 75 3-4c; May, 76 1-4c; July, 77. Corn—37 1-4c; May 38 1-2c. Oats—26 1-4 to 26 1-2c.

PRODUCE.

Toronto, Mar. 12.—Eggs—Fresh eggs in free supply and prices easy. New laid 18c and limed at 12 to 14c. Fresh gathered are quoted at 16 1-2 to 17c.

Poultry—Receipts light. Prices for bright stock are as follows:—Turkeys, 11 to 12c; geese at 8 to 8 1-2c; chickens at 40 to 50c; and ducks, at 60 to 80c; cold stored turkeys and geese are quoted 1 to 2c a lb under bright stock.

Potatoes—Steady at 28c for car lots on track here. Sales, cut of store, are made at 35c.

Field produce, etc.—Turnips, out of store, 30c per bag; onions, 70c per bag; carrots, 35c per bag; apples, per bbl, $1 to $3; sweet potatoes, per bbl. $2.50.

Dried apples—Dried apples sell at 3 1-2 to 4c; evaporated at 5 to 5 1-2c.

Beans — Steady. Ordinary white beans bring $1.60; choice hand-picked beans are quoted at $1.70 to $1.75.

Honey—Firm. Dealers quote from 10 to 10 1-2c per lb for 5, 10, or 60-lb tins, according to size of order. Comb honey sells at $2.50 to $2.75 per dozen sections.

Hops—Quiet. Choice 1900 growth are quoted at 14 to 16c; and yearlings at 8 to 9c.

Baled hay—Steady. Choice timothy on track here, $10.25 to $10.50; two-ton lots, delivered, $11 to $11.25.

Straw—Car lots of straw, on track here, $5.50 to $6.

DRESSED HOGS AND PROVISIONS.

Toronto, March 12.—Dressed hogs continue firm, and in good demand. Car lots, on track here, are quoted at $8. On the street prices are firm at $8 to $8.50. Provisions are firm, and in good demand.

Quotations for provisions are as follows;—Dry salted shoulders, 8c; long clear bacon, loose, in car lots, 10c; and in case lots, 10 1-4 to 10 1-2c; short clear pork, $20 to $20.50; heavy mess pork, $19 to $19.50.

Smoked meats—Hams, heavy, 12c; medium, 12 1-2 to 13c; light, 13c.

Toronto, March 12.—Hogs are unchanged to-day, but with a decided downward tendency.

"Singers" are now quoted at 6 1-2c per lb., and light and fat at 6c per lb.

STANDS BY HIS PEOPLE.

Rev. Dr. Talmage Says God Always Fulfills His Promise.

A despatch from Washington says:—Rev. Dr. Talmage preached from the following text:—"There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life."—Joshua i. 5.

Moses was dead. A beautiful tradition says that God kissed him, and in that act drew forth the soul of the dying lawgiver. He has been buried, only one person at his funeral; the same one who kissed him. But God never removes a man until he has some one ready to take his place. God does not go around seeking among a great variety of candidates some one to take a vacant position; he just makes a man to fit that particular place. Moses had passed off the stage. Joshua, the hero of the text comes out to take his place, and puts his foot so solidly on the platform of history that all ages hear the echo of his tread. He was a magnificent fighter, and he always fought on the right side. He never fought for personal aggrandizement, and never fought unless the Lord told him to do so.

His first undertaking was to cross the river Jordan in a spring freshet. At certain seasons in the year, and at certain points, that river could be easily forded, and the water would only come to the knee or to the girdle; but at this season of which I am speaking, the snow of Mount Lebanon had melted, and they were pouring down into the valley, and the valley had become one raging flood. The Canaanites on the other side felt perfectly secure. They looked across the river and saw the Israelites, and they said: "Aha! you can't get at us—we are safe anyhow until this spring freshet falls." But one day Joshua orders out his troops and tells them to fall into line.

"FORWARD MARCH!"

cries Joshua to his troops. They pass on toward the river, and it seems as if the light-armed troops and the spearman and the archers and all their leaders must be swept down in the fearful flood. They reach the bank and they pull themselves up its steep thirty or forty feet in height—they pull themselves up the bank by the oleanders and the tamarisks and the willows until they reach the top. No sooner have they climbed up this high bank than with dash and roar and terrific rush the waters of the Jordan break loose from their strange anchorage. Why did not those waters stay parted until Joshua and his troops could find out whether they could cope with their enemies or not? I hear one of the unbelieving Israelites say: "Lord, why didst thou not keep those billows parted so that if we wanted to retreat we could go back dry shod, just as when we advanced? We are engaged in a very risky experiment. How if these Canaanites eat us all up!"

Ah! my hearer, God never makes any provision for the Christian's retreat. He clears the path to Canaan, if we go ahead; if we go back, we die. It is dry shod on a path of broken shell and pebbles in one direction. It is water forty feet deep in the rear. The same gate-keeper that swung back the crystal and amethystine door of Jordan to let you pass, hath bolted and barred the crystal and amethystine of the Jordan to keep you from going back. I declare it to-day; Victory ahead. Darkness, flood, ruin and death behind.

But we cannot stop here. It is no place for Joshua's troops to stay. What is that in the distance? At the end of a grove of palms eight miles long, is the chief city.

THAT IS JERICHO

the great metropolis. Take it Joshua must. "Take it Joshua can't," say the unbelievers. This campaign is planned by the Lord Almighty. There are to be no swords, no shields, no battering rams. There is to be only one weapon, and that is to be a ram's horn. Now the command is, that seven of the priests should take these rude musical instruments, and for six days they should go around the walls of Jericho once a day, and then on the seventh day, they should go around seven times blowing this curious, rustic, musical instrument, and the peroration of the whole scene is to be a great shout under which that wall from base to capstone is to tumble. Around the walls of Jericho the priests go once, and a failure. Not so much as a piece of mortar or plaster drops from the wall; not so much as a crevice opens, not so much as a rock gets loose. Around the city the second day, and a failure; the third day and a failure; the fourth day, and a failure; around the fifth day, and a failure; around the sixth day, and a failure. Joshua's stock was down. But the seventh day came—the climacteric day. At last, the hour has arrived. The priests with these rude musical instruments go all around the city of Jericho once and a failure. Around the city twice, three times, four times, and a failure. Around the city five times, six times, seven times, and a failure. There is only one more thing to be done, and that is to give a great shout. Joshua rises up to his full stature and he gives the command. He feels the right moment has come, and he says: "Shout for the Lord hath given you the city," and the command is heard, and the people all together cry: "Down, Jerichol down, Jericho"! And that long line of solid masonry begins to quiver, and then crash go the walls, the temples, the palaces, until the earth quakes and the Heavens are blackened with the dust, and the shriek of the crushed city and the huzza of the victorious Israelites commingle.

People cross the ocean to see a ruin.

You need not go far. Stand a minute and look at the ruins of this city Jericho. There is one house that did not fall. I wonder that one house stood while all the rest of the city fell.

RAHAB LIVED THERE.

She had been noted for her crimes. Yet she was saved. Because she had been a great sinner? No, because she had repented, and to prove to all the ages that there is mercy for the chief of sinners. All the other houses went down but Rahab's house; that stood. She repented. She trusted in God. She was saved. Mercy for the chief of sinners.

This is no place to stop, Joshua cries; "Forward, march!" There is the city of Ai to be taken. They got up in front of the city when the men of Ai came out and gave one yell, and away ran the Israelites like reindeer. I see Joshua coming out that day of his encampment, and he looks up and sees the people running, and he puts his hand to his forehead, and he says; "Why, I really believe those are our men. They are running in retreat." And soon the retreating army come up. They say: "O, General, we are all cut to pieces. Those men of Ai are awful people. We are all cut to pieces." Joshua falls down on his face in chagrin. But how did God arouse Joshua? Did he address him in some complimentary apostrophe? No, he says: "Get thee up. Why liest thou thus on thy face?" Joshua arose, I suppose looking mortified; but his old courage came back again. He marshals all the Israelites, and he says: "We will go up en masse, and we will take the city of Ai." He takes most of his army and he hides it in the night behind a ledge of rocks. In the morning he marches up a small battalion of troops in front of the city as by stratagem. The men of Ai say: "Ah! we will conquer these men very soon," and the people of Ai pursued this little battalion, and the Israelites, as though they were frightened, fall back into the stratagem. No sooner are all the people of the city started in pursuit of that battalion, that Joshua stands on a rock, and I see his hair flying in the wind as he stretches out his spear toward the doomed city, and all the armed men behind the rocks rush for the city and they capture it and put it to the torch, and no sooner is it on fire than those Israelites in the city start down, pursuing the men of Ai, and the Israelites coming out of the city on one side, and the battalion that had fal'en back suddenly, coming up from the other side, between those two waves of Israelitish courage,

THE VICTORY WAS GAINED.

Joshua's troops cannot stop yet. "Forward, march!" says Joshua, for there is the city of Gibeon; it has put itself under the wings of Joshua's protection, and Joshua must defend it, and the people send word from this city to Joshua: "Come right away; there are five kings going to destroy us. Come right away." Joshua makes a three days' march in one night. The conflict opens with great slaughter. The Canaanites look up and they say; "Ah! it is Joshua, it is Joshua who conquered the spring freshet, and the stone wall, and who took the city of Ai. There's no use; he's a terrible man; there's no use;" and they sounded a retreat. "Oh," says Joshua, "this is a victory! But it is getting towards sundown and those miserable Canaanites are going to get away from me, and they will besiege us, and perhaps attempt to destroy us. Oh for a day twice as long as any we have ever seen in this climate." What is the matter with Joshua? Has he fallen in an apoplectic fit? No, he is in prayer.

Joshua rises, his face radiant with prayer, and he looks at the descending sun over the hills of Gibeon, and he looks at the faint crescent of the moon, and in the name of the Lord, who spake the world into being, he lifts one hand and says: "Sun, stand thou still over Gibeon," and pointing the other hand to the moon, he says: "And thou moon stand still over the valley of Ajalon." And for twelve hours the planetary system halted.

It is not yet quite sundown in Joshua's day, and we will have time for five royal funerals. Where are those five kings that Joshua took and whose armies he destroyed? They are there in that cave—the cave of Makkedah, hiding. Joshua has rolled a stone against it and they cannot get out. But before night, before this very sun which I am speaking about goes down, these five kings are brought out, and according to the ancient custom, the major generals of Joshua now come up, and they put their foot on the neck of

THE TERRIBLE OLD KINGS,

and they are beheaded, and their bodies are put back into the same cave and the same stone is rolled against it again.

Now, it is time for Joshua to go home. He is an old man. He is a hundred and ten. Now give Joshua, the oldest warrior of the ages, a chance to rest. No! The greatest battle of all his lifetime opens. He comes out now against the greatest king on earth, a king who has more subjects than all the present population of the earth. It is the king of Terrors, the conqueror of thousands of years. Now, Joshua, you have your match. No! For if this is Joshua's greatest battle it is Joshua's greatest victory. He gathers his friends around him and he gives his valedictory.

He is a hundred and ten years old. Touch him very gently. Stretch out those old feet that once walked the dry path of the parted Jordan. Close those lips which blew the blast that dropped the walls of Jericho. Fold that arm that stretched out the spear, against the doomed city of Ai. Fold it across the heart that exulted when the five kings fell. But where shall we get the burnished granite fit to be the headstone and the footstone of this greatest of warriors? Oh, I be think myself now. I imagine at his head it shall be the sun that stood still above Gibeon, and at the foot it shall be the moon that stood still over the valley of Ajalon.

ATTACK OF NEXT-MORNINGNESS.

Mrs. Selldom-Home—My husband, poor-man, was so sick this morning that I was awfully uneasy about him.

Mrs. Cofrequent—What was the matter with him?

Mrs. Selldom-Home—I thought at first it was grip, but he told me it was nothing but a slight attack of katzenjammer. He says that's French for indigestion, and he'll be all right in a day or two.

STILL A SUFFERER.

Parke—Come home and take dinner with me.

Lane—But your wife doesn't expect me, does she?

Parke—What of that? I can smooth it over with her later.

Lane, grimly,—Maybe you can. But that doesn't make it any better for me.

HER CHOICE.

Oh, mamma, may'nt I go to the party the little girl next door is going to ggive?

No, my dear, it would hardly be the thing, as you are wearing mourning?

Oh, dear me!! I think I'd almost rather ggive up the mourning.

THE S. S. LESSON.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MAR. 17.

"Jesus and Pilate," Luke 23. 13-26. Golden Text, Luke 23. 4.

PRACTICAL NOTES.

Verse 13. Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests and the rulers. Compare Matt. 27. 15-23; Mark 15. 6-14. Apparently the Sanhedrin or council was still in session; at least its members had not dispersed. When Pilate had striven to throw all the responsibility concerning Jesus on the Sanhedrin its members claimed that they had no power to execute judgment. To the conversation between Jesus and Pilate which John records was due probably the great desire shown by the governor to secure the release of Jesus. The words and the people point to this great desire. Pilate appeals from the council to the crowd, confident that the "common people" who "heard him gladly" will support him now.

14. Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people. Turns them away from the religion of the nation or from the loyalty to the Roman government. I, having examined him before you, have found no fault in this man. Pilate's examination had proved that Jesus was in another sphere of life from the rulers.

15. Nor yet Herod. To whom our Lord had been sent by Pilate, when he heard that Jesus was a Galilean. Instead of for I sant you to him the Revised Version has "for he sent him back unto us." Nothing worthy of death is done unto him. "Nothing worthy of death has been done by him."

16. I will therefore chastise him, and release him. Pilate proposed to scourge him—a punishment inflicted by the Roman magistrates in certain cases for offenses less than capital. This was said in a spirit of weak concession to the assembled multitudes, since he had already declared the innocence of the accused; and the Jews took advantage of this weakness.

17. This verse of the Authorized Version is omitted in the Revised Version. It is wanting in several important Greek manuscripts. In most classes which study from the Authorized Version, mention of the omission would be of little service, for it records an historic fact, whether Luke originally wrote it or not, and it belongs properly to Matt. 27. 15 and Mark 15. 6. Such an act of public favor was often shown in old times on occasions of public rejoicing.

18. Cried out all at once. A unanimous clamor. Away with this man and release unto us Barabbas. A man who was at once a prisoner and popular. Barabbas is not so much a name as a "patronymic." "Bar" means a son. "Abbas" may be either the name of the man's father or it may mean a complimentary phrase often applied to priests it may mean the "son of a rabbi." There is some evidence in favor of reading in Matt. 27. 16 the name "Jesus Barabbas."

19. John tells us that Barabbas was a robber. Mark agrees with Luke that he was a notable insurrectionist, and that murder for which he was held responsible had been committed during the uprising. It has been conjectured that he was a leader of the mob which arose when Pilate ruthlessly appropriated Jewish religious moneys. This may explain his popularity.

23. They were instant with loud voices. "They pressed upon him with loud voices." "Instant" means "urgent."

24. Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required Matt. 27. 24-30; Mark 15, 15-19. The motive which at last prevailed with Pilate is more fully shown in John 19. 12-16. He feared that the Jews would accuse him before Caesar, and from his many acts of cruelty and extortion he had reason to dread the consequences. But the very misfortune which he sought to avoid by condemning the innocent did really befall him afterward. The six years of his governorship of Judea were years of arbitrary violence, and four years after our Lord's death he was dismissed from his charge, and is said to have destroyed himself in banishment at Vienna, in Gaul.

25. Whom they had desired. "Whom they were clamoring for." Barabbas.

26. Simon, a Cyrenian. Cyrene was a city in the north of Africa, where many Jews were settled. Simon whose sons Alexander and Rufus are named by Mark, may have been known as a follower of our Lord, but was probably taken by the soldiers as a stranger. On him they laid the cross. They did this apparently because our Lord was unable to bear the cross any longer.

TO AVOID FAMINE.

Government Reports From St. Petersburgh Tell of Strange Custom in North of Russia.

The Russian Government reports tell of a practise closely akin to hibernation among Russian peasants of the far north, where food is scanty in a degree almost equivalent to chronic famine, not having provisions enough to carry them through the whole year, they adopt the economical expedient of spending one-half of it in sleep. This custom has existed among them from time immemorial. At the first fall of the snow the whole family gathers round the stove, lies down, ceases to wrestle with the problems of human existence, and quietly goes to sleep. Once a day everyone wakes up to eat a piece of hard bread, of which amount sufficient to last six months has providentially been baked in the previous autumn. When the bread has been washed down with a draught of water, everyone goes to sleep again. The members of the family take it in turn to watch and keep the fire alight. After six months of this repose of existence the family wakes up, shakes itself, goes out to see if the grass is growing, and by and by sets to work at summer tasks. The country remains comparatively lively till the following winter, when again all signs of life disappear and all is silent, except, we presume, for the snores of the sleepers. This winter sleep is called lotska.

SAVED.

When I was sick the queerest things
I sometimes saw at night!
And once there was a cat with wings
Kept comin' round to fight!
And once a big burglar thief
Was a crawling on the floor
And once a monstrous Injun chief
Was standin' in the door!
And once I tumbled down a well
I didn't seem asleep,
And miles and miles and miles I fell,
I felt so funny, for I thought
I'd surely strike my head.
But at the bottom I was caught
All safe awake in bed!

A CORRECTION.

Gilson—I don't see why they say bread and cheese and kisses; it ought to be kisses and bread and cheese.

Willets—Why?

Gilson—So as to get the kisses as far away from the cheese as possible.

CONSIDERED AS REAL ESTATE.

How do I know, demanded the woman whom he had asked for charity, that you're not a thievish vagabond instead of a poor man out of work? How do I know you've got a clear title even to those old dirty clothes you have on?

Ma'am, mournfully asked Tuffold Knott, don't these clothes look as if I'd had 21 years' undisputed possession of 'em?

A POINT IN PRECEDENCE.

Mr. Marmaduke-Jones—Society nowadays seems to be made up of such a lot of people we don't know.

Mrs. Marmaduke-Jones—Oh, don't put it that, my dear; say rather that society nowadays is made up of such a lot of people who don't know us.

SORROWS OF RESEARCH.

Did you succeed in finding any illustrious ancestors?

No, but I scared up a lot of kinfolks that I didn't want to know at all.

FRIENDLY ENCOURAGEMENT.

Simmons—Since thinking it over I have concluded that perhaps you are a second Shakespeare.

Timmons—Oh, thank you! Er—But why?

The actors say Shakespeare does not pay.

THE COST OF IT.

The Cashier shook his head decidedly.

In all candor, he replied, I advise you not to begin stealing the funds of the bank. There is very little in it. You will have to spend about all you make for fast horses, wine suppers, and that sort of thing, in order to keep the Directors from becoming suspicious of you!

The teller was deeply impressed for it was evident that his chief spoke with knowledge.

Those who are industrious in any calling are capable of further blessings; whereas the idle are fit for nothing but temptation.—Bishop Hall.