OUR COMMON BLESSINGS

Give Earnest Thanks for the Divine Goodness Shown You.

(Entered according to Act of the Parliament of Canada, in the year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Two, by William Ballyd Toronto, at the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa)

A despatch from Washington says: —Rev. Dr. Talmage preached from the following text:—I. Corinthians x. 31, "Whether, therefore, ye eat or drink or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

When the apostle in this text sets forth the idea that so common an action as the taking of food and drink is to be conducted to the glory of God, he proclaims the importance of religion in the ordinary affairs of our life. In all ages of the world there has been a tendency to set apart certain days, places and occasions for worship, and to think those were the chief realms in which religion was to act. Now, holy days and holy places have their importance. They give opportunity for special performance of Christian duty and for regaling of the religious appetite, but they cannot take the place of continuous exercise of faith and prayer. In other words, a man cannot be so much of a Christian on Sunday that he can afford to be a worldling all the rest of the week. If a steamer put out for Southampton and go one day in that direction and the other six days in other directions, how long before the steamer will get to Southampton? It will never get there. And, though a man may seem to be voyaging heavenward during the holy Sabbath day, if during the following six days of the week he is going toward the world, and toward the flesh and toward the devil how long will it take him to reach the peaceful harbor of heaven? You cannot eat so much at the Sabbath banquet that you can afford religious abstinence the other six days. Heroism and princely behavior on great occasions are no apology for lack of right demeanor in circumstances insignificant and inconspicuous. The genuine Christian life is not spasmodic; does not go by fits and starts. It toils on through heat and cold, up steep mountains and along dangerous declivities, its eye on the everlasting hills crowned with the castles of the blessed. I propose to plead for

EVERYDAY RELIGION.

In the first place we want to bring the religion of Christ into our conversation. When a dam breaks and two or three villages are overwhelmed or an earthquake in South America swallows a whole city, then people begin to talk about the uncertainty of life, and they imagine that they are engaged in positively religious conversation. No, You may talk about these things and have no grace of God at all in your heart. We ought every day to be talking religion. If there is anything glad about it, anything beautiful about it, anything important about it, we ought to be courteously discussing. I have noticed that men just in proportion as their Christian experience is shallow talk about funerals and graveyards and tombstones and deathbeds. The real, genuine Christian man talks chiefly about this life and the great eternity beyond and not so much about the insignificant pass between these two residences. And yet how few circles there are where the religion of Jesus Christ is welcome. Go into a circle even of Christian people, where they are full of joy and hilarity, and talk about Christ or heaven and everything is immediately silenced. No one had anything to say save perhaps some old patriarch in the corner of the room, who really thinks that something ought to be said under the circumstances, so he puts one foot over the other and heaves a long sigh and says, "Oh, yes, that's so, that's so!"

My friends, the religion of Jesus Christ is something to talk about with a glad heart. It is brighter than the waters; it is more cheerful than the sunshine. Do not go around groaning about your religion when you ought to be singing it or talking it in cheerful tones of voice. How often it is that we find men whose lives are utterly inconsistent who attempt to talk religion and always make a failure of it! My friends,

WE MUST LIVE RELIGION

or we cannot talk it. If a man is cranky and cross and uncongenial and hard in his dealings and then begins to talk about Christ and heaven, everybody is repelled by it. Yet I have heard such men say in whining tones, "We are miserable sinners," "The Lord bless you," "The Lord have mercy on you," their conversation interlarded with such expressions, which mean nothing but canting, and canting is the worst form of hypocrisy. If we have really felt the religion of Christ in our hearts, let us talk it; and talk it with an illuminated countenance, remembering that when two Christian people talk God gives special attention and writes down what they say: Malachi iii, 16, "Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another, and the Lord hearkened and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written."

Again, I remark, we must bring the religion of Christ into our employments. "Oh," you say, "that is very well if a man handle large sums of money or if he have no extensive traffic, but in the humble work in life that I am called to the sphere is too small for the action of such grand, heavenly principles." Who told you so? Do you not know that God watches the faded leaf on the brook's surface as certainly as he does the path of a blazing sun? And the moss that creeps up the side of the rock makes as much impression upon God's mind as the waving tops of Oregon pine and Lebanon cedar, and the alder, crackling under the cow's hoof, sounds as loud in God's ear as the snap of a world's conflagration. When you have anything to do in life, however humble it may seem to be, God is always there to help you to do it. If your work is that of a fisherman, then God will help you, as he helped Simon when he dragged Gennesaret. If your work is drawing water, then he will help you, as when he talked at the well curb to the Samaritan woman. If you are engaged in the custom house, he will lead you, as he led Matthew sitting at the receipt of customs. A religion that is not good in one place is not worth anything

IN ANOTHER PLACE.

The man who has only a day's wages in his pocket as certainly needs the guidance of religion as he who rattles the keys of a bank and could abscond with a hundred thousand dollars.

There are those prominent in the churches who seem to be on public occasions very devout who do not put the principles of Christ's religion into practice. They are the most inexorable of creditors. They are the most grasping of dealers. They are known as sharpers on the street. They fleece every sheep they can catch. If the wheat in the churches should be put into a hopper, the first turn of the crank would make the chaff fly, I tell you. Some of these men are great sticklers for gospel preaching. They say: "You stand there in bands and surplice and gown and preach—preach like an angel—and we stand out here and attend to business. Don't mix things. Don't get religion and business in the same bucket. You attend to your matters, and we will attend to ours." They do not know that God sees every cheat they have practised in the last six years; that He can look through the iron wall of their fireproof safe; that He has counted every dishonest dollar they have in their pocket, and that a day of judgment will come.

There are many Christians who say: "We are willing to serve God, but we do not want to do it in these spheres about which we are talking, and it seems so insipid and monotonous. If we had some great occasion, if we had lived in the time of Luther, if we had been Paul's traveling companion, if we could serve God on a great scale, we would do it, but we can't in this everyday life." I admit that a great deal of the romance and knight errantry of life have disappeared before the advance of this practical age. There is, however, a field of endurance and great achievement, but it is in everyday life. There are Alps to scale, there are Hellesponts to swim, there are fires to brave, but they are all around us now. This is the hardest kind of martyrdom to bear.

Again, we need to bring the religion of Christ into

OUR COMMONEST TRIALS.

For severe losses, for bereavement, for trouble that shocks like an earthquake and that blasts like a storm, we prescribe religious consolation; but, business man, for little small annoyances of life how much of the grace of God did you apply? "Oh," you say "these trials are too much for such application." My brother, they are shaping your character, they are souring your temper, they are wearing out your patience and they are making you less and less of a man. I go into a sculptor's studio and see him shaping a statue. He has a chisel in one hand and a mallet in the other, and he gives a very gentle stroke—click, click, click! I say, "Why don't you strike harder?" "Oh," he replies, "that would shatter the statue. I can't do it that way. I must do it this way." So he works on, and after awhile the form begins to come out, and everybody that enters the studio is charmed and fascinated. Well, God has your soul under process of development, and it is little annoyances and vexations of life that are chiseling out your immortal nature.

Again, we must bring the religion of Christ into our commonest blessings. When the autumn comes and the harvests are in and the governors make proclamations, we assemble in churches and we are very thankful. But every day ought to be a thanksgiving day. We do not recognize the common mercies of life. We have to see a blind man led by his dog before we begin to bethink ourselves of what a grand thing it is to have undimmed eyesight. We have to see some wounded man hobbling on his crutch or with his empty coat sleeve pinned up before we learn to think what a grand thing God did for us when he gave us healthy use of our limbs. We are so stupid that nothing but the misfortunes of others can rouse us up to our blessings. As the ox grazes in the pasture up to his eye in clover, yet never thinking who makes the clover, and as the bird picks up the worm from the furrow not thinking that it is God

WHO MAKES EVERYTHING

from the animalcule in the sod to the seraph on the throne, so we go on eating, drinking and enjoying, but never thanking, or seldom thanking, or, if thanking at all, with only half a heart.

I compared our indifference to the brute, but perhaps I wronged the brute. I do not know but that among its other instincts, it may have an instinct by which it recognizes the divine hand that feeds it. I do not know but that God is, through it, holding communication with what we call "irrational creation." Who thanks God for the air, the fountain of life, the bridge of sunbeams; the path of sound, the great fan on a hot summer's day? Who thanks God for this wonderful physican organism, this sweep of the vision, this chime of harmony struck into the ear, this soft tread of a myriad delights over the nervous tissue, this rolling of the crimson tide through artery and vein, this drumming of the heart on our march to immortality? We take all these things as a matter of course.

Take this practical religion I have recommended into your everyday life. Make every day a Sabbath, and every meal a sacrament, and every room you enter a holy of holies. We all have work to do; let us be willing to do it. We all have sorrows to bear, let us cheerfully bear them. We all have battles to fight; let us courageously fight them. If you want to die right, you must live right. Negligence and indolence will win the hiss of everlasting scorn, while faithfulness will gather its garlands and wave its sceptre and sit upon its throne long after this earth has put on ashes and eternal ages have begun their march. You go home today and attend to your little sphere of duties. I will go home and attend to my little sphere of duties. Every one in his own place. So our every step in life shall be a triumphal march, and the humblest footstool on which we are called to sit will be a conqueror's throne.

THE S. S. LESSON.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MARCH 9.

Text of the Lesson, Acts viii., 3-17

Golden Text, Acts viii., 4.

3. "As for Saul, he made havoc of the church." The Revised Version says that he laid waste the church, but our Lord had said, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matt. xvi, 18). So that this imprisonment of Christians and power of Saul and the authorities over them did not really hurt the church any more than the fiery furnace or the lions hurt Daniel and his friends.

4. "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word." So the disciples could say to Saul and his company as Joseph said to his brethren, "Ye thought evil against me, but God meant it unto good to save much people alive." (Gen. l, 20). When we were persecuted and in the midst of trial it seems very difficult to see any good in it, and not to see our persecutors, but faith sees only God and is quiet because He controls all people and all events. These scattered preachers of good tidings were not the apostles, but all except the apostles (verse 1), and they were just the Lord's messengers with the Lord's message (Hag. i, 13). If all believers now were ready to tell others the love and glace of God, telling His salvationf rom day to day (Ps. lxxi, 15, 24), how soon the gospel might be preached to every creature!

5-8. "Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ unto them." Philip was the second of the seven who had been appointed to minister to the needy in things temporal, and now that Stephen had been so honored and promoted he is also honored as the Lord's messenger. If we are content to do the ordinary work of the daily life, the Lord will, nHis own time lead us into greater service. Very helpful words on this are found in II. Samuel xv, 15; I. Chron. xxviii, 21. In verses 4, 12, 25 we get a good idea of the preaching of those days. They preached Christ; they preached the word of the Lord and the things concerning the kingdom of God. As Philip preached the Lord wrought with and through him, confirming the word with signs following (Mark xvi, 20), and, seeing the miracles and hearing the message, the people with one accord gave heed, and there was great joy in that city. Whether the messenger be the woman of Samaria or Philip the evangelist, if Christ is preached the Spirit works, and whenever Christ is truly received there follows joy and peace (Ps. xv, 18).

9, 10. "The adversary who opposes God and exalts himself is always to the front ever since he slandered God to Eve in Eden. It is seen in the willfulness and self-assertion of Cain, in the endeavor of the Babel builders to make themselves a name and in all who oppose themselves to God and His truth from Cain to the one who shall exalt himself and magnify himself above every god, so that he, as God, shall sit in the temple of God showing himself that he is God (Dan. xi, 36; II. Thess. ii, 4). This Simon, like Theudas of chapter v, 36, was just one of the great host who magnify themselves and always find a following. As I write a man in Chicago, whom many follow and who seems to preach the gospel, has just given out that he is Elijah. And so it goes and will till Jesus comes.

11, 12. Bewitching people with sorcery might possibly describe many of the teachings of to-day which captivate such multitudes. A great following is not sufficient proof that the leader is right, nor are few followers necessarily an evidence that the leader is wrong.

13. "Simon himself believed also, was baptized, continued with Philip and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs." The power of God is able to break the hardest heart, and the fact that Simon was baptized and continued with Philip after he believed, would seem to indicate a real conversion. The sequel in verses 18 to 24 may indicate, however, that Simon had not truly received the Lord Jesus, or they may mean that he was not right in the matter of the gift of the Spirit. If he had no part in Christ, he certainly was not saved. Is it that meant that he had no part in this gift of the Holy Spirit he was just in the condition in which most church members are, and it may have been in reference to serving God that his heart was not right. Simon the sorcerer is not a comfortable study. There is much of himself from first to last and little, if any, of Christ even after he believed.

14. "Now, when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John." These two who are so prominent in the early chapters are still evidently the foremost among the apostles and specially honored by the others. Notice what it was the people of Samaria had received. They had received the word of God, and, like the Thessalonians, they doubtless received it, not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh in those who believe (I. Thess. ii, 13). Our Lord Himself said to His Father on the night before His crucifixion, "I have given unto them the words which Thou gavest Me, and they have received them" (John xvii, 8). We give our Lord pleasure when we receive His word. It is to be received with meekness and then held fast and held forth (Jas. i, 21; Tit. i, 9; Phil. ii, 16).

15, 16. "Who, when they were come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Ghost." They were somewhat like the apostles and other believers before Pentecost. They had believed, were baptized and had become children of God and temples of the Holy Ghost, but they had not been endued with the power which all believers need to enable them to secure the living and true God. All who trdly receive Christ are saved and have become children of God (John i, 12) and temples of the Holy Spirit, who dwell in every believer, but it is possible for such to be only babes and carnal (I Cor. vi, 19, 20; iii, 1, 2), and therefore the necessity of being filled with the Spirit and endued with power to live the life of faithful testimony.

17. "Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost." Having prayed (verse 15), they now with expectation lay hands on them, and the special gift of the Spirit is received. So also did Paul at Ephesus (chapter xix, 5, 6). Our Lord's words, "Ask, and it shall be given you," are in connection with these others, "How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him" (Luke xi, 9, 13).

FOR FARMERS

Seasonable and Profitable Hints for the Busy Tillers of the Soil.

HOW TO MAINTAIN SOIL FERTILITY.

We all know that it is very desirable to have a fertile soil in which to grow crops, for success in farming depends largely upon the fertility of the land, writes Mr. F. P. Peck. Everyone knows of many once fertile farms which are now not producing half what they should—scarcely enough to pay for the labor necessary to produce a crop. It is more profitable to farm so as to maintain or improve the soil than it is to rob the soil of its fertility and in the end bring ruin to the owner of the farm.

How is this to be done? I believe our greatest loss of fertility is the loss of humus. A soil without humus will not carry a crop successfully through a drouth. A clay soil devoid of humus will be lumpy and hard, and will not retain moisture very long. We all know the effect on the crop and the great amount of labor required to prepare such a piece of ground for a crop. Hence our aim should be to farm so as to produce and leave as much humus in the ground as possible. This is best accomplished by a system of rotation of crops and one crop in the rotation should be clover, which is our greatest soil renovator. We should aim to

FEED EVERYTHING,

or nearly everything produced on the farm and if we add a little bran or concentrated feed to the ration of each animal and carefully save and apply all the manure, it is easy to see that we shall maintain and probably add to the fertility of the soil.

Many advocate the plowing under of green crops, but unless a farm is very much run down I would not practice this unless it be to bury a second crop of clover or a cover crop sowed to protect the ground through the winter. A cover crop should always be sowed whenever a piece of ground remains idle during the fall and winter. Many times we have a piece of stubble which we intend to plant to corn or potatoes. On this we can grow a crop of rye or peas and barley, either of which will make a large growth and can be plowed under in time to plant corn. This adds largely to the humus of the soil, and will tend to carry the crop through drouth without injury.

As I said it should be our aim to feed all or nearly all we raise on our farms for the purpose of keeping up the fertility of the farm, and I believe it to be more profitable to sell our produce in the form of butter, beef, pork, etc., than to sell it in the rough. I believe our produce, fed to good stock, will bring us more than twice what it will sell for on the market. For example, I can feed a cow for 12½c per day and have her bring in 25 cents or more per day for butter alone, and I believe the same to be true with all other

KINDS OF STOCK.

Many advocate the use of commercial fertilizer. Of course, the basis of all our fertility is the amount of nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid a soil contains. When we consider that an ordinary crop of wheat of 25 bushels per acre removes about $8.75 worth of these elements from the soil, and a crop of corn nearly as much, we can readily see that when a soil is exhausted of these elements, it is quite expensive to replace them by using commercial fertilizer. Now if we feed our crops on the farm we can return about 80 per cent. of these elements to the soil in the manure, and at the same get twice the market value of our produce. We can readily see that it is quite profitable to farm so as to improve our soil, that it is to sell our crops on the market and at the same time be losing heavily in the fertility of the soil.

I would not advocate the feeding of wheat, but would sell it and purchase bran or cottonseed meal, which is worth more for feed than wheat, and has about double the manurial value. If I sold much grain I would use commercial fertilizers freely, for it is impossible to keep up the farm and sell grain without their use. If we grow all the forage crops we can and feed them on the farm, carefully save and return the manure we need have but little fear about the fertility of our land.

FEED FOR DAIRY CALVES.

Begin with sweet milk and gradually replace it by sweet skim milk, adding a tablespoonful of oil meal to take the place of the fat removed. As the calves increase in size, keep oats, shorts and hay before them so that they will learn to eat all of these. Young calves should never be given cold milk under any circumstances, nor should too much milk be given. Four quarts twice a day is amply sufficient for the largest much. After that it can be gradually increased.

"Your conversation, Mr. Hevvi man," said Miss Peppery, suppressing a yawn, "reminds me of sons champagne." "Ah!" exclaimo Hevviman, much pleased; "s sparkling as that?" "No, but it' extra dry."

THE MARKETS

Prices of Grain, Cattle, etc in Trade Centres.

Toronto, March 4.—Flour—No buyers or sellers.

Millfeed—Bran offered at $17.25 outside, west.

Wheat—No. 1 Manitoba hard offered at 86 cn route North Bay, with 85½c bid, also at 82½c Owen Sound, with 81½c bid. It also offered at 88½c Sarnia tunnel. No. 1 Northern offered at 83c en route North Bay, while 8½ was bid spot North Bay. No. 2 Northern offered at 80c en route North Bay, with 79c bid. Ontario No. 2 red winter offered at 73½c outside, either road, and 58-lb. red at 72½c outside. No. 2 white offered at 73½c outside, and No. 2 mixed at 73c middle freight, without bids. No. 1 spring offered at 72½c east, No. 2 spring at 71½c east, either road, and No. 2 goose, at 68½ low freight to New York, without bids.

Barley—Feed offered at 49c outside without bids.

Peas—A car of No. 2 sold at 79½c high freight, and 79½c was bid for more, low freight to New York, without offerings.

Oats—No. 2 white, 40½c bid in buyers' sacks outside, and ten cars offered at 40½c low freight to New York, with 40½c bid. On track here 42½c was bid for No. 2 white.

Corn—No. 2 yellow offered at 56½c west with 56c bid, and No. 2 mixed at 65c west, with 55½c bid.

Buckwheat—Five thousand bushels of No. 2 wanted at 55c low freight to New York, without sellers.

Hay—No. 1 timothy sold at $10.50 on track Toronto, prompt shipment.

Straw—A car offered at $5.50 on track Toronto, without bids.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Dried Apples—The market is quiet and prices unchanged, with sales at 8½ to 6c per lb. Evaporated sell at 9½ to 10c.

Hops—Business quiet, with prices steady at 13c; yearlings at 8c.

Honey—The market is steady at 9 to 10c for strained. Combs, $1.50 to $2.25 per dozen.

Beans—The market is dull. Prices $1.10 to $1.40 per bush, as to quality. Hand-picked, $1.50.

Onions—Market steady at $2.50 to $3 per bbl.

Hay, Baled—The market is firm, with good demand. Timothy sold at $10.50 on track Toronto, for No. 1, and No. 2 is quoted at $8.50 to $9.

Straw—The market is quiet. Car lots on track quoted at $5.50 to $6, the latter for No. 1.

Poultry—The market is dull, with few offerings. We quote:—Fresh killed turkeys, 12 to 13c per lb; geese, 8 to 10c; chickens, 70 to 90c; old hens, 40 to 50c.

Potatoes—In car lots on track, 65 to 66c per bag. Small lots bring 75 to 80c per bag.

THE DAIRY MARKET.

Butter—The receipts are fair, and prices firm for good qualities. Creamery prints firm at 22 to 23½c, and solids at 21½ to 22c. Choice 1-lb dairy prints, 19 to 20c; choice large rolls, 17 to 17½c; secondary grades, in rolls, 15 to 16c; poor to medium, 12 to 13c.

Eggs—The market is dull; buyers hold off and prices to-day were 26 to 27c per dozen in case lots.

Cheese—The demand is fair, and prices firm at 10½ to 11c per lb.

HOGS AND PROVISIONS.

Dressed hogs unchanged. Car lots nominal at $7.50 to $7.60. Hog products steady. We quote:—Bacon long clear sells at 10½c, in ton and case lots. Mess pork, $20.50 to $21; do, short cut, $21.50 to $22.

Smoked meats—Hams, 12½ to 13c; breakfast bacon, 13½ to 14c; rolls, 11c; backs, 13½ to 14c, and shoulders, 10½c.

Lard—The market is unchanged. We quote:—Fierces, 11c; tubs, 11½c; pails, 11½ to 11¾c; compound, 9 to 9½c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Duluth, March 4.—Close—Wheat—Cash, No. 1 hard, 76½c; No. 1 Northern, 73½c; No. 2 Northern, 71½c; May, 75½c; July, 76½c; Manitoba No. 1 Northern, cash, 71½c; May, 73½c; No. 2 Northern, 68½c. Corn—60c.

Buffalo, March 4.—Flour—Quiet and only steady. Wheat — Spring firm; No. 1 Northern, c.i.f., 79½c winter dull; No. 2 red, 83½c. Corn—Enquiry good; No. 2 yellow, 65½c; No. 3 do, 65c; No. 2 corn, 64½c; No. 3 do, 64c. Oats—Higher; No. 2 white, 48½c; No. 3 do., 47½c; No. 2 mixed, 47c; No. 3 do, 46½c. Barley—66½c to 69c spot. Rye—No. 2, 66½c.

Minneapolis, March 4. — Close—Wheat—May, 73½ to 73½c; July, 74½c; on track, No. 1 hard, 75c; No. 1 Northern, 73½c; No. 2 Northern, 71½ to 72½c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, March 4.—At the Western cattle market this morning the receipts were 53 carloads of live stock, including 842 cattle, 165 sheep and lambs, 1,100 hogs, 30 calves, and 30 milch cows.

Following is the range of quotations:—

Cattle.

Shippers, per cwt...	$4.50	$5.25
do, light...	4.25	4.50
Butcher, choice...	4.00	4.50
Butcher, ordinary to good...	3.25	3.75
Butcher, inferior...	2.75	3.25
Stockers, per cwt...	3.00	3.50
Sheep and Lambs.		
Choice ewes, per cwt	3.50	3.75
Lambs, per cwt...	4.00	5.00
Bucks, per cwt...	2.00	2.50
Milkers and Calves.		
Cows, each...	30.00	45.00
Calves, each...	2.00	10.00
Hogs.		
Choice hogs, per cwt	5.75	6.00
Light hogs, per cwt.....	5.50	5.75
Heavy hogs, per cwt.....	5.50	5.75
Sows, per cwt...	3.50	4.00
Stags, per cwt...	0.00	2.00

CONFINED TO FOUR AREAS.

Botha, Delarey, De Wet and Cape Colony Rebels.

A despatch from London says:—In his latest report to the War Office Lord Kitchener gives a general review of the military situation. He says:—"The enemy's forces in the field are now practically confined to four definite areas. In the Eastern Transvaal the personal influence of General Louis Botha continues to hold together a considerable but diminishing force between the borders of Swaziland and the Bruggspruit-Waterval blockhouse line. In the west Generals Delarey and Kemp circling to the difficult country between the Mafeking Railway line and Magaliesburg. In the northeastern districts of Orange River Colony De Wet and ex-President Steyn still control a comparatively large and determined following, who have quite recently given proofs of their boldness and initiative in attack, and in Cape Colony the country to the northwest of the Cape Town-De Aar line is infested by several bands of rebels, kept together by adventurers from the late republics. Elsewhere smaller commandos are to be found, but their numbers are insignificant, and their want of enterprise reveals in all probability an abating interest in the useless struggle in which they have so long been employed."

SCARCITY OF HORSES.

A Correspondent Says the Army Throws Away Horses.

A despatch from Pretoria to the London Times says that the supply of horses is lamentably short of the demand and scarcely a single column can place its full mounted strength in the field. The wastage is caused because many horses are hurried on the trek before fully acclimatized and by unusually hard treatment. Many men who are now mounted went to Africa lacking experience of horses. A culpable indifference to the welfare of the most important factor in the efficiency of the army seems to have permeated the whole army. The Times correspondent says the Boers are thoroughly demoralized by constant hustling, the scarcity of provisions convinces the burghers of the hopelessness of the struggle. The British will lose a great opportunity is they fail to take advantage of the situation, but they must have an immediate supply of horses or the present rate of progress will be arrested.

SALISBURY WILL NOT GO.

Rumors of Retirement Are Foundationless.

A London despatch says:—Halfpenny journalism displays a lack of inventiveness in reviving the stories about the retirement of Lord Salisbury and the struggle over the succession. Lord Salisbury has always been a staunch friend of the King, and is the last man to bring on a political crisis on the eve of the coronation. The members of his family are bent upon keeping him where he is, and not allowing him leisure for brooding over the burdens of increasing age. It is, moreover, easier for Lord Salisbury to remain in office than to arrange an armistice between Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach. The duties of party and leadership are not oppressive when the faction-rent oppositions is constantly scattering into fresh groups, and then influenza screens one Minister after another from harassing debate.

FOURTEEN MEN DEAD.

Snowslides in Vicinity of Liberty Bell Mine, Colorado.

A Telluride, Colo., despatch says:—Fourteen dead, as many injured, a score or more missing are the result so far as known, of the series of snowslides which occurred in the vicinity of the Liberty Bell Mine, on Smuggler Mountain, three and a half miles north of Telluride. The roads between here and the Liberty Bell are almost impassible, and details of the accident are hard to obtain. It seems that no less than four distinct slides occurred, each one claiming two or more victims. Several bodies have been recovered, but quite a number of the known dead are still buried under tons of snow, rocks and timbers by which they were carried down.

Taking advantage of the enthusiasm over the visit of Prince Henry to the States, steps are already being taken in Berlin to form a society whose object will be to extend the friendly feeling between America and Germany.

WAR BARELY AVERTED.

Gigantic Plot in Italy Nipped Just in Time.

A London despatch says:—The world at large has been kept in ignorance of the fact that a civil war—possibly a successful revolution—in Italy has been escaped by the narrowest margin in the last few days. The only news sent abroad has been of the mobilization of nearly 200,000 troops, and the Government assumption of control on all the railroads in order to avert a national strike of railroad employes. The far greater truth was suppressed, partly by the censorship and partly by official intimations to foreign correspondents that the transmission of alarmist reports would be followed by severe disciplinary measures.

Italy is in the presence of a Socialist plot of enormous proportions. The Socialist leaders have within a year organized all the popular forces of the country, while the Government strangely enough has not attempted any interference, being apparently ignorant of the real objects of the movement. A chamber of labor was created in every town, and a great number of leagues of resistance. Each class of workmen has its league and each league obeys the local chamber. Nearly all the workmen in Italy and a large proportion of the agriculturists were gradually enrolled, until the leagues themselves numbered 10,000, and the total membership more than 1,000,000. The whole of this organization is under the control of a central committee in Rome, which is actually the parliamentary Socialist body. This group gained such strength that it was within its power to send 1,000,000 men into open revolt, and to paralyze in 24 hours the industrial, commercial and agricultural life of the country.

A correspondent, who, in defiance of the warning of the authorities, sent a telegram from the Swiss frontier Friday night, says:—

"The central committee was to have given the word for action on Friday, when a general strike on all the Italian railways was to be begun. The revolutionary plans were upset by the stupid haste of Signor Morgari, the Socialist deputy for Turin, who, six days before the appointed date, ordered a general strike in that city. This opened the eyes of the Government, and by the prompt mobilization of the entire personnel of the railway system of the country, 110,000 men, and the calling to the colors of the reservists of the class of 1878, numbering 90,000 men, two formidable blows were dealt at the revolutionists, under which they are still staggering. The Government next, by decree, dissolved all the chambers of labor and all the leagues of resistance; and to-day the plotters are reduced to what the Government hopes may prove to be permanent inaction."

NOT WISE TO STIR UP STRIFE

British Press Attitude on Prince Henry's Visit.

A London despatch says:—The attitude of the English newspapers towards the visit of Prince Henry of Prussia, to the United States, has called out a rebuke from the Westminster Gazette.

"It is not dignified, and is scarcely well-bred," says the Gazette, "to remind the United States of obligations we have no reason to suppose they will forget, and it is certainly not politic to display anxiety in regard to the possible results of the friendly meeting between the President and the German Prince."

The paper then proceeds to sound a note of warning against carrying resentment towards Germany to the point of endeavoring to make mischief between Germany and another power, "in view of the already strained relations occasioned by the zig-zag policy of the Government, which threatens to place Great Britain in a position of antagonism to both Germany and Russia."

WANTS TO SEE THE WORLD.

A Trappist Monk Renounces His Vows After 23 Years.

A Dubuque, Iowa despatch says:—An event unprecedented in the history of the Trappist Monastery in this country is made public. Brother Eugene, for 23 years an inmate, has deliberately renounced his vows, which he took nearly a quarter of a century ago. He has left the monastery, and is now looking for some means to earn a living. His name is Joseph Graham, and he came from Illinois when twenty-three years old. The Trappist rules are the most rigid of any monastic order, and Brother Eugene got tired of them. He wants to see the world. It is stated that his permission to leave the monastery came from Rome.

FOR HER OWN PROTECTION

Europe Must Adopt Commercial Monroe Doctrine.

A Budapest despatch says:—During a debate in the Hungarian Chamber on Thursday, Prime Minister Koloman de Szell, referring to the increasing industrial production of the United States, said the necessity would arise some day for Europe to put in force a commercial Monroe doctrine against that country.

REPORT AGAINST CHINESE.

The Commission Declares They Are a Nuisance.

An Ottawa despatch says:—Your Commissioners are of the opinion that the further immigration of Chinese laborers into Canada ought to be prohibited," is the finding of the three commissioners, Messrs. C. Clute, K. C., of Toronto; James Mums of New Westminster; and Christopher Foley of Rossland, appointed a year ago by the Dominion Government to enquire into Chinese and Japanese immigration in Canada.

They propose that until a treaty of exclusion be obtained the tax be raised to $500. Messrs. Foley and Clute favor raising the tax to $500 at once; Mr. Mums favors an increase to $300 for two years.

The Commissioners report that in Chinatown in Victoria, a district of four blocks, are 2,280 people. They found evidence that in anticipation of their visit there had been a sort of attempt at a "very recent general cleaning up." "What the condition of Chinatown was before this cleaning out, and the burning of 100 old buildings by the civic authorities, must be left to the imagination of the reader." In several houses of the Chinese laborers in communities were found lodgers in third floors, "into to which the occupant crawls on his hands and knees."

The conclusion of the Commissioners is that the representations of the British Columbia Legislature to the effect that the Chinese, as a class are detrimental to the wage-earners of the Province, and a menace to it, are "substantially true, and urgently call for a remedy."

The report on the Japanese is not yet ready.

UNITED IRISH LEAGUE.

Mr. Wyndham Says Crimes Act Will Be Sternly Applied.

A London despatch says:—The Right Hon. George Wyndham, Chief Secretary for Ireland, at the Carlton Club on Wednesday exhaustively discussed the Irish question. He condemned the United Irish League in strong terms, declaring it to be a political machine, which constituted the gravest menace to the community. He said the league had corrupted the whole moral fibre of Ireland, and declared the only course of dealing with the league is to be the stern application of the Crimes Act, which he purposed to see rigorously enforced.

DESPERADO TAKEN.

Notorious Robber Captured After a Ten Weeks' Hunt.

A Dawson, via Ashcroft, B.C., despatch says:—Mounted Police at the Stockade Road House, Yukon, captured William Brophy, a notorious robber, after a ten weeks' hunt. During the scuffle while arresting him a revolver belonging to one of the policeman exploded, the bullet going through Brophy's abdomen and emerging near the spine. The police have spent over $10,000 in the search and the capture is the most noted since that of murderer O'Brien.

PRINCESS IN DANGER.

Almost Run Down by a Frightened Animal.

A special cable to the New York Herald from London says:—"The Princess of Wales had a very narrow escape at the Shire Horse Show on Thursday. As the Prince and Princess were about to pass the exit a frightened stallion rushed by Her Royal Highness missing her by a foot or two only. It was only by the skill of the groom, who managed to pull the animal to one side, that a very serious and deplorable accident was averted."

WANTS RANSOM BACK.

Uncle Sam Proposes That Turkey Shall Pay.

A Constantinople despatch says:—It is understood that the United States will shortly take steps to obtain a reimbursement of the sum ($72,500) paid to the brigands as a ransom for Miss Ellen M. Stone and Madame Tsilka, holding Turkey responsible, inasmuch as the capture of the missionaries was effected on Turkish soil. This question of responsibility may have serious developments, since Turkey emphatically disclaims responsibility, and lays the blame on Bulgaria.

BOER CHIEFS ROUNDED UP.

Influential Commandants Were Captured.

The correspondent of the London Times at Ermelo says that Col. Mackenzie's column, operating near Lake Chrissie, South-Eastern Transvaal, has surprised Hans Grobelar's small laager, capturing Stephanus Grobelar, Corps. Vandermewe and Schalkmeyer, and four others. Grobelar and Schalkmeyer are both influential men, who have been encouraging Boer resistance in the Ermelo district.

Russia contemplates a system of fortifications at Vladivostock and Port Arthur.

THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING AT TORONTO.

FOUR NEW MEMBERS.

Hon. J. M. Gibson introduced the bill providing for further representation of the northern districts. He said the bill proposed to add four new members for the two Algomas and Nipissing. The bill provides there shall be two members for West Algoma, three for East Algoma and two for Nipissing.

West Algoma, he said, would be divided into north and south, and not into Rainy River and Thunder Bay. The populations by this division would be 12,649 for the south, and 13,156 for the north.

East Algoma is to be divided into three electoral districts. Sault Ste. Marie, Manitoulin and Algoma. The first will include the Soo and the southwestern portion of the present district. Manitoulin will include Manitoulin and the islands with a portion of the north shore. Algoma is to include that portion not taken in by the other two electoral districts and including the island of St. Joseph. The population of these new districts will be, Sault Ste. Marie, 14,448, including the Indians; Manitoulin 14,136 and Algoma 18,096.

Nipissing is to be divided into east and West Nipissing. In regard to the east riding, three townships of North Renfrew are included and some townships south of Algonquin Park, separated by the Canada and Atlantic Railway, which formerly belonged to Nipissing, are added to North Hastings.

Mr. Gibson said he did not intend to discuss the bill, but declared it to be a reasonable and fair way of providing for the representation of the Northern districts.

STRIKES ARE DECREASING.

The report of the Bureau of Labor for 1901 was presented to the Legislature. The returns of strikes and lockouts show a diminution for the period from September 31st, 1901, compared with a like previous period the total number of strikes reported being 19, and one lockout, involving 64 establishments, and covering an aggregate of 438 days, or an average of 23 days to each. The greater number required but a few days for settlement. The tendency to settle disputes between employers and employes by conciliation is rapidly on the increase in Ontario, as in other parts of the world. The report says further that some misapprehension as to the objects of the bureau still exists, though the secretary, Mr. Robert Glockling has visited many industrial centres of the Province during the year, and did his best to some extent to dispel this misapprehension.

THE SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC.

In reply to Mr. Matheson, the Provincial Secretary said that the item of $6,000 for sanitary investigation was expended on the fight against smallpox. An additional inspector, Dr. Hodgetts, had been appointed. The Government did not intend to repay all municipalities for their smallpox expenditures, but only a few small outlying ones, where the disease had been brought in by outsiders.

THIRD READINGS.

The following bills were given a third reading:—

To divide the District of Rainy River for the registration of titles and deeds.—Mr. Gibson.

Respecting the establishment of the Carnegie Library in the City of Ottawa.—Mr. Lumsden.

To further amend the Devolution of Estates Act.—Mr. Gibson.

TO RE-STOCK FISHERIES.

An item of $22,000 for sundries under the Fisheries Department, an increase of $2,000 since last year, brought an announcement from Mr. Latchford that the Government intended making a larger expenditure for restocking of certain fishing waters, especially with black bass, and for the better protection of aquatic game.

GOOD ROADS.

The Premier introduced a bill designed to encourage County Councils to avail themselves of the good roads fund provided for a year ago. By courtesy of the House it has its first and second readings in order that it should go to the Municipal Committee at once. The bill proposes to extend the privileges of issuing good roads debentures for a period of 20 years to 30 years. He also proposed to permit County Councils to issue such debentures without submitting a by-law to the people.

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