THE MARKETS

Prices of Grain, Cattle, etc in Trade Centres.

Toronto, April 8.—Wheat—No. 1 Manitoba hard offered at 85c en route North Bay, and No. 1 Northern at 81½c en route N.B., with 81c bid. Ontario No. 2 red winter offered at 71½c middle freights G.T.R. No. 2 white at 72c east G.T.R., No. 2 mixed at 71½c on Midland, and No 2 goose at 66c middle freights on either road, without bids.

Barley—No. 3 offered at 49c outside, without bids.

Peas—No. 2 offered at 80c outside, without bids.

Oats—No. 2 white offered at 41c outside, at 40½c east, and at 43c on track Toronto, without bids. No. 3 white offered at 42c on track Toronto, and at 39c high freights Pacific. No 2 mixed, 42½c bid on track Toronto.

Corn—No. 2 yellow, 56c bid west, and No. 2 mixed 55½c bid G.T.R., without sellers.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Dried Apples—The market is dull, and prices are nominal at 5½ to 5¾c. Evaporated, 10 to 10½c.

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

Honey—The market is dull at 5½ to 10c for strained; combs, $1.15 to $2.25 per dozen.

Maple Syrup—There is a fair trade. We quote :—Pure (new make), imperial gallons, $1.05 to $1.15; old, as to quality, 65c to $1. Sugar, 8 to 10c.

Beans—The market is quiet. Prices $1.20 to $1.30 per bush, as to quality. Hand-picked, $1.35 to $1.40.

Cranberries — Market unchanged, with stocks small. Cape Cod, $9.50 to $10 per barrel.

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

Hay, baled—The market is quiet, with fair demand. Timothy quoted at $10.50 on track, Toronto, for No. 1, and at $9 to $9.25 for No. 2.

Straw—The market is quiet. Car lots on track quoted at $5.75 to $6.

Poultry—Supplies are small, and prices firm. We quote :—Fresh killed turkeys, 13 to 14c per lb; chickens, 70c to $1. Ducks, 75c to $1.

Potatoes—Market is unchanged. Car lots are quoted at 55 to 57c on track, and small lots out of store sell at 65 to 70c.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—The market is quiet, with prices firm. We quote as follows :—Choice, 1-lb prints, 19 to 20c; choice large rolls, 17½ to 18c; secondary grades, in rolls, 15 to 16c; low grades, 12 to 13c; creamery prints, 22c to 23c; do, solids, 21 to 22½c.

Eggs—The market is steady, with receipts fair and demand good. Sales in case lots at 12 to 12½c per dozen.

Cheese—The market is quiet and firm at 11 to 11¼c per lb, the latter for choice makes.

HOGS AND PROVISIONS.

Dressed hogs are unchanged. Hog products in fair demand and steady. We quote :—Bacon, long clear, 9½ to 10c, in ton and case lots. Mess pork, $20.50; do short cut, $22.

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

Lard—The market continues firm. We quote :—Tierces, 11 to 11¼c; tubs, 11½c; pails, 11¾c; compound, 9 to 9¼c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Buffalo, April 8.—Flour, quiet and easy. Wheat, spring steady; No. 1 Northern, 76½c carloads; winter, no demand; No. 2 red, 81½c asked. Corn—No demand; No. 2 yellow, 64½c; No. 3 do, 63½ to 64c; No. 1 corn, 63½c; No. 3 do, 63½c. Oats—Quiet; No. 2 white, 49c; No. 3 do, 48c; No. 2 mixed, 46½c; No. 3 do, 46½c. Barley—Spot, 67c to 70c asked; No. 1 offered at 63c.

Detroit, April 8.—Wheat closed—No. 1 white, cash, 79½c; No. 2 red, cash, April and May, 78½c; July 75½c.

Minneapolis, April 8.—Close, wheat May 71c; July, 71½ to 72c; on track, No. 1 hard, 74½c. No. 1 Northern 72½c; No. 2 Northern, 70½c. Flour—First patents, $3.75 to $3.85; second patents, $3.65 to $3.75; first clears, $2.85 to $2.95; second clears, $2.15 to $2.25; bran, in bulk, $12.

Duluth, April 8.—Wheat—Cash, No. 1 hard, 74½c; No. 1 Northern, 71½c; No. 2 Northern, 68½c; May, 71½c; July, 72½c; Manitoba, No. 1 Northern, cash, 70½c; May, 71c; No. 2 Northern, 88½c. Oats—40½c. Corn—60c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, April 8.—At the Western cattle yards to-day only 44 carloads of live stock were received, including 940 cattle, 950 hogs, and a small run of sheep and lambs, spring lambs milch cows and calves.

Prices for good cattle were firm, but we had little good cattle here; small stuff and hogs were quotably unchanged but weak.

Good export cattle were firm, with, if anything, an upward tendency, but as a representative price 5¼c is top for the best stuff, though more was paid in individual cases to-day. There was an early clearance.

Butcher cattle was also unchanged from Tuesday; indeed the cattle trade showed no alteration from the conditions that prevailed early in the week, and the prices we then gave stand good to-day. Good to choice butcher cattle fetched from 4¾ to 5c per lb to-day.

Following is the range of quotations:—

Cattle.		
Shippers, per cwt... ...$4.50		$5.50
Do., light...	4.25	4.50
Butcher,choice.....	4.50	5.00
Butcher, ord. to good..	3.50	4.00
Butcher, inferior...	3.00	3.25
Stockers, per cwt	3.00	3.70
Sheep and Lambs.		
Choice ewes, per cwt...	3.50	4.00
Yearlings, per cwt... ...	4.25	5.00
Spring lambs, each ...	2.50	5.00
Bucks, per cwt...	2.50	3.00
Milkers and Calves.		
Cows, each... ... ...25.00		45.00
Calves, each...	2.00	10.00
Hogs.		
Choice hogs, per cwt...	5.75	6.25
Light hogs, per cwt....	5.50	6.00
Heavy hogs, per cwt...	5.50	6.00
Sows, per cwt...	3.50	4.00
Stags, per cwt....	0.00	2.00

23 PEOPLE KILLED.

Terrible Accident at a Glasgow Football Game.

A Glasgow despatch says :—An appalling accident occurred at the international football game at Ibrox Park on Saturday afternoon. Eighty thousand persons assembled to witness a game between Scottish and English players. The authorities imagined that every precaution had been taken for the safety of the public, but without warning the 25 yards stand, containing a dozen tiers of seats collapsed, and the structure was precipitated thirty feet, falling in a heap of tangled timbers and ironwork, in which hundreds of persons were struggling for their lives. The collapse was hidden from a majority of the spectators, who were intent upon the game, and they did not learn of it until hundreds of people streaming with blood fled in a panic into the playing ground. Even then it was assumed that a minor ordinary mishap had occurred. The authorities encouraged this belief and allowed the game to continue, with the unique result that a great game was played, accompanied by the customary cheers, while behind the scenes the air was rent with the groans of the dying. The work of rescue was hastened and all available succor was given. The injured were removed as rapidly as possible to the headquarters of the First Aid Club, and then taken to the hospitals or home.

Several died on the ground, others at the headquarters, while still others died in the hospitals. There was a procession of injured carried on stretchers and in ambulances through the gates of the grounds while the game was proceeding. Twenty-one are already dead. Fully 250 were injured, of which number 190, who were seriously hurt, were taken to hospitals. A majority of the cases are broken limbs and contusions. Many of the victims received ghastly face wounds. Most of those who fell were young artisans. Further deaths are expected. A doctor in an interview said there was an extraordinary scene of carnage. The injured were nearly all seriously hurt. Some of them were terribly crushed, and found it difficult to breathe. Many of those who were seriously hurt were driven to their homes.

FORM OF CONSCRIPTION.

The British Naval and Military League.

A London despatch says:—An association entitled the National Service League has just been formed under the presidency of the Duke of Wellington, with an influential committee, for the purpose of promoting the enactment of a law making naval and military training for national defence compulsory on all males. A manifesto issued by the league dwells upon the inadequacy of the reserve of trained men and the decline in recruiting. It declares that the nation's only safety lies in the adoption of the compulsory principle, which incidentally will give a sense of duty and discipline to hundreds of thousands who lack it, and improve the deteriorating physique of the urban population. The league proposes that drill shall be obligatory in all schools.

GORDON FOUND GUILTY.

Man Who Murdered Two Manitoba Farmers Will Hang.

A Winnipeg despatch says:—Walter Gordon, who was arrested at Halifax with the Canadian mounted Rifles on the eve of departure for South Africa, and brought back here to answer to the charge of double murder, was found guilty at the Brandon Assizes on Friday. Gordon's crime was the murder of Chas. Daw and Jacob Smith, with whom he lived at Whitewater.

Detective Hyndman, who accompanied Gordon from Halifax to Winnipeg, detailed a confession Gordon made to him of the double crime while en route West. Gordon first shot Daw while going to Boissevain. Next day he quarrelled with Smith and also shot him, throwing both bodies into an old well. Gordon disappeared after the crime, but was caught at Halifax eighteen months later.

TWELVE HOTELS BURNED.

Fire Sweeps Part of Atlantic City, New Jersey.

An Atlantic City, N. J., despatch says:—Twelve hotels and more than a score of small buildings adjoining the board walk, which is built along the ocean edge, were destroyed on Thursday by a fire which swept the beach front for two long blocks from Illinois avenue to New York avenue. The loss, it is believed, will exceed $750,000. In this respect the conflagration is the most disastrous that has ever visited this city. The loss will be only partly covered by insurance as the rate of five per cent. charged by insurance companies on property here is regarded as almost prohibitive. Fortunately no lives were lost, though probably a dozen persons were slightly injured and burned during the progress of the fire. It was reported early in the afternoon that six men had perished in the flames, but the rumor was without foundation. The origin of the fire is unknown, but it is said to have started in either Brandy's Baths or the Tarleton, which adjoins the Baths at Illinois Avenue and the board walk. About a dozen men were arrested during the day for robbery.

COURSE OF THE FLAMES.

The fire was discovered shortly after 9 o'clock on Thursday morning, and for nearly five hours the flames raged with such violence as to threaten the city with destruction. All of the burned buildings were frame structures, and the flames, fanned by a strong south-west wind, swept along the beach front with amazing rapidity. The Tarleton Hotel was soon a pile of debris, and the flames fed on the small stores and booths between Illinois and Kentucky Avenues, until they reached the Stratford Hotel, which was soon enveloped. Next the fire attacked the Berkeley, adjoining, and in a few minutes the New Holland, the Bryn Mawr, the Evard, and the Stickney, all located on Kentucky avenue, near the beach. The local fire department worked well, but was unable to cope with the flames, and it was found necessary to send to Philadelphia and Camden for aid. The former city sent three engines, and two came down from Camden. The engines were brought here on two special trains, furnished by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and they made the run of nearly 60 miles in 55 minutes. Their presence was of vast assistance to the local firemen, but it was not until an hour after their arrival that the fire could be said to be thoroughly under control.

Nothing is left on the board walk from Illinois Avenue to a point within a few feet of Young's Pier but the iron supports. This is the portion of the walk that is used most by promenaders.

All the guests of the burned hotels who were forced to seek other quarters, have been provided for in other hotels and boarding houses.

WENT OVER THE FALLS.

Man Commits Suicide From Goat Island.

A Niagara Falls, Ont., despatch says:—Between five and six o'clock on Wednesday evening, while E. W. Swenson, of Lansing, Mich., was viewing the Horseshoe Falls, from Goat Island, at Terrapin Point, he observed a man acting strangely on the bridge leading to the Observation Point. He enquired if there was anything the matter, and received "Nothing in particular" in reply. Swenson entered a small building, and when he again looked out to the point the man was missing. Hurrying to the spot he found the man's overcoat and papers, indicating that the name of the suicide, who must have leaped over the Horseshoe Falls was Fred. Heintz of North Tonawanda. He appeared to be about 25 years old.

Just before Heintz took the leap to death he was seen gazing upon several photographs he carried. Swenson reported the facts to the reservation officials.

At the point from which the man must have leaped the fall is 158 feet to the lower river. The prospects of the body being recovered are good.

CANADIAN CASUALTIES.

The Lives Lost in South Africa Total 207.

An Ottawa despatch says:—Up-to-date 207 Canadians have died in South Africa from bullet wounds or disease, the proportion of deaths in the various regiments being as follows:—

Royal Canadian Regiment 68	
Canadian Mounted Rifles, Dragoons and Artillery 47	
Strathcona Horse 30	
Canadian Scouts... 10	
S. A. C. 45	
Second Mounted Rifles... 1	
Various Corps... 6	

KRUGER'S SON.

Caspar, the Eldest, Takes Oath of Allegiance.

A Pretoria despatch says:—Caspar Kruger the eldest son of former President Kruger, and 24 other relatives of Mr. Kruger, bearing the same family name, are among those who have recently taken the oath of allegiance to Great Britain.

MOUNTED RIFLES IN SEVERE BATTLE

Splendid Bravery Shown by the Canadians in Fight with Force Under Delarey. The Casualties.

A London despatch says:—There was severe fighting all day long on March 31 in the neighborhood of Hart's River, in the south-western extremity of the Transvaal, between part of General Kitchener's force and the forces of Generals Delarey and Kemp, resulting in the repulse of the Boers after heavy losses on both sides.

THE OFFICIAL REPORT.

Lord Kitchener's official report, dated from Pretoria, says:—

"General Kitchener (Lord Kitchener's brother) sent Colonels Keir and Cookson from Vrieksil, western Transvaal, March 31, to reconnoiter towards Hart's River. They soon struck the track of guns, and carried on a running fight for eight miles, following the track through the bush.

Emerging on a plain, large Boer reinforcements advanced against their flanks, forcing the British troops to take up a defensible position, which they hastily entrenched. Fighting ensued at close quarters, until the Boers were repulsed on all sides.

"Delarey, Kemp and other leaders vainly attempted to persuade their men to renew the action. Fifteen hundred Boers participated in the engagement, but they had suffered too heavily, and cleared away to the north, west and south.

"The British losses were also severe. The Canadian Rifles especially distinguished themselves, one party, commanded by Lieut. Bruce Carruthers, holding its post till every man was killed or wounded.

"Others of the forces showed great steadiness, allowing the Boers to advance within two hundred yards of them and repelling them with a steady rifle fire."

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

A London despatch says—The War Office has issued a list of casualties in the fighting between Delarey and Kemp and the British under Cookson and Keir, which was reported by Lord Kitchener on Friday in a despatch, in which he referred particularly to the bravery of the Canadian Mounted Rifles. The British had three officers and twenty-four men killed and sixteen officers and 131 men wounded. The Boer commanders were Delarey and Kemp.

A news agency despatch from Pretoria says the Boers admit 137 casualties in the fighting.

A Klerksdorp despatch says:—"Details received of the battle at Doornbult Farm, March 31, in which the British had three officers and twenty-four men killed, and sixteen officers and 131 men wounded, while the Boers had 137 men killed or wounded, show that quite two thousand Boers opened a strong attack from different points with three guns and a pom-pom. The attack was made in a moment when the British had left their baggage in a laager, in charge of the Canadian contingent, and were galloping across the open plain with the intention of capturing a Boer convoy, which had been discovered five miles ahead. The British retired steadily, and, having dismounted, opened a return fusillade on the Boers. While the baggage in charge of the Canadians was sent for, the British formed a camp, and started digging trenches. The shelling of the Boers stampeded the mules carrying provisions, and caused confusion, but otherwise it was not very effective, many of the shells failing to explode. The Canadian front was attacked in strong numbers, but they gallantly repelled every attempt made by the Boers to break through. One party of the Canadians fought until all were killed or wounded, and the last man, although mortally wounded, emptied two bandoliers of cartridges at the enemy, and then broke his rifle. The fighting was severe and general for fully three hours but after the British had entrenched, and the guns got into action, they repelled numerous and determined attacks made under the personal exhortations of the Boer leaders. Towards night the fire gradually ceased and the Boers retired. The British then telegraphed for aid and further entrenched their camp for the night and to await the arrival of General Kitchener, but the Boers made no attempt to renew the attack."

The casualty list of 174 killed and wounded is an adequate proof of the desperate fighting between the two forces. It is feared that the official list may be incomplete, as the casualties among the Canadian Mounted Rifles, who bore the brunt of the attack, are less serious than was anticipated. Such details as have been received show that Delarey and Kemp were in hiding not far from the scene of Lord Methuen's surprise and defeat, and that Cookson and Keir, in conducting the reconnaissance, were drawn on until they were confronted by a superior force, and forced to fight their way out. The British forces, being seasoned troops, and well supported by the artillery, held their ground despite the series of fierce assaults. Delarey's burghers sustained not only severe losses, but a decisive defeat.

The Boers attacked with great determination, but the Canadian contingent and two squadrons of Yeomanry, under Colonel Cookson, and the artillery and Mounted Rifles, under Colonel Keir, presented such a stout front that the burghers were finally forced to retreat.

MASSACRE OF BOERS.

An Australian Officer Gives His Version.

A despatch to the London Central News from Southampton says Lieut. Witton, an Australian officer of the Bushveldt Carbineers, who was found guilty of participating in the killing of Boer prisoners and sentenced to imprisonment for life, arrived there on Thursday on the transport Canada. He was handcuffed and closely guarded. Lieut. Witton's story of the execution of Boers, as told by him to a passenger on the boat, differs in many particulars from the version printed in the morning papers, which was to the effect that the unarmed Boers were executed and their baggage rifled of £20,000, which it was said they had in their possession. Witton says one of their fellow-officers of the name of Hunt, had been murdered by Boers. Later on the Australians captured a party of Boers, one of whom was wearing Hunt's uniform. This man was tried by drumhead court-martial and shot. The Australians believed the sentence a just one, and that they were entitled to carry it out. Lieut. Witton is in a cheerful mood and is hopeful of a revision of his sentence by the War Office authorities.

MORE UNIFORM DAIRYING.

Dominion Conference to be Held to Discuss Subject.

An Ottawa despatch says:—Mr. J. A. Ruddick, chief of the Government Dairy Department, has called a conference of all the dairymen in the Dominion for April 29th and 30th. The object of the conference is to discuss prevailing systems of manufacture and also to arrive at a more uniform method of dairying, which may be carried on in future. This conference will bring about thirty-five dairymen to the city.

The Johannesburg Town Council has passed an assessment bill to levy rates on land only.

DRIVING OUT SMALLPOX.

Will Be Reduced to a Minimum This Month.

A Toronto despatch says:—Dr. P. H. Bryce, the secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, is able to report immense improvement in the smallpox situation. There were, roughly speaking, 600 cases in Ontario at the end of January, and these will be reduced to 50 by the end of April. Dr. Bryce is not too sanguine about stamping the epidemic out entirely this summer, although it is a winter disease. Last year it lingered in some sections, and there is a continued danger from bordering American States and from English emigration. The extent of the outbreak in the British Isles may be measured from the fact that during the four weeks ending March 15th, upwards of eighteen hundred cases were admitted to London hospitals.

8,000 STILL IN FIELD.

Despatch From Pretoria Gives Estimates of Boer Force.

A London despatch says:—A news agency despatch from Pretoria attempts to give a careful computation of the Boers now in the field. Omitting its details, which must be purely conjectural, the total is placed at something over 8,000, scattered from Zoutpansberg, on the north, to Sutherland, on the south, and from Caries on the west, to Piet Retief on the east. The same despatch, dealing with the Cape Colony, gives details which must be more or less doubtful, adding an enormous tract of country where the Boers are able to wander, and says that while it is difficult to realize there is yet scarcely a Boer commando that is not in a position to be disturbed any day by the British columns.

Mr. Thomas Wardell of Dundas who was chief Conservative Whip in the Legislature, died in the hospital at Hamilton on Saturday while undergoing an operation.

DISAPPOINTMENTS OF LIFE.

The White Hairs of the Aged Show Where Trouble Alighted.

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

A despatch from Washington says :—Rev. Dr. Talmage preached from the following text :—Isaiah xxviii, 27, 28 : "For the fitches are not threshed with a threshing instrument, neither is a cart wheel turned about upon a cummin, but the fitches are beaten out with a staff and the cummin with a rod. Bread corn is bruised because he will not ever be threshing it."

Misfortunes of various kinds come upon various people, and in all times the great need of ninety-nine people out of a hundred is solace. Look, then, to this neglected allegory of my text.

There are three kinds of seed mentioned—fitches, cummin and corn. Of the fitch we all know. But it may be well to state that the fitches and the cummin were small seeds, like the caraway or the chickpea. When these grains or herbs were to be threshed, they were thrown on the floor, and the workmen would come around with staff or rod or flail and beat them until the seed would be separated, but when the corn was to be threshed that was thrown on the floor, and the men would fasten oxen or horses to a cart with iron dented wheels; that cart would be drawn around the threshing floor, and so the work would be accomplished. Different kinds of threshing for different products. The fitches are not threshed with a threshing instrument neither is a cart wheel turned about upon the cummin, but the fitches are beaten out with a staff and the cummin with a rod. Bread corn is bruised because he will not ever be threshing it."

My subject, in the first place, teaches us that it is no compliment to us

IF WE ESCAPE GREAT TRIAL.

The fitches and the cummin on one threshing floor might look over to the corn on another threshing floor and say, "Look at that poor, miserable, bruised corn! We have only been a little pounded, but that has been almost destroyed." Well, the corn, if it had lips, would answer and say: "Do you know the reason why you have not been as much pounded as I have? It is because you are not of so much worth as I am. If you were, you would be as severely run over." Yet there are men who suppose they are the Lord's favorites simply because their barns are full and their bank account is flush and there are no funerals in the house. It may be because they are fitches and cummin, while down at the end of the lane the poor may be the Lord's corn. You are but little pounded because you are but little worth and she bruised and ground because she is the best part of the harvest. The heft of the threshing is according to the value of the grain. If you have not been threshed in life, perhaps there is not much to thresh! If you have not been much shaken of trouble, perhaps it is because there is going to be a very small yield. When there are plenty of blackberries the gatherers go out with large baskets, but when the drought has almost consumed the fruit, then a quart measure will do as well. It took the venomous snake on Paul's hand, and the pounding of him with stones until he was taken up for dead, and the jamming against him of prison gates, and the Ephesian vociferation, and the ankles skinned by the painful stocks, and the foundering of the Adriatic corn ship, and the beheading stroke of the Roman sheriff to bring Paul to his proper development. It was not because Robert Moffat, and Lady Rachel Russell, and Frederick Oberlin were worse than other people that they had to suffer. It was because they were better, and God wanted to make them best. By the carefulness of the threshing you may always conclude

THE VALUE OF THE GRAIN.

Next, my text teaches us that God proportions our trials to what we can bear—the staff for the fitches, the rod for the cummin, the iron wheel for the corn. Sometimes people in great trouble say, "Oh, I can't bear it!" But you did bear it. God would not have sent it upon you if he had not known that you could bear it. You trembled and you swooned, but you got through. God will not take from your eyes one tear too many nor one sigh too deep nor from your temples one throb too sharp. The perplexities of your earthly business have not in them one tangle too intricate. You sometimes feel as if our world were full of bludgeons flying haphazard. Oh, no; they are threshing instruments that God just suits to your case. There is not a dollar of bad debts on your ledger or a disappointment about goods that you expected to go up, but that have gone down, or a swindle of your business partner, or a trick on the part of those who are in the same kind of merchandise that you are, but God intended to overrule for your immortal help. "Oh," you say, "there is no need talking that way to me. I don't like to be cheated and outraged." Neither does the corn like the corn thresher, but after it has been threshed and winnowed it has a great deal better opinion of winnowing mills and corn threshers.

Again, my subject teaches that God keeps trial on us until we let go. The farmer shouts "Whoa!" to his horses as soon as the grain is dropped from the stalk. The farmer comes with his fork and tosses up the straw, and he sees that the straw has let go the grain and the grain is thoroughly threshed. So God. Smiting rod and turning wheel both cease as soon as we let go. We hold on to this world, with its pleasures and riches and emoluments, and our knuckles are so firmly set that it seems as if we could

HOLD ON FOREVER.

God comes along with some threshing trouble and begins us loose. We started under the delusion that this was a great world. We learned out of our geography that it was so many thousands miles in diameter and so many miles in circumference, and we said, "Oh, my, what a world!" Trouble came in after life, and this trouble sliced off one part of the world and it has got to be a smaller world and in same estimations a very insignificant world, and it is depreciating all the time as a spiritual property. Ten per cent. off, 50 per cent. off, and there are those who would not give ten cents for this world—the entire world—as a soul possession.

Another thing my text teaches us is that Christian sorrow is going to have a sure terminus. My text says, "Bread corn is bruised because he will not be ever threshing it." Bless God for that! Pound away, O flail! Turn on, O wheel! Your work will soon be done. "He will not be ever threshing it!" Now, the Christian has almost as much use in the organ for the stop tremulant as he has for the trumpet, but after awhile he will put the last dirge into the portfolio forever.

So much of our life is wheat will be separated from so much as is chaff, and there will be no more need of pounding. They have no pain in heaven because they have nothing to cry about. There are no tears of bereavement for you shall have your friends all around about you. There are no tears of poverty because each one sits at the King's table and has his own chariot of salvation and free access to the wardrobe where princes get their array. No tears of sickness, for there are no pneumonias in the air, and no malarial exhalations from the rolling rivers of life and no crutch for the lame limb and no splint for the broken arm, but the pulses throbbing with the health of the eternal God in a climate like our June before the blossoms fall or our gorgeous October

BEFORE THE LEAVES SCATTER

Is there not enough salve in this text to make a plaster large enough to heal all your wounds? When a child is hurt the mother is very apt to say to it, "Now, it will soon feel better." And that is what God says when He embosoms all our trouble in the hush of this great promise. "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." You may leave your pocket handkerchief sopping wet with tears on your death pillow, but you will go up absolutely sorrowless. They will be black: you will wear white; cypresses for them, palms for you. You will say: "Is it possible that I am here? Is this heaven? Am I so pure now I will never do anything wrong? Am I so well that I will never again be sick? Are these companionships so firm that they will never again be broken? Is that Mary? Is that John? Is that my loved one I put away into darkness? Can it be that these are the faces of those who lay so wan and emaciated in the back room that awful night dying? Oh, how radiant they are! Look at them! How radiant they are! Why, how unlike this place is from what I thought when I left the world behind. Ministers drew pictures of this land, but how tame compared with the reality! They told me on earth that death was sunset. No, no! It is sunrise! Gorgeous sunrise! I see the light now purpling the hills, and the clouds flame with the coming day."

Then the gates of heaven will be opened and the entranced soul, with the acuteness and power of the celestial vision, will look thousands of miles down upon the bannered procession, a river of shimmering splendor, and will cry out,

"WHO ARE THEY?"

And the angel of God, standing close by, will say, "Do you not know who they are?" "No," says the entranced soul, "I cannot guess who they are." The angel will say: "I will tell you, then, who they are. They are they who came out of great tribulation, or threshing, and had their robes washed and made white in the blood of the lamb."

History has no more gratulatory scene than the breaking in of the English army upon Lucknow, India. A few weeks before a massacre had occurred at Cawnpur, and 260 women and children had been put in a room. Then five professional butchers went in and slew them. Then the bodies of the slain were taken out and thrown into a well. As the English army came into Cawnpur, they went into the room, and oh, what a horrible scene! Sword strokes on the wall near the floor, showing that the poor things had crouched when they died, and they saw also that the floor was ankle deep in blood. The soldiers walked on their heels across it, lest their shoes be submerged of the carnage. And on that floor of blood there were flowing locks of hair and fragments of dresses.

Out in Lucknow they had heard of the massacre, and the women were waiting for the same awful death, waiting amid anguish untold, waiting in pain and starvation, but waiting heroically, when, one day, Havelock and Outram and Norman and Sir David Baird and Peel, the heroes of the English army—huzza for them!—broke in on that horrible scene, and while yet the guns were sounding, and while cheers were issuing from the starving, dying people on the one side and from the travel worn and powder blackened soldiers on the other, right there, in front of the King's palace, there was such a scene of handshaking and embracing and boisterous joy as would utterly confound the pen of the poet and the

PENCIL OF THE PAINTER.

And no wonder, when these emaciated women who had suffered so heroically for Christ's sake marched out from their incarceration, one wounded English soldier got up in his fatigue and wounds and leaned against the wall and threw up his cap and shouted, "Three cheers my boys, for the brave women!" Yes, that was an exciting scene. But a gladder and more triumphant scene will it be when you come up into heaven from the conflicts and incarceration of this world, streaming with the wounds of battle and wan with hunger, and while the hosts of God are cheering their great Hosanna you will strike hands of congratulation and eternal deliverance in the presence of the throne. On that night there will be bonfires on every hill of heaven, and there will be illumination in every palace, and there will be a candle in every window. Ah, no! I forget. I forget. They will have no need of the candle or of sun, for the Lord God giveth them light, and they shall reign forever and ever. Hail, hail, sons and daughters of the Lord God Almighty!

CHECKERS AT THE STORE.

In a dim nook, partly sheltered,
By the barrels therein stored,
With a rapt, intent expression,
Sit two players at the board.
And the country merchant lingers,
Loath to serve the public more,
For his thoughts are with the worthies
Playing checkers at the store.

Pondering the situation
On the mimic battle field,
Guarding carefully the "king row"
Lest the small battalion yield,
"Jumping" with a gleeful chuckle,
"Crowning" his opponent's "king",
With a slow and shrewd decision
All his plots manoevering.

E'en the supper hour approaching,
With its promise of good cheer,
Has no magic in its summons
To entice the players here.
Yet the contest in its finish,
With its fine unwritten law,
May with all its complications
Be decided by a "draw."

They may boast of golf and tennis,
And the tournament of chess,
Heralded by great announcements
And the plaudits of the press;
But those champions of pleasure
With their fund of playets' lore
Well might envy those old worthies
Playing checkers at the store.

CURIOUS WEDDING.

A record in courtship and proposals has occurred at Lubec, in Germany, where resides an hotel proprietor with a family of six children—four sons and two daughters—who were all betrothed in one day. The half-dozen happy couples were also married on the same day, and one wedding breakfast served for them all.

BAKERS' TEETH.

A dentist has called attention to the deplorable condition of the teeth of bakers, and says he is often able to tell the profession of the patients by the condition of their teeth. The tooth decay is soft and rapidly progressive. The principal parts attacked are the outside surfaces of the teeth, commencing at the top of the root and rapidly extending to the grinding surface.

THEIR SINGLE THOUGHT.

Hook—That young married couple appear to be two souls with but a single thought.

Nye—Yes; he thinks he's the only thing on earth, and she agrees with him.

"A POOR EXCUSE—"

"What is his excuse for not marrying?"

"Says he doesn't want to wear darned socks."

THE S. S. LESSON.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, APRIL 13.

Text of the Lesson, Acts ix., 32-43. Golden Text, Acts ix., 34.

32. He came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda.

This is written of Peter as he passed from place to place on his Master's business feeding and caring for the sheep and the lambs (John xxi, 15-17; I Pet. v, 1-4), as he had been commissioned to do. In Acts x, 38, we read that Jesus of Nazareth, anointed with the Holy Ghost and with power, went about doing good and healing all the oppressed of the devil, for God was with Him. If we will receive that which is written in John xvii, 18; xx, 21; I John ii, 6, we cannot but believe that He expects each of His redeemed to live the same life that He lived:

33, 34. Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole; arise and make thy bed.

Finding one who had kept his bed eight years, being sick with palsy, he thus addressed him, and immediately he was whole, for Jesus Christ at the right hand of the Father is the very same compassionate, all powerful Saviour as when on earth He went about healing the sick (Heb. viii, 8), and His redeemed ones are here to make that great fact manifest.

35. And all that dwelt at Lydda and Saron saw him and turned to the Lord.

The Lord saw that in the healing of Aeneas He would be glorified and that many would thus be led to turn to Him for their own good and for His glory. While I believe it is a high and holy and gracious privilege to trust the Lord for the body as well as the soul, I cannot sympathize with those who consign all drugs and doctors to the devil, nor can I believe that health in this mortal body is more important than glorifying God.

36, 37. Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha.

She, like her Lord, lived for others and for the good which He might be pleased to accomplish through her, and in her active, self denying life God was manifest. Some only talk of what they would do if they could, but this woman did what she could, the Lord working through her. In the midst of her busy life sickness came, and the enemy, death, was permitted to touch her, and she one day found herself in perfect health and in the vigor of a life she had never known before, absent from the body, present with the Lord, experiencing the gain of those who enter upon the "very far better." See II Cor. v, 8; Phil. i, 21, 23, R.V.

38, 39. Lydda being near to Joppa and the disciples at Joppa, having heard of the Lord working through Peter at Lydda, they sent for him, urging him to come quickly to them, which he did, and he soon found himself in the midst of a lot of weeping widows. We do not read that they talked of her present happiness and rest from her labors, but their joy because of her promotion to the immediate presence of her Lord, yet I have been many a time in homes of mourning where these were the topics and there was no desire to have the loved one back again even though the hearts ached and the tears would come because of the loneliness.

40. But Peter put them all forth and kneeled down and prayed.

So did our Lord in the case of the ruler's daughter (Mark v, 40). I expect that Peter, as he communed with God, would inquire as to the will of God in this matter and whether it might be for the glory of God to have Dorcas return to the mortal body for a season. He must have received some assurance from God as to His will, for, turning to the body and calling her name, she opened her eyes, and, seeing Peter, she sat up.

41. And he gave her his hand and lifted her up and when he had called the saints and widows presented her alive.

So Dorcas came back from the rest and the glory to sojourn again in a mortal body for the good of others, and the selfish receivers of her labors were doubtless glad to have to go at it again for their sakes, but whatever she did it was for Jesus' sake (II. Cor. iv, 11), not for their sakes. Should we find ourselves suddenly in His presence and in the enjoyment of all that can be enjoyed apart from the body and be asked by Him to return to earth again for a season, for His sake, that He might be further glorified in us here, I doubt not but His grace would be sufficient to enable us to say, "Yes, Lord, anything, anywhere, for Thee (II. Cor. ix, 8).

42. And it was known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

Thus in these two cases of God working through Peter one result was that many in each place believed in the Lord. In the case of many sick ones who desire health and claim, as they say, the result of the prayer of faith, there is often no desire that others should be led to believe in the Lord, or that they themselves should live henceforth wholly for Him, but merely a desire for their own personal comfort and to be rid of their affliction. We must not sit in judgment upon God, nor may we even judge people (Rom. xiv, 13; I Cor. iv, 5), but we may be perfectly sure that the Judge of all the earth always does right (Gen. xviii, 25, of Genesis).

43. He tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon, a tanner.

Healing the sick or raising the dead or simply tarrying with Simon, the tanner, God was glorified in Peter. He does not want work so much as fruit, and there may be much fruit when one seems compelled to live in apparent idleness. Doubtless the Lord Jesus glorified the Father in all the thirty years at Nazareth as well as in the few years of His public ministry.

DRILL OF THE CHINESE.

They Are Admirably Suited for Perfect Discipline.

The aptitude shown by Chinese soldiers for drill and manoeuvres in close rank is said to be remarkable. The drill is modeled on German methods; the gun is carried over the left shoulder, the parade step is the base of all the marches in close rank but the Chinese still keep to their large red standards; there is one for about every ten men. The only other European method employed is the "tiger drill" a curious fencing movement with the bayonet accompanied by fierce heavings and savage thrusts at the throat by the whole battalion. The native character of the Chinese soldier is admirably suited to the maintenance of perfect discipline and a faultless execution of parade drill. Commanded well he will, perhaps, equal the Japanese soldiers, who are already equal to European troops, but the Chinese officers ignore the art of war and even do not command their troops during drill. While the military mandarins sip cups of tea seated in comfortable armchairs in a corner of the drill camp quite inferior officers take the directions and exercise the real command.

A ROLLING STONE.

In a recently published book on the war the author describes one of the irregular regiments in these words:—"A rough crowd are the 2nd Brabants, amongst them adventurers drawn from every quarter of the globe—Poles, Jews, Texan cowboys, Mexicans, Norwegians and Swedes, and, of course, a Dutch contingent. There is the life history of one of these troopers: Born in Belgium, when nine years old he emigrated to the United States with his parents. Drifting into Texas, he, when old enough, became a cowboy. But he was a true rolling stone, and had been found wherever the clash of arms was heard. He had taken part in nine South American revolutions. The Spanish-Cuban war proved irresistible, and he fought on the Cuban side until the Americans landed, when he joined and fought with his old companions, the cowboy 'Rough Riders,' until the conclusion of that war. Then came the South African war, and he and twenty more, taking their high-peaked saddles, at once crossed the Atlantic and threw in their lot with Brabant's Horse. In these ranks, having been once severely wounded, he is still enrolled."

PERIODS OF GROWTH.

Children born between September and February are, some authorities state, not so tall as those born in the summer and spring months, and the growth of children is much more rapid from March till August. The extremities grow rapidly up to the sixteenth year, then there is a slow growth till the thirtieth year. The legs chiefly grow between the tenth and seventeenth years. Comparing the general results, it appears that there are six periods of growth