SIZED IN THE CLYDE.

...er Being Launched Keels Over and Sinks.

...d Fifty to a Hundred Lives Lost—Details of the Disaster—How It Was Caused.

...steamer Daphne, launched recently at ... capsized in the River Clyde. There ...o hundred workmen aboard, and it ...ved one hundred were drowned. ...n the Clyde is suspended, owing to ...ception of navigation by the cap... steamer. The boat left the ways very ...aining the water she rolled from ...ple, and the persons aboard, fearing ...ld capsize, ran to and fro. The ves... ...ed over and nearly disappeared be... ...the water. Those on the portion of ...mer not submerged did their utmost ... those cast overboard. Boats were ...pulled to the rescue.

...persons were below when the vessel ...ver and must have been drowned. ...of relatives of the victims flocked to ...ce. The cause of the capsizing was ...had too much top weight. Several ...from the water alive were removed to ...mary exhausted. The steamer is ...water with the fifty bodies mentioned ...

...Daphne turned over before she sank. ...witness saw a great number of men ...ge in the water and shrieking for ...Many were bruised and covered with ...having been struck by the debris. ...s of the number of persons on board ...number lost vary widely. Several ...have been found at the foot-ways. ...are searching for bodies.

...two names are published as those ...ssing persons. As visitors were ...d to view the launch it is believed ...them whose names are unknown are ...are missing. Many dead bodies are ...through the port holes of the ship. ...was a rapid ebb tide, and it is feared ...bodies were carried out to sea. There ...large number of boys on board. The ...gineer, who had charge of twenty ..., says he has seen only three since ...ident. Passage by the sunken ship is ...ed for small vessels, but dangerous ...e schooners.

...ber of men on the opposite side of ...e witnessed the disaster, but were ...to render assistance. They say the ...ing occupied about three minutes. ...mediately set to work to help the ...struggling in the water. Some of ...on the Daphne jumped overboard ...ers were thrown overboard. A ...of loose fittings fell from the deck ...ened the swimmers in the water. A ...of swimmers were visible directly ...e ship capsized, but many were ...seen to sink. Six men were seen ...together. Four endeavored to ...on the stern as she was sinking, but ...ed to desist by a rush of steam ...port hole. Some climbed upon the ...before the ship was submerged. Ac... to the statements of witnesses and ...from the disaster the vessel left ...too rapidly, causing her stern, ...ntered first, to sink deeply in the ...she was then caught by the strong ...in the river by which, as well as ...weight, she was caused to keel over ...the water entered her port. The ...rt from the scene of the disaster ...seven bodies have been indenti...

...estates that the companion way of ...ge is blocked up by a solid mass of ... It appears the men who were at ...w when the ship went over rushed ...ir work and became jammed in the ...way. Some bodies still have tools ...r hands. The diver thinks there is ...the vessel at least as many corpses ...already been recovered. Forty-one ...were found up tonight, when ...stopped the search. The divers ...ght many more bodies.

...alloon for Service Under the Sea.

...International Exhibition of Nice is re... ...some wonders for the foreigners who ...propose to pass a portion of the winter ...ks upon the borders of the Mediter... One of these wonders is a balloon ...its inventor, M. Toselli, calls "the ...ory under the sea." It is made of ...ed bronze, to enable it to resist the ...e which the vessel produces at a ...120 metres. This "observatory ...the sea" has a height of eight ...s and is divided into three compart... The upper apartment is reserved ...commander, to enable him to direct ...watch the working of the observa... ...and to give to the passengers the ex... ...ons necessary as to the depth of the de... ...and what they will see in the depths ...sea. The second apartment, in the ...of the machine, is comfortably fur... ...for passengers to the number of eight, ...are placed so that they can see a long ...ce from the machine.

...ey have under their feet a glass which ...es them to examine at their ease the ...ic of the sea, with its fishes, its plants, ...its rocks. The obscurity being almost ...ete at 70 metres of depth, the obser... ...will be provided with a powerful ...ric sun, which sheds light to a great dis... ...in lighting these depths. The passen... ...have at their disposal a telephone, ...e allows them to converse with their ...es who have stopped on the steamboat ...e transports the voyagers to such places ...are known as the most curious in the ...eighborhood. They have also handy a tel... ...ic machine. Beneath the passengers ...partment is reserved for the machine, ...ch is constructed on natural principles— ...ch is to say, as the *vessie* of a fish, becom... ...heavier or lighter at command, so as to ...ake the machine to sink or rise at the ...will of the operator.—*London Daily Press.*

...The particulars of the Sunderland horror ...are lately come to hand, and are simply ...rtful. Anything more deplorable can ...not be thought of, while the monstrous ...carelessness, both on the part of parents and ...officials, was simply as bad as well could be. ...Yet something quite as bad may occur any ...day in very many of the public buildings ...throughout Canada. It is to be hoped that ...officials everywhere, both on land and water, ...will take warning and shape their conduct ...and precautions accordingly.

THE STORY OF A FAMOUS DIAMOND

How Gen. Melikov's Ancestor Hid the Jewel from the Persians.

The following details of the origin of the famous jewel which adorns the Imperial sceptre of Russia were furnished me during a residence in St. Petersburg by a descendant of the Armenian merchant who brought the stone to Russia:

The diamond, in its rough state, formed the eye of an idol in a temple near Trichinopoli, and was abstracted by a French renegade, who escaped with his prize to Persia. Here he wandered from town to town, trying to dispose of it for a moderate sum, but only meeting with distrust and suspicion. At length, when the news of the theft had spread over India and reaching Persia, fearing arrest, he accepted the offer of a Hebrew merchant and surrendered the diamond for $10,000. Meantime the Shah was informed not only of the robbery, but also that the thief was residing in his territory, and had offered the stone repeatedly for sale.

At once his Highness gave orders to arrest the man, dead or alive, and to seize the diamond. The Jewish merchant naturally became alarmed for the safety of his new acquisition, as well as that of his head, and gladly sold the stone to an astute Armenian merchant named Shafras for $60,000. The magnificence of Catherine the Great and her court was a by-word in Armenia and Persia, and Shafras knew right well that if he could reach St. Petersburg with his diamond he would be able to dispose of it at a handsome profit. The greatest difficulty was to secrete the stone so thoroughly about his person that in case of his arrest it should not be discovered. It was to large for him to swallow, so he solved the problem by making a deep incision in the calf of his left leg, inserting the stone, and sewing up the wound with silver thread.

When the cut had cicitrized sufficiently to allow the removal of the wire, Shafras began his travels toward Russia. Had he known on arriving at the frontier that the diamond had been traced to the Jewish merchant, and from him to an Armenian, he would probably have tried to conceal his nationality. But he boldly proclaimed himself an Armenian merchant to the Shah's inquisitive officials, was arrested, and consigned to prison on suspicion. Strong emetics were dministered, but no diamond came to light He was stripped naked, plunged into an hot bath, and then examined from head to foot, with no better success. Even a little torture was tried, but Shafras was firm: and in the end he was bundled unceremoniously over the frontier—his petty cash, however, being retained. He reached Orenburg, and here some compatriots advanced him some money to reach the capital.

Catherine the Great was short of ready money when Shafras offered her his diamond for sale. He demanded $200,000 for it, but the Empress could not raise more than $100,000, and though she offered 40,000 dessiatins (at four acres each) of Crown land in addition to this sum, Shafras refused. Catherine was greatly chagrined, and did not hide her annoyance; but she was too noble a character to resort to the coercive measures which a Shah of Persia would have adopted without a moment's hesitation. Shafras was allowed to depart unmolested, and betook himself to Amsterdam to have his diamond cut. Here it was that the famous Count Orlov first saw the jewel for which his imperial mistress had sighed, and he determined to lay it as a gift at her feet. The bargain with Shafras was concluded offhand, for Count Orlov never haggled. In exchange for the diamond (which weighs 185 carats, and is valued at $1,500,000) Count Orlov promised Shafras, on his return to Russia, $250,000 down, an annuity of $2,000 and a patent of nobility.

The Count kept his word; Shafras the merchant became Lazarev the gentleman, cashed his bills at the imperial treasury, and drew $2,000 a year for the rest of his life, which, as usual with annuitants, was a very prolonged one. Before he died he became one of the richest men in Russia. With the price of the diamond he bought moinesn the Oural, land in Bessarabia, and houses in St. Petersburg. The "unearned in rement" in thirty years made him ten times a millionaire, and at the present day his descendants numbering hundreds, are all immensely rich. Loris Melikov, former Minister of the interior, and Delianov, at present Minister of Public Instruction, are grandchildreu of the Armenian Lazarev.

How Powder Men Were Fooled.

It is well known among those who have occasion to buy powder in large quantities that tremendous rivalry exist between the agents of the California blasting powders represented here. Each is in the estimation of its special representives more effective and cheaper than all the others, and agents are only too anxious to demonstrate this fact by experiments when there is a sale in prospect. Some time ago the military at Vancouver wanted to build a new road leading from the garrison, and a survey showed that fifty or sixty stumps would have to be removed. So one of the officers came over and mentioned to several powder agents in a semi-confidential way that the army would need some powder and that the quartermaster would not object to competitive tests. Six agents then asked for the privilege of making tests, and their request was granted. On the day appointed three thousand pounds of the best blasting powder came to Vancouver, charges were put in by experienced men engaged for that purpose by the agent, and in two hours every one of the stumps was scientifically removed. And the government didn't pay a cent.—*Portland Oregonian.*

The Church Needing all Kinds of Men.

The church needs poor men and wicked men as well as rich and virtuous men. Too much of one kind won't do. There must be a healthy circulation. It's a morally bursted community where the rich and wise are the cream and the mass of the population the skimmed milk. I've no objection to a creed as long as it is my own, and I don't care whether a church is Protestant or Catholic so long as it adheres to the principles of the Book. There ought to be an aristocracy of manliness and truth. The spirit of the Gospel is democratic. It raises the average of mankind. That's why democracy doesn't produce great men. The people themselves are great, but the men are not so individually great in this country nowadays.—H. W. Beecher.

Methodist Union.

The union of the Methodist churches of this country has at length become an assured fact so far as it can be made such by the action of the local church courts of the largest of these bodies. The basis has received the endorsation of nearly nine-tenths of the Quarterly meetings of the Methodist Church of Canada, and of five-sixths of the existing Annual Conferences. The conference which is to be organized in Manitoba early next month will, it is believed, vote pretty nearly solid for it, and in that case proportion in favor of it will be six-sevenths. This result, after all the efforts, fair and foul, which have been made by a certain class of "leading" ministers—from whom the public had a right to look for better things—must be highly satisfactory to the prosecutors of the measure.

The London Conference, or the ministers who composed it, had at least the courage of their convictions. The reason of their extraordinary and somewhat disappointing action is not quite apparent, but in the judgment of charity we must believe that they acted conscientiously. It is satisfactory, too, to know that appearances to the contrary notwithstanding, they are all, with two or three notable exceptions, staunch union men. Even those who have labored hardest to make the proposed union, or indeed any union other than simple absorption of the smaller bodies by the largest, an impossibility, resent the imputation that they are the opponents of union. Has their opposition after all been a huge joke? If one could be assured of this he could more readily understand the style and spirit of the discussion which took place at St. Catharines.

The debate on the Union question in Peterborough, if the reports which have reached us are trustworthy, was in striking contrast with that at St. Catharines. Mr. Bredin's dissection of Dr. Sutherland appears a little coarse as he is reported, but we are assured that the impression which one gets of it from what has appeared in the newspapers is scarcely correct. The other speeches were generally in good spirit and good taste. The speakers on both sides appeared to have got the impression that they were dealing with a grave question, involving issues in which great religious interests were involved, and that not only the eys of their own church but those also of the whole Christian world were upon them. Neither the Rev. Mr. Griffin's bad egg, nor the goose that laid it, would have found any appropriate place in the Peterborough debate.

Though we have never had any sympathy with the opposition to the proposed union of the Methodist Churches, he is not blind to the distinguished ability with which it has been conducted in the Toronto Conference. Under the able management, as it is understood, of the Rev. Dr. Dewart, it was as thoroughly organized as it well could be. The leader was specially fortunate in having for his chief lieutenants the Rev. Dr. Hunter and his gifted brother, the pastor of Sherbourne Street Church, to say nothing of such skilful and accomplished debaters as Dr. Jeffers and the Rev. Messrs. Bredin, and Briggs. These three names are a sufficient guarantee that nothing within the bounds of possibility was left undone in order to defeat the measure. Anything that can run the gauntlet of three such great guns and escape undamaged, may henceforth be considered safe.

But the opposition to the union in the Toronto Conference, as it appears to us, broke down under its own weight. If it had been as weakly manned as it was in the London Conference, its defeat might not have been so crushing. It was felt from the beginning at Peterborough that in view of the acknowledged ability of the men who were arrayed against it, if there was any real argument that could be produced in opposition to it, it would be forthcoming. But every successive speech which was made on that side, only made it more apparent that the argument was all with the unionists. Waverers who went to Conference with their minds undecided must have felt that if this is all that could be said against the measure, there was no other course left open to them but to vote for it.

An Elephant's Reasoning Powers.

An elephant belonging to an engineer officer had a disease in his eyes and had for three days been completely blind. His owner asked Dr. Webb, a physician, if he could do anything for the relief of the animal. Dr. Webb replied that he was willing to try on one of the eyes the effect of nitrate of silver, which was a remedy commonly used for similar diseases of the human eye. The animal was accordingly made to lie down and when the nitrate of silver was applied uttered a terrific roar at the acute pain which it occasioned. But the effect was wonderful, for the eye was in a great degree restored and the elephant could partially see. The doctor was in consequence ready to operate similarly on the other eye on the following day, and the animal when he was brought out and heard the doctor's voice, lay down of himself, placed his head quietly on one side, curled up his trunk, drew in his breath, like a human beaing about to endure a painful operation, gave a sigh of relief when it was over, and gave evident signs of wishing to express his gratitude. Here we plainly see in the elephant memory, understanding and reasoning from one thing to another.

The animal remembers the benefit that he had felt from the application to one eye, an when he was brought to the same place on the following day and heard the operators' voice he concluded that a like service was to be done to his other eye.

Happy Once More.

ST. LOUIS, MO.—A *Chronicle* reporter was told by Mr. Alfred J. Papin, of this city, that his nephew had the most obstinate case of inflammatory rheumatism which baffled all kinds of treatment until St. Jacobs Oil, the great pain-conqueror, was used. It cured the young man, and he recommends it as the greatest cure for pains in the world.

Here are some proverbs slightly perverted:—Hunger is the best sauce, hence street boys are naturally saucy. Many men have many minds, but one woman frequently has more than all of them. They who dance leave the host to pay the fiddler. What cannot be cured supports the doctors. Speak of the devil and he is sure to call for copy. A fair exchange would ruin the stock market. Fair play is a jewel, but bluff takes the pile.

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The Indian Government has decided to grant the Ameer of Afghanistan a large annual subsidy.

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It is calculated that all the French troops on the way to Tonquin will have arrived by the middle of the month.

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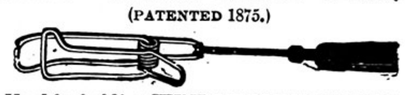

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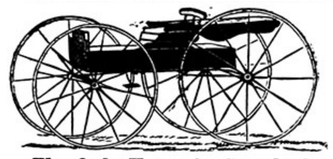

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