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THE MARKDALE STANDARD

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1894.

Week's Commercial Summary.

The notes of the Bank of England cost exactly one cent each.

Bolata, the product of a tree in Sumatra, threatens to become a rival of India rubber and gutta percha.

The prospects for the apple trade are said to be very encouraging. The European crop is said to be very poor, and there is every indication of a heavy export trade being done this fall.

It is much to be regretted that Mr. J. R. Booth, of Ottawa, has definitely decided not to rebuild his large lumber mills that were recently burned in that city.

Fire losses in Canada and the United States during the month of July show a larger loss than during any month in the current year, being estimated at $16,307,000.

The traffic receipts of the Canadian Pacific Railway for the last week in July aggregated $469,000, contrasted with $395,000 in the corresponding week of last year, being a decrease of $96,000, or about 15 per cent.

The reduction in elevator rates at Duluth and West Superior ordered by the Great Northern took effect on Friday last. It is thought that the order will affect the storages on about 50,000,000 bushels of wheat, and will mean a reduction of about $2,000,000 in elevator earnings.

Electric melting of metals, notably cast iron and steel, as produced by a new German process, is said to have some very great advantages. In crucible steel the new process shows an economy of fuel of more than half, while for metals so difficult of fusion is a favorable result, as it will reduce cost of production without any corresponding drawback.

The area of the current year's wheat crop (1893-94) in India, according to the most recent reports, is estimated at 27,392,000 acres, as compared with 26,129,000 acres, which is the revised estimate of last year's acreage, or an increase of 4 per cent. The total product for 1893-94 is placed at 7,323,000 tons, or 258,458,667 bushels of 60 pounds. The average product is given as 249,437,333 bushels, showing this year's crop to be about 2,000,000 below normal and 9,000,000 below that of the previous year.

Once more the unequal contest between capital and labor has been decided in favor of the army which was best supplied with the sinews of war. The great railroad strike, as did also the coal strike, has ended in disaster to the poor and the triumph of the rich. The reports of estimates give the loss in the last strike alone at from $[illegible] to $[illegible]. The last weapon of the workingman, labor's defence and offence is the ballot, and until organized labor goes solidly aggressive it may into the theory of political strike at the end of the trial, [illegible] can be no acceptable settlement of labor disputes and no adequate protection of the weak against the strong.

At the annual meeting of the Dominion Millers' Association held in Toronto last week, a number of very important questions relating to the milling and exporting were duly and intelligently handled, and a number of grievances especially in regard to freight rate discrimination and other unfair charges in exporting, were strongly protested against. The paper by Mr. A. H. Bickel, of Paris, after a defence of the exceptionally trying year for millers, in which the price of grain and flour has reached a lower point than has been ever experienced in Canada, or, in fact, anywhere, said that under the discouraging conditions governing wheat and the wheat and flour markets, we would naturally expect to see the production greatly reduced, but instead of that the present estimate of crops of the world will be nearly if not fully equal to last year. One of the most flagrant grievances of the association was that while the wheat rate to Liverpool is 2½ cents per 100 pounds, the rate of flour for the same port is 25 cents for 100 pounds. The cost of wheat on account of the keen competition from Russia, India and South America, being frequently a cheap one in Liverpool as in Ontario, together with the better prices obtainable for mill in England, and frequently cheaper labor gives a manifest advantage to their mills as against Canadians, so that there port trade of flour to Great Britain is seriously threatened, not only because it is not protected as the association thinks it should be, but because exceptional and unfair circumstances are operating against it. A representative who had been in Liverpool for two or three years watching the interests of the association proves plainly that Ontario millers had been paying on an average about five cents a bushel more than the export basis. Reference was made to the annoyance and loss to which members were subjected by farmers having their grain chattel mortgaged when sold.

UNITED STATES CROPS.

The report of the statistician of the Department of Agriculture shows a decline in corn of nearly 26 points since July 1, the average for the entire breadth being 69.1, against 95 for the month of July. The condition in August 1893 was 87. The great decline is due almost wholly to the extensive and unprecedentedly severe drought that set in since the last report, and the hot, dry winds that swept over the States of Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, and parts of other western states. In some localities the crop has been injured beyond recovery, while in others timely rains would go far toward assuring fair yields. The averages for the principal states are: Ohio, 79; Kentucky, 80; Indiana, 88; Illinois, 75; Iowa, 45; Missouri, 82; Kansas, 49; Nebraska, 33; South Dakota, 29.

The condition of spring wheat has fallen since last report 13 points, being 67.1, against 83.3 for the month of July. The condition by states is as follows: Wisconsin, 79; Minnesota, 76; Iowa, 82; Kansas, 36; Nebraska, 41; South Dakota, 29; North Dakota, 75; Washington, 83; Oregon, 93.

The advices as to winter wheat from correspondents and threshers indicate a good yield of excellent quality.

The condition of oats has declined 1.2 points since date of last report, being 76.5, against 77.7 in July. The condition for August 1893, was 78.3.

The condition for spring rye is 79.8, against 81.7 last month and 75.5 last year. The average condition of barley is 69.3, against 76.8 last month, a decline of 7 points.

The acreage of buckwheat is reported at 96.8 as compared with last year, and a condition of 82.3 against 88.8 or 6.5 points lower than at the same date last year. Acreage of hay as compared with that of 1893 is 92.9, condition of same 75.6, against 77.3 last month.

The condition of peaches has fallen since last report and now stands at 22.3.

The condition of grapes, while higher than either apples or peaches, is lower than any year since 1890.

The condition of potatoes is 74.0, against 92.3 last month.

The condition of tobacco 74.9, against 81.0 last month.

Blasts From the Ram's Horn.

A good man needs no monument.

We are all ruled by what we love.

To divide a sorrow with another will lighten it.

No man goes willingly where his heart does not lead.

The highest station in life is taken one step at a time.

The more brotherly we act the more brotherly we feel.

God will not give to us any more religion than we will use.

Profession that is all pretension has no influence except for evil.

The man who is willing to do wrong to obtain riches cannot enjoy them.

Here and There.

Vanity is a poison that makes its victim as cold as an iceberg as soon as it touches the heart.

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There are times when the man who thinks he fills the public eye merely occupies the position of a speck of dust.

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A 10-cent box of blacking, properly applied, will command more respect than a hundred dollar diamond and rusty footwear on a man who is seeking work.

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The new French law against the Anarchists is the most stringent measure of the kind on record. It takes away every opportunity for an Anarchist assassin to gain public notoriety because of his misdeeds. Even the name of an Anarchist murderer is not to be announced. To deprive an Anarchist of his despicable fame strikes at his tenderest sensibility.

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The advance of the English language is one of the astounding evidences of the age. The Greek colony in Egypt have just proceeded to make the study of English compulsory in their schools. The Greeks are very successful settlers in Egypt, and, as they shrewdly foresee the future, they provide accordingly. They are wise people.

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The total amount of life insurance now in force in the world is $9,831,777,000. The annual premiums upon this are $383,811,000, and the policy holders number 5,137,657. America leads with $4,949,665,000 insurance in force, and 3,687,778 policy holders, the English figures which are next, showing $2,461,620,000 insurance and 1,095,347 policy holders.

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An exchange feelingly remarks: We must have about all the cranks in Nipissing on our subscription book. They evidently think we are doing nothing but publishing news for their especial edification, or that we are working for our health and to wear old clothes. These cranks, after taking a newspaper for two or three years, when asked to pay for it, become insulted and demand their paper stopped.

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The late Wendell Phillips had a habit of knowing what he was talking about, and there was no exception to the rule when he said that "not one man in ten reads books. The newspaper is parent, school, college, pulpit, theatre, example, counsellor, all in one. Every drop of our blood is colored by it. It makes the newspapers, and I care not who makes the religion or the laws."

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Robt. McCormick, a market gardener, who resides a mile from Paris, has four acres of land. On it he has planted 20,000 cabbage plants, 30,000 cauliflower, 1,000 red cabbage, 1,000 tomatoes, and half an acre of potatoes. His crop promises well, and if he sells them at a low price, say 1 cent each, and estimating 150 bushel potatoes to the acre, at 25c per bushel, the crop will bring $1,300.

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Advertising is not an outcome of modern necessity, but it is a very ancient practice. The British Museum possesses a collection of old Greek advertisements printed on leaden plates. The Egyptians were great advertisers. Papyrus leaves over 3,000 years old have been found at Thebes describing runaway slaves and offering a reward for their capture, and at Pompeii, ancient advertisements have been deciphered on the walls.

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"Fruitarians" are the latest novelty in the world of cranks. They are ascetic beings, who consider modern civilization far too luxurious, and they have agreed to live upon nothing but fruit and water, to live in bare huts without any comforts and to wear as little clothing as possible. The society is headed by a retired German lieutenant, who has gone to the Sandwich Islands to form a colony in some out-of-the-way spot, where his disciples can follow out their doctrines undisturbed.

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The city authorities of Chicago produce figures to show that they can make and deliver gas to the citizens at eighty cents, and cover into the city treasury $2,000,000 a year in the transaction. By and by those who dwell in cities will find out what great frauds the gas companies really are. Taken at an average, the residents of cities in this country are paying twice as much for gas as they should pay, yet when anything is said against such extortion it is called "howling" or something equivalent.

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If ever the necessity of a divorce court outside of Parliament was made apparent it was in the Dillon case which was put through with one of the most remarkable scenes of lobbying on record. I have witnessed many votes reversed but never on the stage have I seen such lightning changes as those recorded. It is a matter of history in the proceedings of Parliament, for it forcibly illustrates how rapidly the opinions of our representatives may alter under certain influences.

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English capitalists, alarmed at the condition of affairs in the States are withdrawing their capital, which accounts for the great amount of gold ordered to England. If they had their money invested in Canada they might not receive such a large return, but they would have the satisfaction of knowing that their investments were safe at this time. By degrees the English are learning that investments in republican countries, where the vagaries of government are remarkable, are not safe, and after a while the slower but surer countries will be sought offering the best security.

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The right of a telegraph or telephone company to cut limbs from trees to prevent their interference with the wires is to be tested by the United States Supreme Court. The case of R. J. Daily and others against the State of Ohio, which arose out of the arrest of Daily and other workmen on the Pacific Telegraph Company for cutting trees in Portage county, along the line of the Long Distance Telephone Company, was carried to the highest tribunal in the country. The owners of the trees had the workmen fined $100 for the damage done. The company resisted on the ground that it had the right to trim or cut the trees because it was expected to transmit Government messages. This was not upheld by the State Supreme Court.

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Our cities have been built up at the expense of the rural districts. Instead of being one to five, the proportion of town and country population is about half and half. This condition of affairs is largely responsible for the feeling of discontent and unrest that menaces the peace of the country to-day. What is wanted to restore our national equilibrium is an agrarian renaissance. But this revival of agriculturalism must be accompanied by an improvement in the social condition of the farmer. The farm must be made so attractive that the granger's children will prefer it to the city. And why should it not be? There are few conveniences of city life that farmers cannot obtain.

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Chicago has recently had a school census which knocks a great many theories on the head. The majority of its people are not foreign-born. Not less than 949,002 out of a total population of 1,567,657 are Americans by birth. The German element is next in number, 216,324 owning the Fatherland as the place of their nativity. Ireland contributes 111,637. The most disturbing feature of the return is that Sweden with 58,000, Poland with 47,000, and Bohemia with 34,000, all rank ahead of the English-speaking contingents from England, Scotland and Canada. There were 17,585 set down as Canadian by birth. The general impression that the children of Chicago do not receive much attention from the schoolmaster, and are growing up untaught in the foreign quarters, is not borne out by the return, which shows that only 2,985 between the ages of twelve and twenty-one out of a total of 715,620 cannot read.

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The cold water cure was freely applied to a man who lives about three miles from Lucknow, and, it is said, is in the habit of ill-treating and beating his wife. He has, so it is rumored, been in the habit of sending her out to do scrubbing at hotels and other places, and after securing the money she earned would go on a spree, spend the hard earned silver and return to beat her because she could not give him more. The other night he was in Lucknow, and some of the boys got hold of him, put him in a horse trough and pumped water on him until he cried for mercy, and promised never again to molest his wife.

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A country that can produce good soldiers ought to be able to raise good officers. That Canada can do the former an American of considerable experience in war has testified. Major Edmond Malet said the other day in Boston that Canadians make the best soldiers physically that he has ever seen. In this company, the 81st New York Volunteer Infantry, in the late war, he had forty-five of them, and no hardships dampen their gay spirits nor toil exhaust their hard frames. In those terrible forced marches of Army of the Potomac in the Peninsula, with the thermometer far up, in the nineties and the dust a foot deep, when thousands of men fell out by the roadside, many of them never to march again, these Canadians trudged along cheerily, beguiling the weary way with joke and song.

A PRIZE IDIOT.

Owing to His Failing He Had to Seek Another Place.

It isn't well to be too rigid in the interpretation of one's duty to an employer, in business as in other relations of life, "the letter killeth," while "the spirit maketh alive."

This is the conclusion to which an acquaintance of mine, a steamboat ticket agent, has come after an experience in following the letter of his official rules, which cost him not only his position, but the loss of a reputation hitherto his for good judgment and common sense.

There came to his lattice one afternoon, not long ago, a musician, bound for a point on the steamboat route. He was to fill a very important engagement, which was the more important because it was a recital in which he was the only performer, and a failure on his part to appear meant the dismissal of an audience and the loss of a good deal of money to all concerned. To the lattice with the artist came his wife, his musical accompanist. There was but one boat he could take in order to arrive at his destination on time, and, were he to lose that, no other means of conveyance could remedy the disaster.

When he had purchased his tickets and put his hand in his pocket to pay for them, the embarrassing truth flashed upon him that he had left all his money at the hotel, a plight frequently fallen into by musicians. His wife was in a similar predicament, so there they were, with no means but the ticket agent's discretion, of being relieved from their annoying position.

They appealed to him. The artist told him his name, the circumstances, the impossibility of going to the hotel for the money and getting back in time to catch the boat, and besought trust until his return to the city.

Either from pure conscientiousness, or from genuine ugliness, the master of the situation refused.

"It's against the rules," was his curt and only answer to every request.

The artist slipped a valuable ring from his finger, and offered it in pledge of his honesty.

"It's against the rules," came through the arch in the lattice.

The artist unhooked his gold watch and chain and laid it before the grim representative of the company.

"It's against the rules, and that settles it," was snapped back at him.

So it did, for that day.

The boat steamed away, and the artist and his wife returned in helpless indignation to their hotel. The recital was, of course, necessarily declared off, the audience dismissed and the money refunded, and on the following day an irate manager stormed into the apartments of the artist with all sorts of vituperation and with threats of a suit into the bargain.

Explanations followed, and then the anger of the manager was turned against the ticket agent. He straightway took the artist with him to the president of the steamboat company, informed him of the event of the evening before, and asked if, under the circumstances, the company's subordinate had acted the part of a wise and faithful servant.

The president sent for the latter immediately, and when he came into the apartment the following dialogue then ensued between them:

"Did this gentleman buy two tickets of you last evening?"

"Yes, sir."

"Did he pay for them?"

"No, sir."

"Did you let him have them?"

"No, sir."

"That's right, so far. Did the gentleman do anything else?"

"Yes, sir. He offered me a ring and a gold watch as a guarantee for the money until his return from——"

"Did you take them?"

"No, sir; I told him it was against the rules."

"Ah! Did the gentleman tell you his name? And the importance of his business?"

"Oh, yes, sir; but that don't shake me. I have my rules."

"So you had. Well, sir, you are the biggest idiot this company has ever had in its employ, and if you go to the cashier you will find your services paid for to date. You had better seek employment as turnkey in a jail. You never need stretch a rule there."

And the price of the two tickets was just 80 cents.

Pulled the Nail.

This is woman's age, and a business man who knows says there is positively nothing that she will not undertake. He was lounging in his office the other day when the door opened and a well-dressed, comely little woman appeared. She wore a resolute expression in addition to other apparel, and in her hand she carried a large tack-raiser.

"Good morning," she said winningly. "Is this Mr. Cash's office? Will you please tell me which chair it is that has had nail in it?"

The business man was confused—the nice little woman was a total stranger to him. He answered mildly: "What chair? What nail?"

"Why," she exclaimed, "my husband has some home three times recently with dreadful holes in his coat and trousers, and he said he tore them on a chair in your office. I'm about tired darning and patching those rents and thought I would be more sensible and satisfactory to come down here, pull the nail out and be done with it. Don't you think so?"

Still in a trance, the merchant agreed with her, found the offending chair, extracted the nail, and with many thanks and smiles the enterprising little woman withdrew.

Queen Victoria has lately been approached by several biographers who want details of the life of the court since 1837. The Queen uniformly refuses to do anything for them, feeling that the historians who wish to deal with her reign will find sufficient trustworthy material in the memories of the chief officers of the household. Immense stores of memoranda from the Queen's own hand are among the royal archives, which are in charge of the keeper of the Queen's closet.

The best soldier is not the bravest, but the one who obeys orders the best.

NEWSY CANADIAN ITEMS.

THE WEEKS' HAPPENINGS.

Interesting Items and Incidents, Important and Instructive, Gathered from the Various Provinces.

Chatham's firemen have new uniforms.

Strathroy is to have a new dairy school.

Aylmer has a new Horticultural Society.

Wyoming will have a second baseball nine.

A cold storage house is wanted at Watford.

Orillia is to have a telephonic night service.

A fire brigade has been equipped at Kingsville.

Nottawa ladies have organized a True Blue lodge.

New carriage works are being at Gananoque.

Port Stanley is overcrowed with summer visitors.

Ex-Premier Mercier, of Quebec, is dangerously ill.

Edmonton will have a bicycle meet September 15th.

Tierney & McKeller have bought the Blyth flour mills.

St. Francis' separate school, Windsor, is to be enlarged.

Ingersoll citizens have sent $100 to the Home Rule fund.

A Ladies' Hospital Auxiliary is to be founded in Berlin.

"Shamrocks" is the name of Petrolea's new lacrosse club.

The wheat crop in Notawasaga promises to be heavy.

The Chatham court house is to be extensively repaired.

Merriton citizens want its Mechanics' Institute re-opened.

Aylmer, Que., is to have a $50,000 system of waterworks.

A fly pest is attacking oats in the vicinity of Kingston.

Collingwood has invited Lord Aberdeen to attend its fall fair.

It is proposed to establish a S. O. E. lodge at Moncton, N.B.

Barrie's separate school requires a levy of nine mills this year.

John McQuarrie had some fingers cut off in a Fergus sawmill.

F. Oulette, of Sandwich, was recently bitten by a rattlesnake.

It is reported that a rich bed of coal has been found near Dresden.

Ottawa's three electric light companies have been amalgamated.

A live leech was found imbedded in a Leamington cake of ice.

Manitoba will not bonus the road from Winnipeg to Rainy Lake.

The Brantford drill shed is to be improved at a cost of $8,000.

The Canadian Cooperage Association met at Chatham recently.

A curling and skating rink is to be erected in Sault Ste. Marie.

The Port Huron opera house will be completed by September 1st.

The heaviest hail storm in years passed over Pembroke last week.

John McLaren, of Waterdown, an old pioneer, is dead aged eighty.

It is probable that the new dairy school will be located in Strathroy.

W. H. Hunt has been chosen head master of Smithville high school.

Customs collections at Brantford for month of July were $2,822.72.

Knox church, Walkerton, has called Rev. Mr. Guthrie, of Seaforth.

An attempt was recently made to burn Clark's barber shop, Seaforth.

Five specimens of an Indian spear head have just been dug up at Everett.

More than $8,000 has been subscribed for the Berlin-Waterloo hospital.

William Calvert's house and barns, Orillia, have been destroyed by fire.

The Bell Telephone Company will build the Smith's Falls fire alarm system.

A swarm in Sincoe town extracted 1,800 pounds of honey from his bee hives.

The leper Sheehan has been taken from the Falls to St. Catherines hospital.

Harvesting is now general in Manitoba, and harvest hands are in demand.

A number of new buildings have been erected this year in Minnesota, Man.

Rev. Samuel Binks has been ordained to the Baptist ministry at Bobcaygeon.

The mica mines of the Gatineau valley are doing a good business this summer.

A Brockville firm has been fined for running an excursion boat on Sunday.

Bracebridge has a second time voted for waterworks, and an electric light plant.

The Salvation Army are holding camp meetings in many parts of the country.

James Heslop, West Flamboro', an old citizen, is dead at eighty-six years of age.

The Scotchmen of Port Huron will have a great celebration there on the 22nd inst.

There are still 750,000 bushels of wheat of the 1893 crop in store west of Winnipeg.

An organization of the Catholic Order of Foresters is being talked of in Brantford.

Listowel is excited about the compulsory vaccination law now being enforced there.

It is said New Glasgow men have struck a splendid lead of gold at Wine Harbor, N.S.

Miss Preston, Stratford, has started back to Japan, where she is at work as an evangelist.

The first child born of Moravian parents in Canada has just been baptized in Winnipeg.

A movement is on foot in Stratford to organize a boys' drill corps of four companies.

The cultivation of the Lawton blackberry around St. Catharines is proving a success.

Fred Johnson has just passed through Ontario on his bicycle trip from Boston to Denver.

The commissioners of Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park have acquired more territory.

Morrison's saw mill, Petit Roche station, N.B., has been burned at a loss of $3,000.

John Hannah, of Kent County, N.B., has had his tongue cut out in an operation for cancer.

It is thought that the Manitoba and Northwestern railway will soon be owned by the C. P. R.

There is a movement on foot at Rat Portage among mine owners to form a mining exchange.

Nova Scotia has the most valuable fisheries, her annual catch averaging about $7,000,000 in value.

A nine-year-old son of Edward Carfrae, South London, fell from a tree on Saturday and broke his neck.

The city of Montreal loan in London has already been fully subscribed for. The debentures carry 4 per cent.

The Public School Board of Chatham has passed estimates providing for an expenditure this year of $16,151.50.

The largest ball ever given in New Brunswick will be in honor of Lord Aberdeen at Frederickton, August 17.

The Strathroy syndicate have purchased Marshall Bros.' oil farm, including twenty-four oil wells and outfit.

A ball was given at Government House, Charlottetown, P.E.I., on Saturday night in honor of Lord and Lady Aberdeen.

Four more freight crews have recently been set up on the M. C. R., making the largest number running since winter.

The Woodstock Board of Trade is negotiating for the establishment of a beef and pork packing business in the town.

It is estimated that the Winnipeg Electric Street Railway Company carried 823,000 passengers during Exhibition week.

The Niagara Falls Park and River Railroad Company will erect a fine hotel on the site of the old Elgin House at Niagara Falls.

Lieut.-Governor Kirkpatrick will open the exhibition of the North Gray Agricultural Society at Owen Sound, September 18.

Analyst Ellis, of Toronto, finds that the water taken at the Walkerville intake pipe of the Windsor water works is unfit for use.

Lord Derby has forwarded his subscription of $1,000 to Ottawa for the endowment of fund of the new diocese of Ottawa.

British Columbia is the greatest gold producer, the produce of her mines for thirty years having been valued at $46,500,000.

An Orange lodge is to be established at Scotch settlement, in Moncton parish, N. B., making six lodges in Moncton city and parish.

Two homing pigeons owned by Mr. James Gairdner, made the flight from Montreal to Toronto on Saturday in eleven hours.

There is coal in four of the seven provinces, Nova Scotia being the greatest producer, with an output of about 2,250,000 tons per annum.

The Thomson liner Frimona sailed from Montreal for London last week with 400 tons of sand as ballast. No grain is offering for shipment.

Nearly 180,000 acres of land have been given in four years by the Province of Quebec to fathers of families containing twelve or more children.

The Salvation Army cruiser William Booth, which was saved the other day from foundering, was burned at Port Robinson on Sunday night.

Benjamin Rhodes, a civil and electrical engineer, who recently removed to Toronto from Niagara Falls, committed suicide Sunday by asphyxiation.

A youth of Ringwood caught a brook trout fourteen inches in length and which weighed 2 lb. 14 oz., in a little stream that ripples through that village.

Because it was said that a French-Canadian woman at Quebec had joined the Salvation Army the husband is suing the alleged libeller for $200 damages.

The fall meeting of the Windsor Driving Park Association will be held on September 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th. Purses aggregating $5,000 will be hung up.

Quebec takes the lead in the supply of timber, her output of sawings amounting to 5,000,000,000 feet board measure, and of square timber 3,250,000 cubic feet.

The "Sanguinnmers" have a branch in Watford. It is a barefaced institution, no member of the order being allowed to conceal his features with beard or mustache.

Henry Brazier, hotelkeeper of Brantford, who was injured on July 23 by a runaway accident, died at the Brantford hospital Saturday morning from the injuries received at that time.

A telephone office has been opened at Thorndale, and another will be opened shortly at Granton. New poles are replacing the old and shorter kind now in use between London and Stratford.

Manitoba Consistory 32 degree Ancient and Accepted Scottish rite of Freemasonry held a meeting secretly to confer some of the higher degrees on members of the order from the Northwest Territories who have been chosen for that distinction.

George Binks, of Aldborough, pulled from his garden a red radish nineteen inches in length and seven inches in circumference, also a white radish thirteen inches in length and eleven inches in circumference.

Mr. Arthur Percy Saunders, son of Prof. Saunders, of the Experimental Farm, has received the degree of doctor of philosophy from John Hopkins University, and has accepted an appointment as instructor in chemistry at the University of Wisconsin.

The strawberry season in Essex County has been the greatest in the history of that county. Sixty-two tons of berries have been shipped from Leamington alone. This amounts to 80,000 baskets, for which $7,500 were paid.

A correspondent of the Creemore Star asks the temperance people of that town to elect as representatives of that village only men of sobriety and decency, and another correspondent asks them to see in future that the council is composed of men of integrity and honesty.

There is on exhibition in a Guelph store window what is called "The Farmers' Understone, No. 2." Two grindstones without pneumatic tires or wood rims are the wheels, while the frame is made up of hay forks, spades, shovels and other lines of hardware.

The Niagara River Fruit Growers' Association reports that 25,000 baskets of grapes will be harvested and marketed in the river district between the 10th and 15th inst. The entire output is estimated at 300,000 baskets. The plum and pear crops also are very large.

The overturning of an omnibus at Ayton Thursday filled with passengers on their way to the station resulted in four persons being injured, two of them very seriously. It was a closed rig and rolled down an embankment several feet high. Aaron Wanger, a creamery owner of long standing in Ayton, was hurt so badly as to necessitate amputation of one of the feet below the ankle, and Mr. A. Henderson, of Egremont, will probably be lamed for life, by breaking his leg badly. Mrs. Roedding, of Ayton, and Mrs. Hartman, of Stratford, were both badly bruised, and a little child slightly injured. The driver and another child escaped unhurt. The horses became frighted and run away.

The sad news was brought to Sarnia of the drowning of two daughters of Mr. Henry Winters, one daughter of Mr. Sherwood and an old man by the name of Mr. Johnston, who is about eighty years of age. The accident happened late Sunday afternoon on Bear creek, about eighteen miles south of Sarnia, and how the drowning occurred no one can tell. Mr. Johnston, who does ferrying across the creek, is believed to have been taking the women across when they met their death. Mr. Johnston's son, becoming alarmed as to his father's whereabouts, went out in search of him, and on coming down to the creek noticed the women's hats and the boat floating in the creek. A search was made for the bodies and they were soon recovered at the bottom of the creek.

Wednesday afternoon about 2 o'clock a sailboat containing Mr. George English, Dr. and Mrs. Ames and three children, the eldest seven and the youngest three years of age, all of Sarnia, capsized on the River St. Clair at the outlet of Lake Huron, opposite Point Edward. Mr. English, Dr. and Mrs. Ames clung to the boat, which had turned bottom side up, each holding a child. The boat drifted down the river about half a mile before the occupants were picked up, the children crying piteously all the way. The steam ferry St. Auber and a sailboat manned by J. B. Laurie put out to the rescue. Frank Rutley and John Annan, of Fort Gratiot, also pulled out in a rowboat and rescued the children. The others were taken on board the St. Auber, and, all were saved from a watery grave. The doctor and his party were very grateful to their rescuers.

Since Mr. Michael Lefebvre put new life into the Berthier beet root sugar establishment the farmers in the surrounding parishes of Montreal have derived the greatest benefit, and beet raising has already become a popular and lucrative occupation. The management of the factory does all in its power to encourage the industry amongst the farmers, and with first-rate success. If, for instance, a man cultivates five acres or under, he receives at the rate of $5 per ton for the roots at the factory; but if the raiser is energetic enough to put ten acres of his farm under beet root cultivation, Mr. Lefebvre pays him $5.50 per ton. One farmer was instanced who produced beet root to the value of $200 from two acres, while another cleared $325 from five acres. The average return, however, is about $75 per acre. A parish priest from the County of Berthier also said that, as there was no end to the market, he believed that the cultivation of beet roots would be continued with the greatest energy and profit by the French-Canadian farmers. "There is money in it," was the reverend gentleman's concluding remarks.

Monday was Kingston's Civic holiday, and people took advantage of many excursions and picnics to enjoy themselves. The members of the A. O. U. W. and friends to the number of about 400 picnicked at Channel Grove, which is on Simcoe Island, two miles from the city. At 5.30 p.m. the steamer Maud, on her way from Cape Vincent, called at the grove to take some of the picnickers to the city. They all wanted to go, but the steamer could not carry them all, and the officials tried to guard against overcrowding by telling the people only a certain number could get on board. The wharf holding the picnickers was weak. Some of the timbers are rotten, and the wharf is not fit for the purpose for which it is used. While the boat officials were putting out the gang plank the wharf gave way, and thirty people including women and children, were precipitated into the water. Then there was a stampede, and it was thought the wharf was breaking in altogether and that all those on it would be drowned. Men jumped in after the struggling people in the water; life buoys, ropes and chairs were thrown them, and after about thirty minutes they were all saved. Some of the women were badly crushed and very much exhausted. Three or four men saved many people, and some of those who got into the water were able to drag themselves out by climbing up the sides of the dock. Such a thrilling sight has not been seen at a public gathering in this district in many years. Had this accident occurred in the darkness, the people could not have been saved. Two of the saved women are dangerously ill. One of them had her breast injured. Leon A. Robert, twenty-one years, one of the crew of an American barge waiting here to be towed to Oswego, fell off the deck of the boat, and before he could be reached was drowned. His father tried to save him with a pikepole, but he got under a log and was drowned before he could be reached. He was a native of Champlain, N. Y.

A YOUNG GIRL DUPED.

About two months ago a young man about twenty-five years of age, giving the name of Frank Hill, and claiming to follow the calling of a horse trainer and jockey, made his appearance in the village of Sombrat, county of Lambton, and obtained employment. He mingled with some of the most respectable people in the community, and paid great attention to Miss Jeanette Stover, an estimable young girl of eighteen years. He finally proposed marriage, and as the young lady's relatives were opposed to her receiving his attentions, induced her to have the ceremony performed secretly. It now turns out that this marriage was bogus and was brought about by means of a forged certificate. However, by this means he accomplished the young girl's ruin. The relatives of the girl got on his track, and things were getting so warm for him that on the 6th inst. he sought to cover up his crime by another secret but genuine marriage. Hill is now committed for trial for forging a marriage certificate, and also for attempting to escape from the constable who made the arrest on Friday morning. He refuses to give any information as to his former history or as to where he came from. Report has it that he had a wife and child living either in the neighborhood of Brantford or Niagara. Information on this point is awaited by the injured girl and her friends. The case will be investigated by the crown authorities at Sarnia.

A DESPERATE ATTEMPT.

An attempt to wreck the western-bound Grand Trunk express near Gladstone Station, three miles west of Prescott, was discovered early on Sunday morning. The dastardly scheme was frustrated by the driver and fireman of an east-bound freight train, who discovered the plot. A number of ties were laid across the track and placed in such a position that the wreck of the midnight express would be certain. After the removal of the obstruction a search was made for the criminals, but no clue could be found. The spot selected for the desperate job is one of the most dangerous on the G.T.R. line, and if the plot had been carried out it is probable a number of lives would have been lost and a large amount of rolling stock and freight destroyed. G.T.R. detectives have the case in hand. The railroad authorities will likely offer a reward for the capture of the train wreckers. The attempt, it is thought, was made by Chicago tramps.

A MIRAGE OF TORONTO.

A beautiful and wonderfully perfect mirage was seen in the northern sky at Buffalo about 10:30 Thursday morning. Toronto City, the harbor and the Island were visible for nearly half an hour. Those who were first to discover the phenomenon claim that they could distinctly see the church spires of Toronto, but the atmospheric conditions changed so quickly that only the outlines could be discovered after the first ten minutes. As late as 11 o'clock the northern shore of Lake Ontario could be traced. Then the clouds lowered, obliterating the beautiful picture.

IMPURITIES IN FOOD.

They Are Not as Common as Many Persons May Suppose.

Singularly exaggerated ideas concerning the adulteration of food are very generally held, according to Dr. H. W. Wiley, chemist of the United States Department of Agriculture. Sand, for instance, is not sold with sugar—at least in the United States. The granulated and lump sugars in the market are almost absolutely pure, powdered sugar sometimes, though rarely, contains a little flour or starch, and low grade sugars are impure chiefly through the molasses and water they are made to absorb in manufacture. Not as good a report can be given of syrups. There is very little syrup most of what is sold is a mixture of glucose or canned syrups with a small proportion of the product of the maple, while in an imitation not actually protected by a patent the maple flavor is given by an extract of hickory bark. Liquid honey is largely adulterated with glucose. Of comb honey, however, only that in bottles and jars is impure, the old impression that comb honey on the frame is adulterated having been proven to be a myth. Ground coffee is so largely adulterated with chicory, peas, beans, etc., that it is rarely found pure, and even the unground berry is imitated. Tea is rarely mixed with foreign leaves, but frequently has its weight increased by the addition of salts of iron and copper—materials quite prejudicial to health. Cocoa and chocolate are largely adulterated with starch and sugar, and products claimed to be greatly improved as to digestibility may have little of the virtues of the original cocoa bean left in them. A danger in canned goods is the use of adulterated tin, which may contain as high as 12 per cent. of lead, the organic salts formed by the corrosion of the lead being always poisonous. The common practice of coloring canned peas with copper is very objectionable. The use of preservatives, such as salicylic acid is not without risk, while an occasional source of danger is the development of ptomaines or genous bodies called ptomaines in preserved meats. The above are illustrations of the principal food adulterations, which, though bad enough, are insignificant in comparison with the startling reports that have been published. Much the greater part of foods we eat is pure and wholesome.

Sarcasm.

"Mistah," said an urchin to the man who was driving a very poor horse, "does yoh want me to hol' yo' hos'?"

"No; this horse won't run away."

"I didn't mean hol' 'im fast, so's he won' run away. I mean hol' 'im up so

FROM THE UNITED STATES

DOINGS ACROSS THE LINE.

Uncle Sam's Broad Acres Furnish Quite a Few Small Items That are Worth a Careful Reading.

American railways have an aggregated bonded debt of $5,[illegible].

Thirty men were injured in the smallpox riot at Milwaukee last week.

Hot winds have completed the destruction of the corn crop in Nebraska.

Complete lines of railroad were finished between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans in 1869.

Despatches from Washington indicate that the tariff muddle is in a worse state than ever.

The average yield of wheat in Michigan this year is slightly under 16 bushels per acre.

Crop prospects in the United States are gloomy according to a report just issued from Washington.

General Fitzjohn Porter has been appointed cashier of the New York postoffice, at a salary of $2,000 a year.

Pugilists Corbett and Jackson met last week in New York and after much discussion decided not to fight.

It is stated that [illegible] is responsible for nearly two-thirds of the rejected applicants at West Point and Annapolis.

Douglas Tilden, the famous deaf and dumb sculptor, has returned to his California home from an extended stay in Paris.

One interesting development of the trolley business in New York City is the custom of chartering cars for excursion parties.

Lewis Miller, president of the International Association of Sunday School Workers, is the father-in-law of Thomas A. Edison.

Daniel K. Belknap, the Erie Railroad station agent at Hornellsville, N.Y., has been continuously in the service of the company forty years.

Ex-Governor St. John, of Kansas, is to become the general manager of the total abstinence department of a life insurance company in New York.

Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, of Baltimore, enjoys the distinction of having been kissed by General Lafayette when he was making a tour of the country in 1824.

At Bassett, Texas, [illegible] boys and gathered under a tree for protection from a passing storm, when lightning struck the tree killing seven and painfully wounding the others.

An advanced [illegible] Ill., was asked, "What are carnivorous animals of Africa?" She replied, "The [illegible] lion, wolf and goat."

James S. Escott, who has recently been made national bank examiner for Kentucky and Tennessee, is thirty, and is the youngest man ever appointed to such an office.

John Tyler, jun., [illegible] President of the United States, lives in an unpretentious house in New York, passing his declining days in poverty and paralytic pain.

Bunford Samuels, a Philadelphia [illegible] librarian of a library [illegible] shelves of any [illegible] in the [illegible] among 100,000 volumes.

A Rock Island train [illegible] ditched four miles from Lincoln, Neb., Thursday night. It is reported [illegible] travelling men, the conductor and brakeman were burned to death.

Some one has figured out that there are so many railway lines, horse cars, elevated cable and horse cars in New York City that a person may ride six hours at a total cost of 50 cents.

R. H. Moore, of Wilmington, Del., who has passed his eighty-fifth year, climbed up the 228 winding steps of the lighthouse in Atlantic City and walked on without rest from start to finish.

Miss Mary Connell, of Freeport, N. Y., has been married to John Mackay, her third husband. Miss Cornelius is said to be worth $[illegible] years Mackay's senior.

President Angell, of the Boston Humane Society, says that Prof. Louis Agassiz, the greatest scientist on the American continent, was a firm believer in the immortality of dumb animals.

Under the new [illegible] law putting express companies in [illegible] of the railroad commissioners a reduction of 20 per cent. in express rates for [illegible] in that state has been agreed to.

New Hampshire was formerly called Leonia. It received its present name in 1629, being first called Hampshire by Capt. John Mason, who had been a resident of Hampshire, Eng.

The French line steamer La Champagne, which arrived at New York Monday, had a narrow escape from sinking with an unknown barque just twelve miles from Cape Race.