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TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

HERE IS THE NEWS IN SHORT ORDER.

Tidings from all Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Arranged for Busy Readers.

CANADIAN.

Mr. Biddeo's safe at Port Rowan was blown open and robbed of a small sum.

The rate of interest in Government Savings Banks is to be reduced to 3 per cent.

Dr. Montague speaks in very high terms of the prospects of the Bothwell oil fields.

New York capitalists propose to build an electric road between London and Port Stanley.

A contract for a new Public School on Albion street, Brantford, to cost $14,800, has just been let.

The returning officer declares Dr. Marcotte elected for Champlain by a total majority of 151 votes.

At Windsor Peter O'Neil was sentenced to eight years in the Kingston Penitentiary for highway robbery.

Mr. W. H. G. Knowles, a prominent citizen of Guelph, Ont., died suddenly at his residence in that city Friday.

In a runaway accident at Marlbank George Johnston, a farmer, was thrown from the vehicle and instantly killed.

Mr. F. X. Molsan, Montreal, President of the Merchants' Telephone Co., died from paralysis after a brief illness.

Maggie Adamson, a young woman employed in a store at Ottawa, died suddenly at her work. An inquest is being held.

The Dominion Government has stopped the practice of giving prisoners in the penitentiaries tobacco for good conduct.

J. Sears was sentenced to 23 months in the Central Prison and J. Sickles to three years in Kingston at Brantford for counterfeiting.

The jury returned a verdict on Saturday at Toronto in the case of d'Irvy v. the Toronto World, awarding $500 damages to the plaintiff.

Mr. Samuel Clarke, a young man employed on a farm near Belleville, was killed by the bursting of a fly-wheel while working a wood-sawing machine.

Duncan Forbes, of Culloden, the descendant of President Forbes, of Scotch historic fame, died at Culloden house, three miles from Inverness, on Saturday.

Herbert Temple, insurance agent, who was married at Smith's Falls three weeks ago, shot himself at the Grosvenor Hotel, Halifax. He is not expected to recover.

Mr. Isaac West, aged 63, a well-known and highly respected resident of Toronto Junction, was found dead Friday in his stable by his son. Death was due to natural causes.

Mr. McMullen's bill to appoint a board of three to inspect the inside and outside civil service and dispense with all unnecessary officers has been introduced in the House of Commons.

The question of danger to live stock in the Northwest by the importation of diseased American stock under the new quarantine regulations was discussed in the House of Commons.

Mr. John William Morrison, Secretary of Public Works of Prince Edward Island, and a prominent Freemason, died in Charlottetown, P.E.I., on Sunday of grippe, aged seventy-seven.

Mr. J. B. Riley, United States Consul, gives the exports from the consular district of Ottawa to the United States for the quarter ended March 31 as $550,990, of which $467,151 was lumber.

The wife of Mr. James Laing, of the Laing Packing Company, Montreal, died in the dental office of Dr. Rondeau while under the influence of chloroform, which had been administered by Dr. John Hutchison.

The authorities of McGill University, Montreal, have received from his Highness the Maharajah of Jeypore, India, a number of works on India architecture, known as the Jeypore portfolios of architectural details.

In the Dominion House of Commons Speaker Edgar gave an authoritative denial to the statement made in the Senate on Wednesday night, that liquor is being supplied within the precincts of the House of Commons.

Mr. Richard Dobell, before leaving England for Canada, said that a contract to build four fast steamers for the Atlantic service has been signed on condition that the Imperial Government will share in the cost.

Mr. Charlton introduced his Lord's Day bill. Mr. Laurier pointed out that at least two out of the four clauses in the bill were ultra vires of the Dominion House, and could be dealt with by the Provincial Legislatures.

The choice of the movement to begin war with Turkey does not rest with King George or the Greek Government, but with the Ethnike Hetairia, a secret organization, which directed the crossing of the frontier by Greek irregulars.

The latest news received from England regarding Lieut.-Governor Kirkpatrick is that he is making marked improvement daily, and unless something intervenes to disturb existing arrangements he will leave for home on the 21st of the present month.

The Rev. J. Van Wyck, pastor of Gore street Methodist church, Hamilton, and president of the Hamilton Conference, died at his parsonage of brain trouble. He was 51 years of age, and was ordained a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1869.

Monday in Montreal Judge Ouimet rendered judgment against the directors of the Temiscouata Railway, awarding Mr. A. R. Macdonald, contractor, $193,000, with interest, percentage which he claimed as due him, by agreement, on the bonds floated by the company.

The feature of the preliminary hearing of the charges against the four alleged counterfeiters in Brantford was the turning of Queen's evidence of John Sears, one of the prisoners, who swore that Sickles made the moulds, and Brown, the colored man, made the counterfeit money. The cases were adjourned.

The estimates for 1897-8 were brought down Thursday by Mr. Fielding. As compared with the estimates for the present fiscal year, they show an increase of $2,959,317. The increase comes under the head of capital expenses, while the expenditure chargeable to consolidated fund is decreased. Amongst the economies is a smaller vote to the militia, to the mounted police force, and a reduction of the interest paid on deposits in Government savings banks from three and a half to three per cent.

UNITED STATES.

James M. Williamson, fifteen years old, was given an injection of antitoxine at the Christian Orphans' Home, in St. Louis, Mo., and in forty minutes he was a corpse.

There can be a difference of opinion on most subjects, but there is only one opinion as to the reliability of Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator. It is safe, sure and effectual,

More than two years after his murder of Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams, in Emanuel church, San Francisco, Theodore Durant was sentenced Saturday to be hanged on June 11. His counsel had exhausted every effort to secure delay, but the Supreme Court decision last week removed their last hope.

FOREIGN.

Prince Bismarck is much improved in health.

The Bank of England rate of discount has been reduced from 3 to 2½ per cent.

Arthur Beardsley, the artist, has been formally received into the Roman Catholic Church.

Ten persons were killed by the explosion of a cartload of fireworks recently in Buenos Ayres.

The German Government will shortly be interpellated as to its proposed action towards the McKinley tariff.

It is understood that Mr. Joseph Chamberlain is likely to take the witness stand in the Transvaal enquiry.

The London Economist says that the motion of Mr. Seton-Karr for State granaries is only veiled protection.

It is now ascertained that Emperor William did not send his usual congratulations to Prince Bismarck on his birthday.

Herr Lueger, the anti-Semite leader in Vienna, has again been elected Burgomaster, this time by three-fourths majority.

It is rumored in London that the Duke of York, who is a captain in the royal navy, will shortly join the Channel squadron.

Lord Charles Beresford proposes to re-arm seventeen obsolete warships which are now in the reserve with modern heavy guns.

A bill will shortly be placed before the French Chamber of Deputies asking for two hundred million francs to build naval docks.

A serious state of affairs in South Africa is reported, rebellion having broken out in two or three districts near Delagoa Bay.

The Chinese Government has decided to order four more armored cruisers, two fast cruisers, and several torpedo destroyers, English type.

With encouragement from the Socialist party, leaders of the workingmen of Germany has resolved to celebrate May day as a labor holiday.

Mr Balfour stated that it was not the intention of the Government to take the initiative in sending out invitations to a bimetallic conference.

The belief prevails in Constantinople that the powers are losing their hold over the course of events, and that the so-called concert is a failure.

The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, whose death was announced as having occurred at 9 o'clock on Saturday, committed suicide.

The Radicals in the British House of Commons have decided to bring about a debate before the Easter recess upon the policy of the Government in the east.

The Hawaiian Government has prohibited the landing of Japanese immigrants, and it is said that a warship will be sent from Japan to enquire into the matter.

Bands of Greek brigands have entered Turkey at Kranla, in the vicinity of Grebina. The Turkish troops engaged with them and the fight continued for some hours.

The Government of Hawaii has prohibited the landing in Hawaii of 400 Japanese emigrants and the Hawaiian Court has confirmed the action of the Government.

In view of the suffering from protracted drought, the Government of New South Wales has proclaimed that April 16 be observed as a day of humiliation and prayer for rain.

The proposal to blockade the port of Athens is now in abeyance, and it is regarded as very improbable that the powers will agree to restrain the Greek navy in the event of a war between Greece and Turkey.

Rumors are still persistent that England has acquired an island in Delagoa Bay, and these are strengthened by the fact that Admiral Rawson will sail shortly from Cape Town with sealed orders in the direction of the bay.

It is likely that the present balance of power in Europe will soon be rearranged. It is probably that the new Dreibund will consist of Germany, Russia and Austria, while an entente will be formed between England, France and Italy.

The Hon. Frederick Arthur Wellesley, third son of the first Earl Cowley, was granted a divorce from his wife, Kate Vaughan, the actress, upon the grounds of her misconduct with a member of her company of the name of Lorrimore.

It is reported from Cape Town that the British have secured Inyach Island, at the entrance to Delagoa Bay, and that a squadron of warships from Cape Town have gone to take possession of the island and declare it British territory.

The Newfoundland sealing steamer Aurora has returned from the North Atlantic with a full cargo of 27,000 seals, secured after the most severe experience of many years. The Aurora reports that the other ships have had a most discouraging expedition.

Mr. R. W. Hanbury, replying to a question in the British House of Commons, announced that the Board of Trade would ask the Government of the Dominion of Canada to furnish a report on the result of the law prohibiting gambling in futures.

In the British House of Commons Mr. Chamberlain announced that a contract had been signed between Canada and the Petersens of Newcastle for a fast steamship service between Canada and Great Britain. But, Mr. Chamberlain added, the contract still requires the sanction of the Imperial Government.

There are cases of consumption so far advanced that Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup will not cure, but none so bad that it will not give relief. For coughs, colds and all affections of the throat, lungs and chest, it is a specific which is never been known to fail. It promotes a free and easy expectoration, thereby removing the phlegm, and gives the diseased parts a chance to heal.

ON HIS DIGNITY.

Bill Henderson, Horse Thief, Felt Hurt, and the Sheriff Didn't Blame Him.

While the sheriff of Whipsaw county was standing in front of the jail one morning he was startled by a great commotion going on inside, and rushed into the building to find two of the prisoners engaged in a terrific fight in one of the cells. After they had been separated and quiet restored the sheriff demanded the cause of the fracas, and one of the prisoners replied:

"Jim Lambert, I uster think that yo' was the squarest sheriff in the hull kentry, but I know yo' now to be pizen mean!"

"But, but, Bill," stammered the official, looking puzzled, "could any one treat yo' any squarer than I've done?"

"Yo' let they could!" exclaimed the prisoner in aggrieved tones.

"Why, but, Bill, what ho"—

"Look a yere, Jim," broke in the other with a great show of indignation. "What was I arrested fur anyway?"

"Why, fur stealin hosses of co'se," replied the sheriff.

"Exactly," went on the man, "fur stealin hosses, and was ketched gittin away with four of 'em at a time too! Did I give yo' and yo'r posse a tremendous long chase to git me, or didn't I?"

"Yo' sartinly did, Bill. Took us three days to run yo' down. But what has this"—

"And how did I act when we met, Jim. Jest tell us how I acted? Didn't I fight like thunder and nearly wipe out yo'r posse afore bein ketched?"

"Yo' did, Bill. Yo' fit like a grizzly ba'r. But what has all this"—

"And say, Jim!" interrupted the prisoner again, "look how I was loaded down with chains, and jest remember how the hull town turned out and follered us clean up to the jail to git a look at me."

"Yes, I know all that," said the sheriff irritably. "But what's that got to do with me not treatin yo' squar'?"

"That's jest what I'm a-comin to. Yere am I, Bill Henderson, who stole four hosses—give yo' a three days' run to git me—brung back loaded with chains and stirred the hull town up, and then arter all that yo' put a man like this in a cell with me—a critter brought yere fur stealin a hawg! Think o' it—stealin a hawg!"

"Waal, I'll be durned!" ejaculated the sheriff. "Who dared to put a hawg stealer in this cell with Bill Henderson, the noted hoss thief, or in my jail either? Yo' hump right out o' yere, yo', and if I ever hear that yo' dared to brag around town that yo' had the honor o' bein locked up with Bill I'll run yo' out o' the kentry! Shop, but this was a downright disgraceful way to treat yo', Bill. Durned if it wasn't!"—New York Sunday Journal.

How to Win Her.

If you would have love's flame grow bright,
Do not withhold your pelf.
To make his torch give better light
Don't blow it; blow yourself.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER

"THE BOY ORATOR," THE GLOBE AND THE CANADA PACIFIC.

The Estimates—Six Millions to be Borrowed—A Sorry Exhibition—The Papal Delegate—The Session's Work.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Ottawa, April 13.—This has been a week of perturbation for the Ministry; of unmixed amusement for the Opposition; of disgust for very many members of the Liberal party. The country has been treated to the spectacle of a Government supporter being maligned and vilified for that he has had the courage to hold an opinion inimical to the views of the party's greatest organ and which, if it be adopted by the Administration, will mean a serious financial loss for the president of the Globe Printing Company. Young McInnes, the "boy orator," from British Columbia, was the cause of the trouble. He had the audacity to accuse The Globe of "Cant and deception." In a nutshell, the case amounts to this: Mr. McInnes believes that the Government, and not the C.P.R., should control the Crow's Nest Pass. The other day the young man from Vancouver made a long speech in support of his belief that it would be in the interests of the people of the Dominion for the Federal Government to disallow the British Columbia statute giving to the British Columbia Southern Railway Company the right to build the line and the ownership of coal lands valued at many millions dollars. McInnes ventured the opinion that the C.P.R. people were the "masters" of the Globe, and that an understanding existed whereby the British Columbia Southern line would be nothing but a C.P.R. branch. To this statement of conviction The Globe, which has essayed to place itself on a higher plane than is occupied by any other Canadian newspaper, replied by announcing that Mr. McInnes was and is, "a liar and a slanderer." Gone were The Globe's theories regarding the desirability of taking high ground in the work of journalism. No arguments were adduced to show McInnes to be in the wrong. In place of this the young man was denounced as a liar and a slanderer who availed himself of the privileges of Parliament to assail his enemies. But McInnes says that he has no enmity to The Globe or the C.P.R. He is, he says, the friend of the British Columbians, and as such has acted according to his best judgment. Let us look into the history of the case. The British Columbia legislature, by dint of skilful lobbying, was induced to pass the British Columbia Southern railway bill. The company is to get a bonus in addition to the coal lands adjacent to the line. Hon. G. A. Cox and Mr. Robert Jaffray, the latter the president of the Globe Printing Company, are members of the B. C. Southern company. Now The Globe advocates the line being built by the latter company, which is controlled by the C.P.R. And, in addition to what the province is to give, the Dominion is asked to hand over a handsome bonus to the C.P.R. Thus, if The Globe's part owners, Messrs. Cox and Jaffray, get what they want, they will make a pretty penny. And if, in accordance with McInnes' suggestion, the country build the line, the Globe's friends will be out in the cold. As to the merits of Government control or construction of railways there are many opinions held. It is not so long since the most prominent Liberals in the land were strongly against the construction of any more Government lines, but "things have changed since Hannah died." There is no doubt that the C.P.R. would and could manage the line well. The whole point is, whether The Globe's friends are not getting altogether too much for acting as a kind of brokers between the B. C. S. and the C.P.R. McInnes says that if the Federal Government hold out the Northwest country will be given greatly reduced freight rates by Sir Wm. Van Horne. Perhaps this is so. But there is one fact certain: that the esteemed and hitherto impeccable Globe is trying to make the people of Canada believe that it is acting in their interests while the fact is that it is doing the bidding of its owners and masters. Under George Brown The Globe achieved a reputation for sincerity that has been greatly smirched by its action of the past few weeks. In the short debate that followed McInnes' arraignment of the party's chief organ the Ministers were very non-committal. Some of them, notably Mr. Davies, seemed to think the disallowance project totally at variance with Liberal doctrine. But we must remember that in these latter days Liberal doctrine runs on a sliding scale.

The Estimates.

The estimates for the next financial year were brought down by the Finance Minister the other day. Of course my readers will expect that the gentlemen of the new regime made some attempt to carry out their promises of economy. If they essayed to do so, they were most lamentably unsuccessful. The "main estimates" only—there will be "supplementaries" to be asked for later on—total the enormous sum of $44,607,238. The supplementaries will amount to perhaps four millions more. In Mr. Foster's last year's stewardship the Conservatives spent something less than thirty-seven millions, so that his successors ask for nearly eleven millions more. It will not be at all surprising if the amount should run up to fifty millions. The Administration has begun saving at the spigot and spending at the bung hole. To Nova Scotia Fielding proposes to give a million and a quarter of dollars, nominally on account of railways built by the province, but really to be used in the elections next week. If the Crow's Nest Pass scheme goes through, as it is almost certain to, there will be a bonus for the C.P.R.; the Grand Trunk line will have to be paid for permission to run I.C.R. trains over roads which it now controls; the fast line scheme is to be carried out. The savings that have been made are very small. For years McMullen, the disappointed of North Wellington, has advocated a reduction of the cost of management of the internal affairs of the Northwest. To that end he has unceasingly demanded a reduction in the numbers of the Mounted Police. Mr. Laurier has fallen in with his idea, and $150,000 less is to be spent on the force than has been spent heretofore. Gentlemen from the Great Lone Land say that this step has been very ill-advised. They point out that the Yukon district alone needs ample policing, for the country is rapidly filling up with gold miners, some of them very lawless men. But to Mr. Fielding belongs the "credit" of making this most remarkable cut. Henceforth the rate of interest in the Government Savings Banks will be three, instead of three and a half per cent. This will have the desirable effect of dissuading people from saving money. Perhaps the astute Minister foresees that in the future the people will have little to put by and therefore has hit upon this expedient whereby he will be able to explain the falling off in the Savings Bank account. The Minister of Railways and Canals has not been modest in his demands. He is to get $3,100,000 more than last year for his department, while Tarte is to receive half a million additional. And where is all this money to come from? The Government itself expects only $38,111,623 of the 44 million already asked for to come out of income. The other six millions are to be raised—how? Why, by borrowing of course. So then we are to have about ten million dollars clapped on to our national debt as a result of the Liberals' first year of power? That's what it amounts to. The promises of the Government have had to be carried out. Nova Scotia has to get its blood money from Fielding. Tarte will be on hand when the Quebec elections come on; in fact, he is on hand now, for most of Blair's three million increase is to be spent on the St. Lawrence canals. Tarte will take care that the right men get it.

A Sorry Exhibition.

And, because of these things which I have mentioned, the Premier, who never has possessed too equable a temper, has developed a curious petulance of late. On Tuesday last he gave a sorry exhibition of pettishness. The day had been set apart for Government business, the Franchise and Civil Service superannuation bills being on the list for discussion. Now the rules of the House provide that all bills must be printed in both English and French, and Lariviere drawing attention to the fact that there were no French copies on hand, Mr. Speaker ruled that the bills could not be proceeded with. Hereupon Mr. Laurier became vastly enraged. He forgot that it was the fault of the Government that the translations had not been made, and he declined to allow any other business to go on, and adjourned the House after it had sat for something more than three-quarters of an hour. It costs about $7,000 a day to run the House of Commons and here was that money thrown away simply because of the Premier's ill-temper. The members spent the day in loafing about, while, according to the Premier, the Government had "an evening to spend discussing the tariff." As a matter of fact, Mr. Laurier and his Man Friday, Tarte, spent the evening with Monsignor Merry del Val, the Papal delegate to Canada.

The Papal Delegate.

After all their trouble in inducing the Pope to send Mgr. del Val to Canada Mr. Tarte and Mr. Laurier find that he is by no means as clay in the hands of the potter. The delegate has had many interviews with Tarte, and has allowed it to be seen that he proposes to find out for himself just how things stand out here. With Mr. Fitzpatrick it is different, for, when the Solicitor visited Rome on behalf of the Government; a close friendship sprang up between himself and Mgr. del Val. Consequently Mr. Fitzpatrick and the delegate have had many private interviews. Inspired by Tarte, Fitzpatrick is now endeavoring to persuade Mgr. del Val that his visit to the Dominion is a purely religious one, having nothing to do with secular matters. But Mgr. del Val points out that it has been held for centuries that bishops of Mother Church are entitled to, in fact, are expected to give their people advice in secular matters. How much more, therefore, has the delegate from His Holiness himself the right to counsel and advise in secular affairs. The truth is that Tarte & Co. are mightily sorry now that they ever asked that del Val or anybody else be sent over to get them out of a hole, for they find themselves worse bemired than ever.

The Session's Work.

The session of the Ontario Legislature terminated this week. On Saturday the Government was defeated on the clause of the liquor license act, providing that the municipalities decide upon the number of licenses to be issued within their limits. The vote was nearly two to one against the Government, but Premier Hardy declined to resign on the ground that the matter was not one of vital importance. The real truth is that Mr. Hardy wanted the clause defeated, and put up German, one of his ablest supporters, to fight it. The Premier was simply making a grand stand play for the benefit of the temperance people when he inserted the clause. It is well known around the Parliament buildings at Toronto that Mr. Hardy was no more in accord with the proposition than was German, but the temperance people had to be placated. In the same way the Government has made a bid for Methodist support by purchasing the old Victoria College building at Cobourg. Of course, the Church has every right to sell its property to the best advantage. Nobody will say that the Methodists are in any way to blame, but there is a strong suspicion that if the buildings had not belonged to one of the most important religious bodies in Canada the Government would never have bought it. The session that has ended has been remarkable for no act of constructive legislation. "Mr. Hardy has handed over 100 square miles of rich mining lands to his political friends J. K. Kerr et al; he has bamboozled the temperance people; he has promised one thing and done another with reference to Sabbath observance, and he has announced that he is greater than Sir Oliver Mowat. Truly great is Little Arthur Sturgis!

Crichton's Accomplishments.

James Crichton, better remembered as "The Admirable Crichton," could read, write and dispute in twelve different languages. He was an expert swordsman; a civil and military engineer, a mathematician, a dramatist, and although but 23 years old at the time of his death he was the master of all the sciences and learning of his age.

Great Sacrifice.

Husband—I have made all sorts of sacrifices for you. Now, what did you ever give up for me?

Wife—What did I ever give up for you? Well, I never! Why, I gave up half a dozen of the nicest young men in town.

No Hope.

Family Doctor—Nothing more can be done for you, sir. I have exhausted my resources, and I advise you to make your will.

Patient—But I have been told that Dr. Blank says he can cure me.

Family Doctor—Huh! I'd just like to see him try it. I'd have him ejected from the society for breach of etiquette.—New York Weekly.

Close Call For the Turks.

First Greek—Terrible news for us has just been received. The sultan has made overtures to the United States to buy several of her war vessels for the Turkish navy.

Second Greek—Yes? Well—

First Greek—And the United States has refused to sell them.—New York Press.

Chip of the Old Block.

"Er, you see, governor," said the young man as tenderly as he could, "you see, father, you are just a bit of an old fogy."

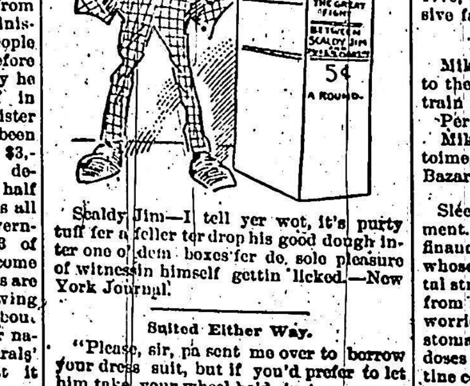
"I suppose I am," admitted the old gentleman. "It's a sort of family failing. My father was the same way when I was your age."—Indianapolis Journal.

How It Is Divided.

Teacher—Children, how is the earth divided?

Johnnie Uptodate—Between the Sugar trust, the Coffee trust, the Beef trust and the Standard Oil company.—New York Sunday Journal.

Seeing Himself as Others Saw Him.



Scaldy Jim—I tell yer wot, it's purty tuff fer a feller ter drop his good dough into one of dem boxes fer de solo pleasure of witnessin himself gettin licked.—New York Journal.

Salted Either Way.

"Please, sir, pa sent me over to borrow your dress suit, but if you'd prefer to let him take your wheel he'd just as soon go for a ride."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A STATESMAN'S ADVENT.

People Expected a Sensation, and They Were Not Disappointed.

The galleries were crowded. A hush of expectancy pervaded the legislative chamber. It had been rumored that the new member from Spike county would address the house. He sat motionless in his seat, apparently oblivious of the fact that hundreds of eyes were upon him. A close observer, however, might have noticed that his face was slightly paler than usual and that a resolute purpose expressed itself in his set features, the rigid poise of his head and a certain faraway look in his large gray eyes.

Presently he rose and in a deep voice that trembled slightly, not from embarrassment, but from excess of earnestness, began to speak.

"In behalf of the honest yeomanry of the county I have the honor to represent in the legislature of this great state, Mr. Speaker," he said, "and for the purpose of placing on record my own solemn conviction as well, I arise, sir, to give notice that I shall introduce next Thursday a bill for an act declaring it to be a crime against civilization, subversive of the peace and quiet of all orderly communities and an offense punishable by fine and imprisonment at the discretion of courts and juries, for any family within the boundaries of this state to keep more than one parrot, one canary bird or one cat!"

Amid a buzz of gratified expectation he sat down, and people looked at each other and nodded their heads. The hour and the man had come. Another statesman and reformer had burst upon the world.—Chicago Tribune.

The Week's Commercial Summary.

The Canadian Pacific earnings for the fourth week of March were unusually large, being $536,000, an increase of $78,000.

The regular chartered insurance companies hold $837,872,884 in fire risks in Canada, and there is $327,814,465 of life insurance in force.

Wheat in Chicago is selling at the lowest prices in six months. May sold as low as 69 1-8c. on Monday as against 85½c. on January 4th last. A large corp of winter wheat is expected this season.

The consumption of the cotton mills in the Southern States is placed at 530,000 bales to date, against 518,000 bales in 1896, and 453,000 bales in 1895. Northern mills have taken 1,266,235 bales against 1,260,704 bales last season.

There has been an active speculation of late in street railway stocks. Toronto sold up to 74, the highest price for a long time. Increased earnings during March and a belief that the people will vote in favor of Sunday cars have stimulated the demand.

The visible supply of wheat, in the United States and Canada is now 38,612,000 bushels as against 60,322,000 bushels a year ago. The amount on passage to Europe is 19,040,000 bushels as against 27,272,000 bushels a year ago. Together the amount is 57,652,000 bushels against 87,594,000 bushels a year ago, a decrease of 29,942,000 bushels.

The business situation at Toronto is unchanged. There is a fair volume of trade in wholesale merchandise, but the great drawback is small profits, prices being cut terribly. Merchants are cautious and acting slowly. We notice, however, that the imports of free and dutiable goods at Toronto for March show an increase over the same month of the two previous years.

There is still much complaint at Montreal regarding general collections, and there is evidently great scarcity of the circulating medium in the country parts, as numerous instances are cited of hitherto cash buyers now taking full credit terms, and of others who never renewed a note now asking indulgences in this respect. In the face of this, however, paper falling due on the 4th inst. in the clothing and dry goods trade, has been better provided for than was anticipated, and no noteworthy failures are reported as the result of default.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade in the United States says: Failures reported for the first quarter of 1897 number 3,932 against 4,031 last year, with liabilities of $48,007,911, against $57,425,135 last year. The manufacturing failures are slightly fewer in number, and smaller in liabilities than last year; but the trading failures fall a little behind those of the corresponding quarter last year in number and very largely in magnitude. The average liabilities for all manufacturing is only $28,800, while the average of all trading concerns is only $7,810 against $10,080 last year, a decrease which indicates caution in buying and debt creating.

Here and There.

Raphael is said to have conceived, in dreams, the ideas of some of his greatest pictures.

Oliver Cromwell had the largest brain on record. It weighed a little over sixty ounces, but was found to be diseased.

Handel had one of the most phenomenal musical memories ever known. He knew, by heart, over fifty operas from beginning to end.

Ole Bull, the celebrated violinist, was such a master of the instrument that he could play a melody of considerable compass on only one string.

Lope de Vega was the most noted dramatist. There still remains over 1,800 plays of his composition. About 300 of the best have been collected and published.

John Simons, a native of Berkshire, born without arms or hands, could write with his mouth, thread a needle, tie a knot and shuffle, cut and deal a pack of cards.

Goliath, the famous Philistine champion, was one of the tallest men of whom any measurements are recorded. His height was six cubits and a span, or about 10¾ feet.

Tamerlane enjoys the unenviable distinction of being the bloodiest conqueror in history. It is computed that during his wars nearly 1,000,000 of human beings were destroyed.

John Middleton, an English giant, born in 1587, was 9 feet 3 inches in height. His palm was 8½ inches broad and from the carpus to the end of his middle finger was 17 inches.

Didymus, the Alexandrian, was born blind, but notwithstanding this defect, attained such great skill in mathematics, geometry and logic that he was reckoned one of the wonders of his age.

Daniel Lambert, the famous fat man and the most noted example of obesity recorded in medical annals, was born in 1770, and died at the age of 40, of excessive fat. His weight was 739 pounds.

A Long Wait.

Mike, having been directed to go down to the station and see when the next train left, is gone about two hours.

Perkins (anxiously)—Well, Mike?

Mike—Well, sor, I had to wait a long toime, sor, but it has just left.—Harper's Bazar.

Sleeplessness is due to nervous excitement. The delicately constituted, the financier, the business man, and those whose occupation necessitates great mental strain or worry, all suffer less or more from it. Sleep is the great restorer of a worried brain, and to get sleep cleanse the stomach from all impurities with a few doses of Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, gelatine coated, containing no mercury, and are guaranteed to give satisfaction or the money will be refunded.

PLAIN COMMON WATER.

Some of Its Useful and Peculiar Properties—Up to All Kinds of Tricks.

Plain, common, everyday water would surprise you if you knew all about it. John S. McKay of the Packer Collegiate Institute lately wrote for the Brooklyn Eagle an article on water, of which what follows is an extract:—

The free surface of water acts like a stretched elastic membrane so that it may be heaped up in a glass without overflowing, if the edge be greased to prevent adhesion. It is this elastic skin that makes rain drops spherical while falling through the air, the particles of the drop being forced into the form which has the least surface for a given volume. It is this surface tension of liquids that causes them to rise in fine hair-like tubes and the cavities of bodies. The capillary and osmotic force produced by the absorption of liquids is sometimes very great, as may be seen in the rise of sap against the force of gravity to the very tops of the tallest trees. If a wedge of dry wood be driven into a cavity of a rock and water poured upon it, the wood will absorb the water and expand with such force as to burst the rock. In this way the roots of growing plants become powerful agents in the disintegration of rocks. Water expands with heat and contracts with cold until it is cooled to 39.2 degrees Fahrenheit, at which temperature it reaches its maximum density. If when at this temperature it be either cooled or warmed it expands and becomes lighter. And thus it happens that the water under the ice in ponds, lakes and rivers, even in the coldest weather, remains at about seven either solid or liquid. The amount of heat necessary to raise a pound of water continued to contract as it grew colder it would sink until the whole body of water was reduced to the freezing point and ice would form at the bottom instead of at the surface and the whole mass of water might freeze solid in a single winter. This would very seriously change the character of the climate as well as destroy all aquatic life.

Water has very high specific heat, that is it takes more heat to warm it and it gives up more heat in cooling than any other solid or liquid. The amount of water from the freezing point to the boiling point would make the same weight of iron red hot and would melt more than six times that weight of lead. Thus water becomes an excellent medium for storing and carrying heat energy. It cannot be heated hot enough to scorch or set fire to inflammable materials, yet in cooling through a few degrees it gives up large quantities of heat. For this reason it is extensively used in rubber bottles as bed warmers, and circulating through iron pipes to heat houses. A large body of water thus becomes a greater equalizer of climate, storing up large quantities of heat during the day and summer to give it out slowly during the night and winter. It is also the cause of land and sea breezes. The land requiring less heat to warm it than water, rises rapidly in temperature during the day, thus causing ascending currents of air over the land and a breeze from the water. At night the water having absorbed large quantities of heat cools more slowly than the land, causing a breeze from the land toward the sea.

When fresh water is cooled down to 32 degrees Fahrenheit, it begins to congeal, and its temperature will remain constant until it is all frozen, but during the process it gives up large quantities of latent heat. A pound of water in turning to ice gives up enough heat to raise four-fifths of a pound from the freezing point to the boiling point. This heat is given to the air and surrounding bodies and hence it may be said that "freezing is a warming process," that is warming to other bodies. Farmers make use of this principle when they carry tubs of water into the cellar on a cold winter night to keep the vegetables from freezing. A heavy fall of snow usually raises the temperature of the air for the same reason. Water containing salt and other substances in solution may be cooled several degrees below 32 degrees without freezing.

Water is a very poor conductor of heat. It may be made to boil at the surface of a vessel while it is ice-cold a few inches below the surface. Hence it can be heated only by convection that is by applying the heat to the lowest part of the vessel and thus producing a series of ascending and descending currents. It is by this means that hot water is made to circulate through pipes used for heating buildings. Pure water at the sea level begins to boil at a temperature of 212 degrees Fahrenheit, which is called its normal boiling point, having the same expansive force as the air. When water begins to boil it cannot be made any hotter, no matter how much heat is applied, unless the pressure of its surface is increased. But if it be placed in a closed vessel where the steam cannot escape it may be heated to a much higher temperature. This is the principle of Papin's digester which is used for extracting gelatine from bones. If, however, the pressure on the surface be decreased by any means water will boil at a much lower temperature than 212 degrees. It may even be made to boil at the freezing point. If the air and vapor be rapidly exhausted from a closed vessel containing water it will boil by consuming its own heat so vigorously as to freeze into a solid mass. If a flask partly full of water is heated until the air is driven out and replaced by steam and then tightly stoppered and inverted, a snowball or pieces of ice applied to its upper service will make it boil vigorously without the application of heat. When high temperatures are objectionable, apparatus is contrived for boiling and evaporating in a vacuum, as for example the vacuum pans used in refining sugar and condensing milk. The boiling point of water varies with the altitude of places, on account of a change of atmospheric pressure. On the top of Mount Blanc water boils at 183 degrees F., a temperature too low to cook certain kinds of food without the aid of a digester. In the valley of the Dead Sea or at the bottom of a deep mine its temperature is several degrees above the normal boiling point. A difference of about 580 feet in elevation causes a variation of one degree Fahrenheit in the boiling point of water.

A Good Sanitarian.

Friend—Does your wife assist you any in your work? I often see her at your desk.

Humorist—Y-e-s, she goes over all I write and burns all my jokes about wives.

Gave Himself Away.

Tom—How cold that pretty Miss Jones does look, Bob. She ought to have something round her.

Bob (absent-mindedly)—She will have as soon as it gets dark.

Another Gold Brick.

"De fahmers," said Uncle Eben, "hes read de papers till it's habit ter sell 'em a gold brick. But many ob 'em goes ahaid, jes' ez usual, b'lievin de politician dat tells 'em dat he's gwinter mak hahd wuhk onnecessary."—Washington Star.

Heart Trials.

"Madge has been ordered by her parents to give up Jack altogether."

"Will she do it?"

"She says she can't. He brings her a pound of caramels every evening."—Chicago Record.

An Additional Observation.

"Truth crushed to earth will rise again," quoted the earnest man.

"That's true," replied Senator Sorghum, "but in many cases not until after the referee has counted ten."—Washington Star.

The wooded island in Jackson park, Chicago, is now the largest and finest rose garden in the world.

His Preference.

Miss Rosebud (to her brother)—What do you think is the best color for a bride, Jack?

Jack—Well, I don't know much about it, but for myself I should prefer a white one.—Tit-Bits.

WAS SLOWLY DYING.

THE RESULT OF AN ATTACK OF LA GRIPPE AND PNEUMONIA.

The Strange Case of Mr. James Owen, of Johnville—Doctors Told Him His Lungs Were Affected and He Could Not Recover—Now in Good Health.

From the Sherbrooke Gazette.

When a man faces what medical authorities tell him is certain death, and regains health and strength, he is naturally grateful to the medicine that has restored him. Such a man is Mr. James Owen, one of the best known farmers in the vicinity of Johnville, Que. Mr. Owen tells his story of shattered health and renewed strength as follows: "On the 17th of December, 1894, I was attacked with la grippe. A week later the trouble developed into pneumonia in its worst form, and [illegible] my bed until the first of March, [illegible], and then I was so weak that I was unable to walk alone. All winter my life hung in the balance. Summer came and I was still weak and feeble, though with the warm weather I gained a little strength. I had however, but very little power in my legs, and I could not [illegible] a buggy owing to the pain they caused me. My lungs also troubled me and I raised a great deal of matter. I then consulted the best doctor [illegible] in this section of province. He told me candidly that I was past medical help. He said that my left lung was in a state of collapse and that my right lung was also affected. This was in January, 1895. For the next three

months, every day seemed to draw me nearer the end. I was so pressed for breath at times that I could not walk any distance without stopping to regain it. In the month of November I began to take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. It was certainly a forlorn hope and I admit I did not expect much benefit from them, but took them rather to please a friend who urged me to do so. I believe I was surprised when I found they were helping me, [illegible] I was beyond the aid of [illegible] help me they did, and I give [illegible] their use. The result is [illegible] a well man of me. I [illegible] pain about my [illegible] breath [illegible] as it ever did, and I am strong [illegible]. My case can be briefly [illegible] in a few words. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have given me a new lease of life and I am glad to let everybody know it."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills create new blood, build up the nerves, and thus drive disease from the system. In hundreds of cases they have cured after all other medicines have failed, thus establishing [illegible] that they are a marvel among the triumphs of modern medical science. The genuine Pink Pills are sold only in boxes bearing the full trade mark, "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People." Protect yourself from imposition by refusing any pill that does not bear the registered trade mark around the box.

Disproved.

An old [illegible] says, "It is all nonsense to [illegible] love is blind. I never knew [illegible] who did not see ten times as [illegible] in his sweetheart as I did."—Philadelphia Record.

An Inducement.

"Harold," said Harold's rich uncle, "if you will [illegible] smoking cigarettes, I'll begin [illegible] myself and shorten my life [illegible] years."—Indianapolis Journal.

[illegible] Beauty.

[illegible]

—R. K. Munkittrick in New York Journal.

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A BLESSED MISTAKE.

MARY MAGDALENE STANDING AT THE RIFLED TOMB.

Rev. Dr. Talmage Describes the Weeping Day [illegible] Christ [illegible] Common Apparel—The Sears of Earth—Glorious Thoughts Inspired by the Resurrection of Christ.

Washington, April 18.—[illegible]

Hope for Great Sinners.

Another thing which the church [illegible] the world have not noticed in regard to the resurrection of Christ is that [illegible] his first post mortem appearance [illegible] who had been [illegible] the seven devils, Mary Magdalene. One would have supposed he would have made his first post mortem appearance to a woman who had always been illustrious for goodness. There are saintly women who have always been saintly, saintly in girlhood, saintly in infancy, always saintly. In nearly all our families there have been saintly aunts. In my family circle it was saintly Aunt Martha or saintly Aunt Phoebe. In yours saintly Aunt Martha or saintly Aunt Ruth. One always saintly. But not so was the one spoken of in the text.

While you are not to confound her with the repentant courtesan who had made her long locks do the work of towel at Christ's foot washing, you are not to forget that she was exorcised of seven devils. What a capital of demonology she must have been! What a chorus of all diabolism! Seven devils—two for the eyes and two for the feet, and [illegible] seven devils. Yet [illegible]