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TOPICS OF THE WEEK

HERE'S THE NEWS IN SHORT ORDER.

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

CANADIAN.

A big demand for lumber is reported in Manitoba.

Mr. Henry Lyman, the head of the well-known drug firm, died in Montreal.

The little son of Mr. Tony Weist of Guelph was found drowned in a foot of water.

It is rumored that the C.P.R. is to be extended from Reston into the Pipestone country.

The Grand Trunk railway has decided upon a new regulation uniform for its train crews.

The John Watson Manufacturing Company, Limited, of Ayr has been incorporated.

Trade returns show a large increase in both exports and imports for the year ended June 30.

Thirty-five horses were burned to death in a fire at the Temple livery tables at Hamilton.

Mr. Edward McKenna tried to get off a moving street car in Montreal and received fatal injuries.

The Baptist Young People's Union of America have selected Buffalo as their next place of meeting.

Sir Wilfrid and Lady Laurier attended a banquet given by the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris.

Winnipeg's Industrial Exposition enjoyed a most successful opening, and the city is crowded with visitors.

The Victoria (Australia) rifle team won the Kolapore Cup at Bisley, the Canadians taking third place.

Laura Merkins, of Stratford, Ont., aged twenty, took a dose of Paris green, and died some hours afterwards.

Severe storms accompanied with vivid lightning that did some small damage are reported from Western Ontario.

Queen's University, Kingston, will confer the degree of D.D. upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier on October 16 (University day).

Mr. Wm. Buck, stove manufacturer, died Thursday night whilst attending Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show at Brantford.

The body of an Indian woman was found near Edmonton. She had been strangled by tying her hair about her neck.

Mr. Dillon, a Hamilton hotelkeeper, caught a burglar in his bedroom, and after compelling the man to disgorge let him go.

The shipment of cheese from the port of Montreal this season far exceeds the quantity sent for the corresponding period last year.

Hon. Messrs. Tarte, Paterson and Mulock inspected the harbor works at Collingwood and were given a banquet by the citizens.

Joseph McKay, son of Mr. William McKay of the Township of Downie, was almost totally paralyzed as a result of a stroke of lightning.

A. Roland, a sword swallower of Prince Albert, died in great agony at Winnipeg from injuries inflicted on himself while practising the trick.

The clothing of Robert McMillan was found on the lake shore near Barrie, and a party is searching for the body, supposing that he is drowned.

Lieut.-Col. White, Deputy Postmaster-General, has been placed on the retired list after 51 years' service. Dr. R. M. Coulter of Aurora succeeds him.

Mr. W. W. Buchanan of Hamilton, has resigned the offices of General Manager of the Royal Templars of Temperance and editor of The Templar.

Nevoux, Clinton & Lawrer's hardware store and a number of adjoining business establishments at Windsor were burned. The loss is over $70,000.

Senator Gowan of Barrie has forwarded an additional contribution of $500 for the endowment of the chair of political science in Queen's University, Kingston.

No. 3 lighthouse at Lorne was unlighted for a couple of nights, and a party rowing out to ascertain the cause found the keeper, Moses Daoust, dead from sunstroke.

The Rideau ranges, where the D. R. A. match will be shot this fall, are in a neglected state. It is all rank with weeds that when the riflemen are lying down they cannot see the targets.

F. O. Myers on Wednesday established a new record over the century course between Kingston and Belleville, making the run in 6 hours and 50 minutes. This is his ninth century this year.

It is reported at Halifax that the British Admiralty have rejected the type of vessels proposed by Peterson, Tate & Co. for the fast Atlantic service, and that the contract will have to be revised.

John Oke, aged sixteen years, and Fred Morrow, aged 21, were drowned while bathing in Lodge's pond near Oshawa. Morrow lost his life in an attempt to save his companion, who could not swim.

The Epworth League convention closed Sunday, with a number of largely-attended farewell meetings were held throughout the city. Many of the city pulpits were occupied by delegates to the convention.

Two British Columbia fishermen report having seen something resembling an air ship in the sky, and it is believed to be the same that the Northwest Indians saw and reported believing it to be Andree's balloon.

Major Perley, who had been superintending the erection of the Canadian pavilion at Bisley camp, died on Thursday night of bronchitis. The deceased, who was born in St. John, N.B., was sixty-six years of age.

The inquest on the recent attempt to burn the steamer Lakeside was concluded at St. Catharines. Crown Attorney Brennan promised that the evidence would be placed in the hands of Provincial Detective Mitchell.

FOREIGN.

Miss Jean Ingelow, the distinguished English poet and novelist, who is in her seventy-seventh year, is seriously ill.

In the shooting at Bisley for the Queen's Prize, Lieut. Davidson made a possible at the 500 yards range.

The Prince of Wales will be President of the Royal Commission having charge of the British section of the Paris Exposition.

The best scientific opinion in Berlin is not sanguine of the success of Herr Andree's attempt to reach the North Pole by balloon.

The librarians of the world, five hundred strong, are holding a conference in London under the presidency of Sir John Lubbock.

Acting upon the advice of Captain-General Weyler, the Queen-Regent of Spain has pardoned a number of Cuban insurgent chiefs.

Though the thermometer did not rise last week in London above 75, the heat was very oppressive and there were several cases of sunstroke.

Plentiful rains are reported throughout the Northwest Provinces of India, and the Government will shortly reduce the extent of the relief works.

The naphtha springs of Baku, an important seaport of Russian Transcaucasia, are on fire, and immense quantities of the crude oil have been destroyed.

Eight out of the one hundred and forty-eight Socialists in the German Reichstag are serving terms of imprisonment for the offence of lese majeste.

The Queen started for Osborne House, Isle of Wight, Monday, much to the relief of the Royal family, who fear that she has been doing too much for her strength.

Intense excitement was created in Havana Friday by the arrest of eighty rich Spanish merchants and bankers in that city, for selling merchandise and medicines to the Cuban insurgents.

The London press is very outspoken in condemning the recent despatch of Secretary Sherman on the Bering Sea dispute sent in the form of instructions to United States Ambassador Hay.

Lady Selina Scott, mother-in-law of Earl Russell, who in January last was sentenced to eight month's imprisonment for criminally libelling him, was released Friday morning from Holloway gaol.

Prince Eui Wha, heir-apparent to the crown of Corea, who is at present in the United States, is said to be followed constantly by assassins, who are instigated by the Corean Progressive party to take his life.

Reports from Kimberley say that several Europeans and 50 natives are entombed as the result of an accident at the De Beers mine. Twenty natives were rescued. There is little hope of saving the others.

It is stated in well-informed circles in Vienna that a European conference will shortly be held in Vienna or Berlin to discuss measures to be adopted against the United States tariff policy regarding sugar bounties.

Tewfik Pasha, the Turkish Foreign Minister, has informed the Ambassadors that the Sultan has agreed to the principle of the demands of the powers, and was prepared to accept their views on the peace conditions.

The Customs Committee of the Norwegian Storthing has adopted a report proposing the introduction of differential tariff duties on several agricultural products, and giving greater protection to small manufacturing interests.

The principal business of the Dominion Cabinet will be making arrangements for bringing into force the alien labor law in Western Ontario, Manitoba, the Northwest, and British Columbia. It will not be applied to the Maritime Provinces.

In view of the wonderful discovery of gold in the Yukon district, it is expected that Congress will at once ratify the treaty for determining the boundary line between Canada and Alaska, and deciding in whose territory the rich gold deposits lie.

The Dominion Government has granted five-mile leases on the Saskatchewan River in the Northwest Territories for gold-digging. There is said to be very fine gold at the bottom of the river, but it is in very small quantities. A royalty will have to be paid to the Dominion.

There were 325 deaths in Montreal last week. Not since the smallpox epidemic in 1885 has there been a week of such terrible mortality. The average per week is not over 100 or 115. The great heat commenced the week previous to the one just ended and the death rate began then to mount up.

A despatch from Montreal states that a third case of smallpox has been discovered in that city, the patient having been taken to the hospital eight days ago, but news of it had been withheld from the public. The patient, who is a brother of young Charbonneau, one of the first patients, is in a critical condition.

Mr. Samuel Afford, a brick mason, employed on the construction of the new Town Hall in Dutton, stepped on a brick on the edge of the scaffold. The brick turned under his foot, throwing him backward to the ground, a distance of 25 feet, causing a double compound fracture of the ankle joint and breaking a small bone in the same leg.

President J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, who is in Winnipeg, makes the statement that the road will ship not less than 90,000,000 bushels of wheat from the Northwest to China and Japan by way of Seattle this year. He adds that if the opening up of the new market proves a success it will mean that Northwestern farmers will get better prices for their wheat.

UNITED STATES.

At New York gold to the extent of $250,000 was withdrawn from the subtreasury for shipment to Canada.

Senator Hanna has indicated his willingness to arbitrate the trouble between the striking miners and the coal operators.

The Garden of Eden.

While Wisconsin may not be generally recognized as a veritable garden of Eden still there are plausible reasons for believing that the first home of Adam and Eve was located within the confines of this State, says the Chicago Chronicle. Various writers in different ages have indulged in a vast amount of speculation as to the exact portion of the globe in which Eve was tempted and Adam committed the ungallant, cowardly and unpardonable crime of becoming the accuser of his weaker companion, and this cradle of original sin has been variously located in all parts of the globe, from the northern part of Sweden to the South Sea Islands, and one learned Hibernian student has written entertainingly in support of the theory that the famous garden of the land of Eden was in the vicinity of the north pole.

None of the places generally credited with having been the home of Adam and Eve during the days of their blissful innocence answers to the description of the garden as given in the Book of Genesis so closely as does a portion of Western Wisconsin, embracing Trempealeau and parts of the surrounding counties. The Bible ascribes four rivers to the garden, but even in the vicinity of the Euphrates the description of the Book does not find confirmation in the number of rivers flowing through or adjacent to the portion of the globe most generally associated with the abiding place of Adam and Eve before they partook of the fruit of the tree of knowledge.

Western Wisconsin furnishes what has been lacking in all other spots ascribed as the first home of man, and in support of such a claim the good people of the virgin forests of Trempealeau County point to their three rivers flowing into the Mississippi, or the Euphrates of the Bible; the high, massive walls surrounding the historic land of bliss; the remains of its hanging gardens; a rock-formed pulpit and even the possession of the same old serpent that beguiled Mother Eve. Dwelling in a land having these attributes, the logical people of Trempealeau solemnly proclaim, they must be in possession of the cradle of mankind and that no one can prove the contrary.

Retribution.

"Yes, the burglars stole Jack's smoking jacket and he's awfully mad."

"About the jacket?"

"No, about his old pipe that was in the pocket. It was the most dreadful old pipe you ever saw, but Jack just doted on it. I know the burglars were mad enough when they discovered it was there."

"What makes you think so?"

"Why, we found a place in the back yard where both of them had fallen off the once. I suppose they had just got a whiff of it."

Up Hill.

An old farmer, after a night "out," was considerably hilarious, and for a lark the mischief-lovers reversed the wheels on his wagon, putting the fore wheels behind and the hind wheels in front, thus raising the fore part of the wagon to an unwonted elevation.

When he reached home, near morning, his wife naturally wanted to know where he had been all night. He explained by saying in uncertain tones:—"Maria, I've been to Maytree, started early, but it was ten miles and uphill all the way."

Displaced.

Watts—The displacement of men by machinery has been something great in recent years.

Potts—And it is still going on. Only yesterday I was going across Pennsylvania street and found myself displaced by a bicycle with great precipitancy.—Indianapolis Journal.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

LIBERAL NEWSPAPERS ATTACK THE CABINET.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Huge Mistake—Trouble Ahead for the Premier—Mr. Whitney's Successful Tour—New Leader of the Opposition in Manitoba.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Ottawa, July 20.—Trouble pursues the members of the Government. As mentioned in last week's letter, two of the leading Liberal newspapers of Quebec have sharpened their knives for the benefit of the Ministers and now the Simcoe Reformer, edited by Hal. B. Donly, one of the most stalwart Liberals in Canadian newspaperdom, has made a bitter attack on the men in power at Ottawa. The Globe, because its owners have to pay the price of the concessions which the Government made to its owners in connection with the Crow's Nest inquity, is forced to act as the Administration's apologist, be it right or wrong. The men who have but small Liberal newspapers are the ones who are now telling the truth about the Government, and that truth must be very unpalatable to the gentlemen who are members of the Laurier Cabinet. The Simcoe Reformer tells its readers plainly that Messrs. Fielding, Blair, Sifton and Dobell are not fit for the positions they hold. In the case of Mr. Fielding the Cornwall Freeholder was the first Liberal newspaper to discover traces of incompetency—or worse. Nearly a year ago the able editor of The Freeholder dubbed Fielding "a glorified cross-roads politician"—a term that was very fitting indeed. Now the Simcoe Reformer endorses the opinion of its companion Liberal newspaper and goes it one better. Mr. Donly says that Mr. Fielding is not fit to be Finance Minister, that Hon. A. G. Blair bears all the earmarks of the "practical politician," that Mr. Sifton's chief aim in life seems to be the procuring of fat Government jobs for his relations, and that Mr. Dobell is in the Cabinet because Lady Aberdeen wanted him put there. An interested public owes its thanks to Mr. Donley for this last piece of information. No man in Canada, being outside of the Liberal Star Chamber, and knowing of Mr. Dobell's tremendous stock of ignorance on all public questions, could imagine why that gentleman was advanced to Cabinet rank. In politics he had always been a Mugwump. On the night of the last general election, after he had been returned as member for Quebec West, Mr. Dobell declined to hold converse or to sit in the same carriage with Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Mr. Dobell has large lumbering interests in Quebec, and he wanted to be sure how the elections went before committing himself. In other words, he was determined to support the winning party. In himself Mr. Dobell is unimportant. The point is that the Government should be composed of such incompetent men. As a Quebec Liberal said the other day, "The capable men, with two or three exceptions, are looking out for themselves; the other fellows are inconsequent make-weights, who know nothing of their duties." It must be galling to Sir Richard to have to associate with such men. The old knight, though hot-headed and unpolitic, is an honest gentleman. He is senior to every other Minister so far as length and importance of political service goes. Yet he has to take a post of no importance whatever; he has no patronage, his estimates amount to nothing, for his department does no work. Under Sir Mackenzie Bowell the Department of Trade and Commerce did good work, for Sir Mackenzie was the prime mover in the scheme for the promotion of intercolonial trade. But the Liberals have told us, through their leader, that the other parts of the British Empire are no more to them commercially than any foreign country. It would be impossible, therefore, for Sir Richard, even if he had the desire, to busy himself with any plan of promoting intercolonial trade. The old gentleman has to sit idly in his six by ten office with nothing to do, while men like Tarte, Sifton and Blair control the three greatest departments of our civil government. A sop was thrown to him when he was made leader of the House of Commons during the absence of the Premier, but the Government had not entirely in mind a desire to do a graceful act. It is to be doubted whether there was any other member of the Government who was capable of leading the House against the Opposition so ably generalled by Mr. Foster and Sir Charles Tupper. It has been noticed with regret by many independent newspaper correspondents that the movement for ousting Sir Richard seems to be sure to be successful. Tarte is now so fearless that he will have to leave. He knows that he has his claws firmly fixed in Laurier's shoulders and that the Premier cannot shake him off. The man who will go will be Sir Richard, one of the few honest and capable men in the Government.

Sir Wilfrid's Huge Mistake.

Now that the people of Canada have been appealed of Sir Wilfrid's huge mistake in declaring that Canada does not want preferential treatment from Britain, the trouble is beginning. The Premier, it will be remembered, assured the people of England that any agreement looking towards the extending of preferential treatment to the Colonies would injure, first, the United Kingdom and then Greater Britain. Lord Farrer, one of the greatest Free Traders in England, is so much afraid that his pet heresy will be extirpated that he has written a long pamphlet on the subject. He does not deny that the Colonies would be benefitted, for that would be a nonsensical contention. What Lord Farrer says he fears is retaliation from the United States. The Dingley bill, he seems to forget, averages a 50 per cent. duty. The United States could not possibly handicap British imports more than this without making it unlawful to bring them in. And then, of course, there would be trouble. The United States now sells $98,000,000 worth of goods to Britain every year; Britain sells only $28,000,000 worth to Uncle Sam. The Republic has all the balance of trade, and he would be loth to think of losing it by imposing further duties on British goods. There need be no fear of retaliation. Prominent Liberals recognize that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has made a huge mistake.

Trouble Ahead for Laurier.

When the Premier comes home there will be interesting proceedings in the Privy Council chamber. Sir Wilfrid will have a few words of explanation to make to his colleagues. But it is in the country, with the people of Canada, that he will have a hard task in making himself "solid." This is a protectionist country. That was known in 1878, and in every election since. The Conservative party did not lose power because of its protective policy. It is stronger in the country than it has been for years simply because the people suspect that the Liberals do not know where they stand. Certainly they cannot expect to do anything with the United States. Congress has adhered to the $3 duty on lumber, although the Liberals assured us that the Americans would give us a one dollar duty. And Mr. Fielding's "friends, the Americans," have told us by way of Congress that, "if we attempt to defend our own commerce by imposing an export duty on saw logs we will be fined by having to pay an increased import duty to the United States." What this Government needs to do is to plap that export duty at once. This country does not need to fear the course threatened by the American Congress. The people of the Republic have to have our forest produce, for there is about exhausted or will be in a short time. If the Government here at Ottawa would attend to the country's business instead of bickering within itself it would be a better thing for us who pay the bills. The Klondike country in the British territory east of the Alaska boundary is pronounced to be the richest gold mining land in the world. Why does not our Government compel the Americans who compose eighty per cent. of its population to pay a tax or royalty on every ounce of gold taken out? The wealth of the country is being carried into Alaska and thence to the United States. Here in Ottawa the Ministers say nothing, do nothing to prevent it. The alien labor law which Mr. George Taylor, the Conservative whip in the House of Commons, fought for so long and so well, has not yet been put into force by the Government. This is not to be wondered at when the Government took the contract for printing the bank bills out of Canadian hands and gave it to an American firm. It also gave the contract for the printing of the Jubilee stamps to a Yankee firm, although the Canadian concern that tendered offered to do the work better and cheaper than its American competitors. Why did the Government do this? Because the head of the Canadian concern was suspected of being a Conservative. The Postmaster-General will know that the Canadian design was much superior in artistic merit to that submitted by the Americans, but he gives us the excuse that the Canadian concern had not the facilities for carrying it out. When it is stated that the company had for years the work of doing the finest work for some of our Canadian banks it will be seen just what this excuse amounts to.

Mr. Whitney's Successful Tour.

Mr. J. P. Whitney has ceased his stumping tour for a short time, but will return to the campaign in the autumn. The leader's success has been phenomenal. Everywhere, almost, he was a stranger. Everywhere he made a pronounced success. In Western Ontario his conferences with the leading local Conservatives made it certain that a very strong list of candidates will be brought out. More than ever has it been made clear that the people of Ontario want a change. Hardyism is not to their liking, for they read the newspapers. They know of the infamous Engleduc deal, whereby enough land to make two or three good sized counties is handed over to English capitalists and Canadian go-betweens like J. K. Kerr. Mr. Hardy, I am told, is going to tell the people of Ontario that he has had great success in selling their mining lands. He is prepared to amaze them by telling them that he has been paid over a million dollars. What statesmanship! First he sells the forests; now he sells the mining lands. What is to become of the public domain? The citizens of Ontario will soon have nothing left except a barren waste, from which the trees have been cut and the gold grubbed up. The friends of the Government will be rich but the people will be poorer than ever. The Wigdal Premier is desperately put to it to keep up his alleged surplus. His task will be over after the next election. The Government will be in the hands of honest and capable men. With Mr. Whitney at its head the new Cabinet will have an efficient leader. The Globe has made the point against Mr. Whitney that he is poor. So he is. He is a lawyer with a fairly good practice. Premier Hardy is rich. He has not practiced law for many years. He has drawn a salary of $4,000 from the province. He lives in palatial style in Toronto in a $15,000 house. All of which gives us cause to ponder. Mr. Hardy's commercial and mining friends are not, it is clear, of the kind that forget their benefactors.

New Leader of the Opposition in Manitoba.

In Manitoba Hon. Hugh John Macdonald has entered with spirit into the duties of his new position of leader of the Opposition. Mr. Macdonald is bound to make a success of his work. Mr. Greenway has had things all his own way so long that he thinks he owns the province. He will find next session that he has a doughty opponent to fight. Mr. Macdonald was slow to take the post; but now that he is in the fight he is not the man to draw back.

How to Make a Paris "Marvel."

Half a pound of fine sifted flour, 3 whole and very fresh eggs, a pinch of salt, a small piece of butter, 1½ spoonfuls of eau de vie. Mix all these to a rather stiff dough, which must be well worked to make it light. Allow it then to rest for ten minutes, being careful to cover it with a slightly damp napkin, that the paste may not dry up.

Make this latter up into little balls and then roll these out as thinly as possible. Cut them out with a pastry cutter into an oval shape, running the latter three times right across the length, without, however, cutting it through at either end, and lay each as done on a cloth. Have ready some very hot frying fat and place the "marvels" one by one in this, turning them over all the time with the skimmer and lift them out the moment they are nicely but not too strongly colored. They should puff out almost as soon as they are in the fat. Drain them very carefully on paper and dish them on a napkin, dusting them liberally with powdered sugar. To be eaten hot or cold.

THE POISONOUS PRIMULA.

A Pretty Greenhouse Plant That Will Have to be Discarded.

Within the past few years a dainty and delicate traitor has been brought to light in the shape of the greenhouse Primula. This plant, in virtue of its easy cultivation, the delicate tint and clarity of its blossoms and the beauty of its long stemmed crisp leaves, has of late become the pet of every window gardener. It is what I have heard called a "thank little plant," blooming on and on with the simple demands of sun and water. Ten or twelve years ago a scientific journal published a paper on the poisonous properties of the Primula, but the warning was not widely spread, as probably the plant was not so generally known at the time. Lately I find that the more conscientious florists have destested from its culture, owing to the disfiguring, not to say, painful, recurring eruptions it causes on the bodies of those susceptible persons who venture upon familiarities with it.

Its true character was first brought to my notice by an artist friend, who, after sketching the plant in blossom, broke a leaf from it to crush and smell for the sake of the pleasant geranium-like odor it exhaled. Soon after her face and arms were covered with an eruption like that caused by poison ivy. The pink and delicate little plant was immediately suspected, and was, after a struggle, consigned, pot and all, to the dark waters of the river. I know of many cases of serious poisoning which may be traced to the Primula, enough and more to fully justify the evil reputation it has gained.

Though the fact is well established that all persons are not susceptible to its poison, there will probably be some member of the family who will suffer by coming in contact with the leaves or stem of the Primula. The effects of the poison of this plant are apositive, and are of too serious a nature to warrant its presence in the home.

It will be noticed that the plant is covered with translucent hairs. Other than these visible structures are never one scarcely discernible under a powerful pocket glass, and bearing about the same relation to the larger set as do the alder and spice bushes in an open grove to the tall oaks and tulips above them. Under a high magnification the glandular structure of the hairs is apparent, the short set of these segments, the long set of ten or so, each tipped with a drop of viscid amber colored secretion. In pasting the section through stain, alcohol or oil of cloves, this terminal viscid globule is dissolved away and leaves a shallow cup distinctly visible after staining.

It is easy to see how this secretion being held at the tip of the pristies might cling, when fresh, to any skin that came in contact with it and be absorbed into the circulation of those with especially thin and susceptible epidermis.—Ladies' Home Journal.

The Week's Commercial Summary.

The Canadian Pacific earnings for the first week of July were $478,000, an increase of $102,000.

The stocks of wheat at Toronto are 101,884 bushels as against 86,284 bushels last week and 174,861 bushels a year ago.

Failures for the week have been 203 in the United States against 215 last year, and 30 in Canada against 39 last year.

The average condition of winter and spring wheat in the United States is 84.9 per cent. or 1.5 points higher than a year ago.

The U. S. Government crop report for July gives condition of corn 82.9 per cent. as against 92.4 a year ago and 99 per cent. in July, 1895. The acreage this season is about a million less than last year.

Trade has been fairly active at Toronto the past week. The feeling generally is one of confidence, and the outlook is encouraging. There is likely to be a large increase in autumn trade, and merchants are preparing for it. In dry goods the sorting-up demand is good, some dealers reporting the turnover unusually large for the season.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada is 16,609,000 bushels, a decrease of 974,000 bushels for the week. A year ago the total was 47,220,000 bushels. The amount afloat to Europe is 13,920,000 bushels, a decrease of 640,000 for the week. A year ago the total was 22,560,000 bushels. Combined, the total is 30,529,000 bushels, as against 69,780,000 bushels a year ago, a decrease of 39,251,000 bushels.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade in the United States says: "The analysis of failures for the half-year, 6,973 in number, with liabilities amounting to $109,162,194, shows that commercial failures were smaller than last year by nearly $6,000,000, although failures of brokers and agents were larger by $1,000,000, and manufacturing failures by $2,800,000. But the manufacturing return would have been much smaller than for four years but for a few cotton failures at New Bedford, and a decrease appears in most other branches. The trading failures are smaller than in the first half of the three previous years.

The extended heated term of last week was followed by copious rains in the Montreal district, which must have done much good in a general way, though in some few cases the heavy thunder showers have done some damage, and haying operations have been probably interfered with. Trade as a whole is of a moderate seasonable character. The hot weather has induced the maintenance of a steady sorting demand in the dry goods line for light fabrics, and several leading wholesalers report business ahead of this time last year. The feature of the week is the decision of the banks to reduce the rate of interest on deposits. A meeting of all the city bankers was held on Wednesday, at which a resolution was passed to the effect that the maximum general rate would be three per cent. on the minimum monthly balance, from the 1st of September. In some few cases, it is understood, there was a modification of this decision, by which certain banks are allowed to continue the 3½ per cent. rate on old deposits of large amount for a time, with the understanding that the 3 per cent. rate shall become operative in all cases by the 1st of January. We hear of further borrowings of call money in quantity at 3½ per cent., and the general quotation is 3½ to 3 per cent.

Here and There.

The outing suit is in it now.

Bicycle wheels travel on their shape.

A person of ripe experience seldom eats green fruit.

Roads that afford "good going" are just as good coming.

A man who doesn't do right should get left, isn't that right?

The winning baseball team likewise has its diamond jubilee.

The mud in the road must be added to the weight of the load.

Since tailors have a union it seams sew seamstresses should have a sew ciety.

There are several cases of cholera morbus in every case of green cucumbers.

After all it is the modest, blushing woman whose "cheek" really counts for most.

If bicyclists can't have the right side of the road they may have to take what is left.

If you wish to know whether you are leading just the right sort of a life ask your neighbors.

In over-crowded street cars' is where men's lack of 'gallantry seems hardest for the ladies to stand.

Business Integrity Compared.

It is in trade especially that the superiority of British honesty is averred to show itself. The British are the greatest traders on earth, and have been traders long enough and extensively enough to have learned what standards of commercial honesty pay best in the long run. An American who had traveled in southwestern Europe, in South America, and others parts of the world, that are somewhat out of the beaten path, lately admitted to the present writer that, in the countries he had been to, the reputation of Americans seemed to him to be low, and that of the British very high. In Buenos Ayres, he said, an English merchant's word inspired confidence, but an American merchant's assurances were received with a good deal of skepticism. This sort of testimony is mortifying to American ears, but, if we believe it, we must look for the remedy to spring not from moral reform, but simply from increased knowledge. We expect those who bring this reproach upon us to learn, from information and reflection if possible, but if necessary from experience, that though an individual rogue may steal or cheat and escape punishment, for a people who can neither hide nor run away from the consequences of their acts, honesty is the most sagacious and remunerative course.—From "The Point of View," in Scribner's.

How Snails Make Love.

A scientist has been patiently watching the snails in one of the large London gardens, and has discovered the means by which they show their affection for each other.

"The snail," says this scientist, "carries its eyes in telescopic watch towers. They are in the extreme tips of its horns, and as soon as another snail approaches these horns are drawn in, and the little animal awaits for his lady love to get close by before surprising her.

"The emotional natures of snails, so far as love and affection are concerned, seem to be highly developed, and they show plainly by their actions when courting the tenderness they feel for one another. If another snail comes along, they immediately retire to the shelter of a dead leaf or hide behind a paling. I have noticed, too, a loveslck snail fetching dainty bits of green for his sweetheart from different parts of the garden."

This scientist also declares that snails have a manner of putting their heads together that is not unlike the general mode of kissing.—London Answers.

A lady writes: "I was enabled to remove the corns, root and branch, by the use of Holloway's Corn Cure." Others who have tried it have the same experience.

He Found the Soup.

Mrs. Boardem—How do you find the chicken soup, Mr. Boarder?

Mr. Boarder—I have no difficulty in finding the soup, madam, but I am inclined to think that the chicken will be able to prove an alibi.—Richmond Dispatch.

THE HOTEL CHILD.

The hotel child who clatters through the hall
And shouts a weary shout of empty glee
Until some guest sends down an urgent call
And bellboys tell him he must stop it!—Me
Oh, what a life this life of his must be!
He goes to shows, but no tramp dog is his
To play with him in shed or field or wood,
He looks from windows, sees the white moon fizz,
A forestry of blackened smokestacks in it
The sum and substance of his neighborhood.
His wealthy father buys him pretty clothes;
His mother gives him out all trig and fine;
But, in all glory decked, do you suppose
That hungry hearted little magnate knows
One half the blessings that accrue to him?

He looks sometimes from out his window high
Across the intervening roof and sees
The watchman's child, who shouts a greeting cry
To some young neighbor of a lofty mien—
He wishes well he might be one of them
With uncombed hair and patches at his knees.

The hotel child, unloved but by his own,
Has playground toys. The watchman's child has none.
But of all dreams the richman's child has known
The fondest is to be the watchman's son.
—Chicago Record.

DENISE.

They had been three years married. They adored one another. She was young. He was young also. Two happy faces! Two charming souls!

Why had they come to this little old and isolated village 100 leagues from Paris? Surely the guides had never recommended it. Here the grass grew between the caved in paving stones of the streets. And one could hear now and then, with its jolting and jingling, the jiggling of bolts and the rattling of windows, the yellow coach, which returned, nearly always empty, from the distant railway station.

It was Cecile who had thought of this trip. Roger had at first said, "No," but she, coming closer to him, said coaxingly:

"Was it not down there in the little village, close to the mountains, that you were born, passed your childhood and became a man? Was it not there you lived with your aged parents, over whom we wept together a year since? I wish to see the good old country house of which you have so often spoken. And the garden, too, which seemed so large when you were a little child. You shall show me the well where you used to throw stones to hear them splash in the water—the tulip tree where you found the nest of doves. I want to see the road you traveled to the schoolhouse. You used to tell me the way to eat mulberries little yellow mand that you were. Here I shall picture you passing by, when you, Roger, were not taller than a boy in wore short trousers. On your way you carried a basket in which your mother had placed a luncheon of bread and cherries. No, Roger, I shall not be jealous. Do not think me so frivolous. If I wish to go down there to your native village it is because I love you—I love you so well—and because I am jealous of the past in which I have no share. Perhaps one day you might think of me in things without thinking of me? If this that grieves me so. Take me where you were, mingle me with that which once surrounded you, so that I may feel with you may never have a regret which I am not a part, so that I may never be absent from your memory, however distant they may be." Speaking thus, she raised her lips to his and he consented (not without some melancholy) because of the pretty kiss.

The first days passed in the little village were adorable ones. Cecile enjoyed everything in the great old place. Even the ugly, sombre trees delighted her. The villagers who passed turned to look after her, many held at her Parisian grace.

One evening there was a fete in front of the town hall—a shooting gallery, three turntables and some wooden horses. Mme. Prudence the dressmaker, was there. Cecile entered to watch an's place to learn her fate.

"No enemy seeks to harm you, a very possible happiness is your."

"Ah, I know it," cried Cecile, falling impulsively upon her husband's neck, to the astonishment of the clairvoyant.

She visited the old house where Roger's mother had died. "What a pity! We are not rich enough to buy it," she said. Then she made him relate, with many details, the life he had led when a boy—at what hour he arose, at what hour he went to bed. She wanted to know, too, the place at table occupied by each member of the family. And hear of those evenings when he sat beath the lamp reading aloud, while the old mother, listening, would fall asleep in the great armchair, her feet on a fender.

But the garden interested her most of all. She at once recognized it, and she in her turn dropped, to hear them splash in the water. There were no more doves on the tulip tree. "What a pity!"

Behind the hedge ran the road to the schoolhouse. Cecile stained her lips nearly black with the juice of the mulberries, and so happy was she that her eyes became clouded with joy. She followed where Roger had trodden. He was charmed to see her so affected. He, however, was very sad and smiled but little, trying in vain to hide a feeling of deep sadness. Finally, after they had returned to the village he was pensive and moody.

One morning he dressed in haste and quickly left the inn where Cecile was still sleeping. He did not even kiss her upon her forehead or lips that he would have awakened her.

He traversed the village, passed the last house and entered a graveyard.

He stopped in front of a slab upon which was inscribed a name, "Denise," and the age, "15." Here he fell upon his knees, and buried in his hands. Roger had told all to Cecile. He had not hid all his youthful memories. She knew that he had loved women, that the poor child had died in the autumn, before he received his first kiss. But Roger never forgotten her. Now, Cecile, at the grave where he had knelt down, seemed to see her again alive, so pretty, with her sweet pale face, the delicate lips which would never be red. He lived over again the active hours of their rendezvous in the garden hed