

NORTH-WEST NOTES.

What is going on in the Prairie Province.

The plasterers of Winnipeg have taken steps for the formation of a trades' union. The breaking up of the ice on the Assiniboine has been accompanied this spring by no disasters or dangerous floods, and the water is fast falling.

A pail full of new potatoes have been on exhibition in Winnipeg. They were grown in the cellar of a farmer's house a few miles from Winnipeg.

Business at Brandon promises to improve. At present it is too good for complaint, but the merchants with heavy stocks think they could stand some improvement.

Business is a little quiet in Rat Portage at present. Lumbering camps are all broken up for the season, and navigation on the lake not being open yet, trade is naturally dull.

The breaking up of the river has done no damage in Winnipeg so far, with the exception of carrying away some 4,000 logs belonging to J. K. Sutherland, of that city.

The Prince Albert Times learns on good authority that a weekly line of steamers is to be established between that place and Grand Rapids, which will connect with Edmonton every week.

A portion of the dam at Morris which was being contracted for a water power, was swept away by the recent floods. The amount of damage will not be very heavy, but the work will be kept back considerably.

The sub-contractors on the Seikirk Branch have commenced work, and are making good progress. If there is anything like an average spring they will have the whole road ready for track laying before the first of June.

The Marquette Review thus springs it on a confiding public: The trees are budding, the prairie flowers are blooming, the grass is greening, and nature's every appearance indicates that ethereal spring is upon us with all its redolent beauties.

The Portage, Westbourne, and North-Western are building a spur track from Westbourne to the head of navigation on Lake Manitoba, near the mouth of Perch Creek, to connect with the steamer which Mr. McArthur is building to ply on the lake.

The Winnipeg Commercial says that prairie fires have been reported from several of the surrounding districts. In four instances hay stacks were destroyed, but the quantity of that commodity held in the country leaves no fears for any scarcity this season.

Immigrants who appear to be of the right stamp are arriving at Manitoba City almost daily, and proceed from there to various points of Southern Manitoba, a large number going to Rock Lake and Turtle Mountain districts. Some who have taken up and improved their homesteads are now bringing their families to live with them in this land of promise.

The excitement about the rising of the Red River at Emerson has all subsided, and people are once more down to attending to their own affairs. The arrival of the steamer H. W. Also put an end to all fears about the bridge, which is still standing, although the ice breaker in front of the centre pier is gone. For some days the river has been going slowly down, and all danger is now over.

The Winnipeg Commercial of a recent date says: The all important question of water supply for Regina has been settled. The test well which was put down by Scarth & Co. and the Town Commissioners has proved a grand success. Abundance of water was struck at a depth of 97 feet. In a few minutes the water rose 67 feet, and on the following morning the water was near the top. On the following day one of the Winnipeg papers arrived, with the statement that the well was down 200 feet, that over \$1,500 was expended, and no signs of water. When the article was written there might have been little or no signs of water; but the writer must have known that the rest of the report was incorrect. The daily papers of Winnipeg have gone considerably out of their way to malign Regina. They publish false statements about the quality of the land, and quantity of water, and exaggerate other matters; but they have not the manliness to publish corrections sent from here by citizens who have lived here since the town was started. This is the most cowardly kind of journalism.

The Antiquity of Dentistry.

The early history of the art and science of dentistry is obscure, but one thing is certain, and that is that good dental surgeons flourished in the palmy days of Pompeii and Herculaneum; in fact almost everything useful in art, science and mechanics, have been found among the ruins of ancient cities. Dental instruments have been found there, and a great many of the tools used to-day were patterned after those discovered in the ruins of Pompeii, which were made of highly tempered bronze, rivalling in perfection the best steel of modern times. Sets of teeth on plates were also found, and teeth with gold and cement, can be seen in the museums of Naples, Paris and London. Nor was the Egyptian behind the Roman in mechanical arts, and some of the latest discoveries by Dr. Schliemann show that dentistry, as a science, was well understood. Indeed, many of the mummies found buried in the Pyramids, furnish proof that the services of dentists had been required at that period of the world's history—three thousand years ago. Among the ancient dentists, the sign, "Shaving, bleeding and tooth drawing," may still be seen in some cities of Europe. Formerly, teeth were made of ivory, the bones of sheep, ox, hippopotamus, and plates of the same material were used, metal superceding the osseous substances some years later. In the sixteenth century dentistry gradually passed out of the hands of the regular surgeons to the dentists of more modern times.

The teeth and plates of bone at length gave way to plates of gold, silver, platinum and rubber, the latter being more generally used to-day.

A Story With a Great Deal of Life in It

The departments were just beginning to disgorge the great slices of humanity that they had swallowed in the morning. I was standing by one of the great piles as the men and women began to come out slowly at the first. The first two or three, warned by experience, had umbrellas, under which they went joggling slowly home at a clerical gait. The fourth was a woman in widow's clothing—rather shabby clothing which had been worn a long time. She was thin, shrunken, gray and pale, and seemed broken with a weight of bad years—a sad memory of better days. The carriage of the Secretary was rolling to and fro before the big entrance of the building. His gray-whiskered coachman with difficulty restrained his blooded horses. The Secretary was signing his name a great many times on a great many different documents in his lofty, velvet office. He might be out in a minute. He might not be out for an hour. Just as the ghostly widow came slowly down the big steps the fine old coachman turned his prancing pair toward the entrance. The poor old gentlewoman came down to the sidewalk with an evident difficulty, which spoke of rheumatism. She was perplexed and puzzled by the unexpected rain storm. She had no umbrella, and I don't believe she had car fare. The black angel on the Secretary's carriage spied her as she stood in the pouring rain, and recognized under all time's disguises the features her fashionable friends had not seen for years. It's wonderful what sharp eyes these good old colored "uncles" and "mommies" have. He drove up to the curb at once and leaning over on his perch invited the poor puzzled woman to get in the Secretary's carriage and ride home. Without a thought of the consequences to the faithful old fool on the box she murmured her address, fortunately near at hand, and sank back luxuriously on the soft cushions of the handsome carriage. Taking all the risks, the fine old fellow drove carefully yet quickly to the shabby boarding house, and was back long before the Secretary was ready for him. I would never have known, had the loyal old servant not told me, that the widow's husband was a general who was famous when the Secretary was unknown, although I could have been quite sure that old Thomas drove her carriage when she had one.

A Parrot Testifies in Court.

Jacob Brach was arrested in New York at the instance of Robert Strauss, for stealing a parrot valued at \$250. The case came before Justice Kiehl. It was agreed that the bird should be placed on the witness-stand and testify as to which party it belonged to, the court holding that there were no rules of evidence preventing it. There was a large crowd in the room, and the novel proceedings caused much amusement. The parrot, which is of the great macaw species, is a beautiful bird, with green, blue and orange plumage, its wings being almost black. It was taken out of its cage and placed on the iron railing in front of the Judge. "Wie gehts?" asked Judge Kiehl of the witness in German. The bird made no reply, but looked solemn. The Judge then tried English, and asked: "What is your name?" "Cheese it, you gray-headed old spalpeen!" shouted the parrot in reply. The Judge grew red in the face and the spectators laughed.

"You impudent thing. If you address me in that manner I will fine you for contempt," said the court.

"Oh, give us a rest, will you?" piped the bird. One of the attorneys gave the parrot a pretzel, which it ate with great relish, and when it was again asked for its name it replied:

"Polly Strauss, Polly Brach, O——!" finishing the sentence with a tremendous oath, which greatly shocked the court and lawyers. Some one in the rear end of the room shouted:

"Does Polly want a drink?" Thereupon Polly flapped her wings and flew out of the court room. The case was concluded owing to the absence of the witness.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

The first passenger train passed over the Pemigewasset Railroad a short time since. If that word should ever get upon the track there will be a fearful smash-up.

Botanists report the discovery among the flora of the far West, of a plant whose stalk resembles the human leg. Of course this must belong to the leg-human-oid order.

Cincinnati takes a fiendish satisfaction in acknowledging that she is the worst paved city in the United States. Railroad passengers being transferred are willing to walk and pay for the privilege.

Some of the big, dry reviews ask newspaper editors not to copy their articles entire. It looks like satire, but of course cannot be, because the big reviews know nothing about fun.

The Khedive of Egypt has his family doctor and his horse doctor, and while the first has a salary of \$3,000 per year the second is paid about \$9,000. The Khe. is not the man to take any chances of losing a horse.

Russia averaged ten murders per day last year, and there is every reason to believe that she will raise the record for the twelve months to come. Chicago made a miss of it in not being located in Russia.

The price of beef in Brandon is from twenty to twenty-five cents.

Barnum is a great temperance reformer and lecturer, but one of his greatest reforms he has said very little about. Perhaps it speaks, or rather keeps silence, for itself. He said to a Philadelphia reporter: "people go to a circus to see, not to hear, and none of our clowns attempt to talk. We allowed them to talk for a day or two, but the tent is so large that not one-third of those present heard what they said, and I guess they didn't lose much. I haven't a great opinion of talking clowns, and to prove that their acts are not now so effective as pantomimes we dressed up a man as a 'dude' in New York the other night and sent him in to idle about the rings. He didn't have a word to say, but his appearance and pantomime took the audience by storm and he made the hit of the week."

ALL SORTS.

A corn crop—The chicken's.
Up in arms—The midnight baby.
A mixed gathering—Vulgar fractions.
A train-dispatcher—a broken trestle.
An infuriated skipper is the hopping mad sailor.

Affability is a prerequisite to taffy affability.
Many wealthy Celestials live on tea grounds.

"A dream of fair women"—Rich men.
We are told that the fool and his money were soon parted; but the fool must have money to be parted from. Score one for the fool.

It is wrong to poach chickens, but perfectly proper to poach eggs. So you see there is a difference 'twix tweedledum and tweedledee.

When a man arrives home at 2 o'clock in the morning, and his wife slams her foot down without saying a word, it may be regarded as a storm signal.

Pugilists are generally considered plucky fellows, but none of them get through with a sparring match without fainting.

"You can't move Brown, he is so wedded to his own opinions." "Opinion, not opinions. You can't convict Brown of bigamy on that lay."

Distinguished Amateur—"I—r—rub out a great deal. Most of my effects are got by that." Old Snarley—"Ah, capital process! Only you don't carry it quite far enough!"—London Punch.

A scientist says that a discord struck violently on a piano will kill a lizard. It may be, but one can't always get at a piano so easily as he can grab a stick, which is just as good.

"Why are politicians always talking about the party platform, my dear?" queried Mrs. Rattler of her husband. "Looking for the 'deals,' my love," rejoined Rattler.

"That's the right-full heir to a large estate," quoth Rattler to Smithers at Parker's this morning. "Yes, I see he's pretty drunk," returned S.

It is a breach of etiquette never to be forgiven to sneeze in the presence of royalty, but royalty has never bothered itself to tell a man what to do with his nose when he feels a sneeze working along up his suspenders.

A New York millner has set the country in a flutter by discovering that only one woman in ten wears the plume on the fashionable side of the hat. When you see a woman with two plumes just admire her sharpness.

The newest and finest bridge in Pittsburgh is receiving a coat of sky-blue paint. A bridge, to be solid, of course ought to be azure thing.

Joaquin Miller says the daily newspaper is "the six-shooter of civilization." Then a man who carries a newspaper in his pocket is liable to be arrested for carrying concealed weapons.

"It does beat all what rascality there is in this world," exclaimed Farmer John, angrily. "The last ton of soapstone that I bought is so much adulterated that it is not fit to adulterate my butter with."

"So Jack has strained himself training for the double scull race?" said a Harvard boy to his chum on the float. "Yes, Jack was never very strong." "And now," chimed in the first speaker, "now he's row-bust."

It has been asserted that a young lady who had been "tornaken by her lover was a cut-lass." Evidently the lover wanted to sabre from an unhappy marriage.

The unfortunate women who toil at the sewing machine are confronted with this additional danger. When they get mad at the machine it's certain to bring on a hemorrhage.

Conversation: "You say that Snaggs won't pay you that note? Is he embarrassed?" "Well, he won't pay the note; say she can't, but he didn't seem to be a bit embarrassed! Never saw such cheek."

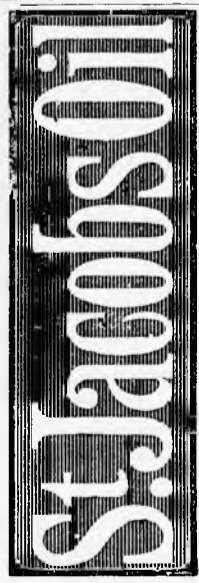
Mr. Abraham W. Marks, of Austin, got a divorce from Rachel Wells one week after he married her, and led to the altar Kate Wells, her sister.—Virginia City Chronicle. He loved not wisely, but too Wells, as it were.

Yeast was invented in the year Leaven—New York News. And gaming in the year won.—Henderson (N. C.) Gold Leaf. Fingers were made in the year five, and the first free lunch disappeared in the year ate.—New York News.

Nature was wise when it ordained that chickens should not have teeth. If it were possible to look into a chicken's mouth and tell its age, like that of a horse, by its teeth it would be a square give away on the farmer who was trying to palm off an old hen as a young pullet.

The pistol which a Cincinnati woman said was the one her husband threatened to shoot her with proved to be a beer faucet. Any man who will carry a beer faucet about his person is a dangerous character and should be watched. A beer faucet, when loaded, is about as dangerous as a pistol.

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If a man shoots a wig does he bring down a hare?

A Fine Hit.
When the proprietors of Burdock Blood Bitters put this renowned medicine on the market, they hit it exactly. They hit dyspepsia, indigestion, and the liver and kidney complaints a hard blow, from which they will never recover. (19)

Dealers in antiquities will pay a big price for the last straw which broke the camel's back.

An Excellent Report.
Hon. Jos. C. Goodridge, of Brooklyn, N. Y., writes: "I cannot express myself in sufficiently praiseworthy terms of Burdock Blood Bitters which I have used for the past two years with great benefit." (22)

Gold thistles are now being used for bonnet trimmings. Thistles make new bonnets more expensive than ever.

First Rate Evidence.
"Often unable to attend business, being subject to serious disorder of the kidneys. After a long siege of sickness, tried Burdock Blood Bitters and was relieved by hal a bottle." Mr. B. Turner, of Rochester, N. Y., takes the pains to write. (24)

A blush is modesty's headlight; but a good many trains are run without headlights.

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Price 25 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists. (Electric snot Electric.)

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My Mother.

Has been using your Burdock Blood Bitters as a liver remedy, and finds them very efficacious. Chas. L. Ainsworth, 41 Vance Block, Indianapolis, Ind. (20)

Red Cloud has discovered a gold mine on his reservation. He is one of the few clouds which have a golden lining.

Mr. Joseph Hatch, of Bayham, writes: I had rheumatism for two years at every change of weather in my shoulder and arm until finally they were useless. I became so much worse I could not turn my head on my pillow. I took a dollar's worth of Rheumatic Repellant and was soon cured. I have worked out in all kinds of weather for a year and a half, and not had a particle of rheumatism. I would advise all to use this preparation.

"Charge, Chest-er!" should the druggist as he sold a lung pad on credit.

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Jeems says his boarding-house is too slow. He told the old lady recently that hereafter he'd like to dynamite earlier.

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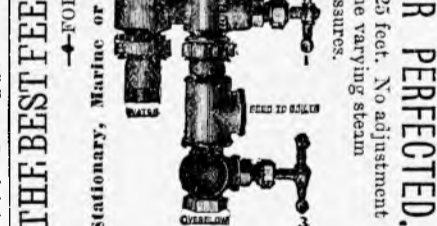
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