

## FIFTY YEARS AGO

Canada in 1837.

It may be interesting, if not profitable, at a time when everybody is talking of the half century of progress under Queen Victoria to glance at the condition of Canada in the year her Majesty ascended the throne. The winter of 1836-37 was an extraordinarily severe one, and it was as enduring as it was intense. In both Upper and Lower Canada, owing to the poverty of the crops in the previous year, there was a scarcity of food. As a result, bread was selling in some portions of the Upper Province at elevenpence a two-pound loaf. In Toronto the mechanics were in a state of destitution; while in the eastern part of Lower Canada there was a famine and the people were perishing by the score. In Montreal subscriptions were taken up for the relief of the hungry, and these were forwarded to the stricken Lower Canada districts accompanied by a liberal consignment of friendly admonition. The advice to the famishing farmers was that they should abandon husbandry and take to fishing. It was pointed out that the American fishermen, in violation of the Treaty of 1818, were prosecuting their calling in the Gulf, eighteen hundred vessels being employed in Canadian waters, and it was suggested that the Canadians should assert their rights and catch for the market the piscatorial wealth swarming along their coasts. In Nova Scotia the difficulty with the Americans was as keen as the trouble in the Gulf, and the Lieutenant-Governor found it necessary to announce to the Legislature when it opened in April that it would afford him peculiar satisfaction to make arrangements for the protection of the fisheries, by the employment of small cruisers, so that "this open disregard for the stipulations of an existing treaty, as well as the illicit traffic with which it is too frequently accompanied, may be in a great measure prevented."

The severe winter was followed by a late spring. In April the snow was so deep in the neighborhood of Quebec that the moose and common deer were unable to escape the pursuer, and many were run down and clubbed to death. In May there were further falls of snow. On the fifteenth of the month ice formed in Quebec, and on the 15th it was reported from Perth that there had been frost every night for a week. At this late date there was very little wheat sown, and there was a danger that it would be impossible to get a crop in, for the frosts were constant and the snow held its ground in the neighborhood of the fences. Among the Upper Canadian politicians the idea prevailed that by the prosecution of public works on a liberal scale the depression could be relieved and new life could be infused into the commerce of the province. Grants, large for that day, were therefore made to various public enterprises. In the first place the sum of £500,000 was voted for the repair of roads. To meet the interest upon this sum, and to provide for the repayment of the loan necessitated by the outlay, a system of provincial taxation was levied. Every hundred acre farm situated on a new or improved road had to pay five shillings a year, every two-horse wagon five shillings, every four-wheeled carriage ten shillings, and every horse one shilling and threepence. Assistance to the extent of £245,000 was also given in the shape of a loan to the Welland Canal Company to enable the company to complete its work, and £77,000 was voted for the Trent Valley Canal, an undertaking which remains unfinished to this day. In addition the Legislature chartered numerous lines of railway. The first railway in Canada running from Champlain to St. Johns in Lower Canada was opened in the previous year, and there was a perfect mania for the introduction of the new style of locomotion into the Upper Province. One of the first lines to be authorized was a railway from Hamilton to Sandwich, the Great Western presumably. A peculiar feature of the charter for this road was a clause stipulating that if the railway should not yield, when completed, a profit large enough to pay the interest on the capital borrowed for construction purposes, the Gore, London and Western districts, through which the road ran, were to be assessed to meet the deficiency, and if necessary to pay off the principal. When this charter passed there were public rejoicings at Hamilton and London. In the former city "the proud standard of England was elevated on the public buildings;" the people shouted vehemently, and Dundurn castle was illuminated. In the latter "the glow of lighted windows, the vivid blaze of bonfires and the brilliant coruscations of fire balls" made the night famous. Two other railways were projected at this time, the Northern and a road from Cobourg north. To the Northern the Legislature loaned £100,000. There was a severe battle over the terminus of this road, Toronto and Hamilton struggling for the southern terminus and Collingwood and Penatanguishene for the northern terminus. As a result of the location of the terminus of the Great Western, then called the Hamilton and Sandwich road, at Hamilton a great land boom struck the city, and town lots were sold at as high a price as \$200 a foot. In order to provide with a population the Legislature petitioned the Governor to send emigration agents to England. There were, however, no public funds for this enterprise, no subscriptions taken up to cover the expenses of one agency in the Mother Country. The inducements to emigrate to Canada were not very great in those days. The trip across the Atlantic by immigrant ship, usually a returning lumber vessel, occupied from fifty to seventy-five days, and it was not a very safe voyage either, for two years earlier seventeen ships bound for Canada were lost, and with them 730 emigrants. The fare from London to Quebec was £6, and the emigrant rate thence to Toronto was £1 11s., food being extra. Mechanics' wages in Upper Canada averaged \$1.25 per day, and land was obtainable at five shillings an acre. There were no free grants except to United Empire Loyalists. At that time what is now Western Ontario was called "the far west." To this section the emigrants of an agricultural turn of mind bent their steps. A Hamilton paper reports that every day "a dozen or two of well-laden waggons pass our office with respectable families on the way to the land of promise."

Postal and tariff matters were managed entirely by the Home authorities. From Toronto there was a mail three times a week, and the postage on a letter to Montreal was thirty cents. The Upper Canada Legislature was, according to the proceedings of 1837, content that the English postoffice accounts should be submitted to it for consideration, and that the rates should be reduced by one-third. The fiscal policy was

arranged on a protective basis. All British goods, and all goods the produce of places under the East Indian Companies charter, except articles specially mentioned and all articles subject to duty, which had already paid duty at some port in the United Kingdom paid on entering Canada, two and a half per cent. *ad valorem*. Gunpowder, arms, tea, sugar and coffee could not be imported at all except from the United Kingdom or a British colony. Spirits imported from Great Britain were subject to a duty of sixpence a gallon; but spirits entering Great Britain from Canada were subject to a duty of £1 per gallon. There was a discrimination, however, in favour of Canada as against foreign spirits imported into Great Britain; for the duty on foreign spirits was £1 10s. per gallon. At the same time the tariff on spirits imported into Canada was made to discriminate in favour of Great Britain, the duty on foreign spirits in Canada being a shilling a gallon more than upon British spirits. On foreign-made clocks and watches, leather, linen, books, papers and silk there was a duty of thirty per cent., 27 1/2 per cent. more than upon similar British goods; on refined sugar, tobacco, glass and cotton of foreign make the duty was twenty per cent. In order to force a trade between Canada and the West Indies a duty of five shillings a barrel was placed upon foreign flour entering the West Indies, while Canadian flour was allowed in free. As, however, American flour had been sent to the West Indies via Nova Scotia a duty of five shillings was placed upon flour in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, but American flour could still enter Upper Canada free of duty, and it is said that much of that flour found its way by this route touching at Montreal and Quebec, to Jamaica. A somewhat similar tariff arrangement was made in favour of the Canadian timber trade, for Canadian timber could enter the United Kingdom at one-ninth the duty imposed upon foreign timber. The duties collected at Quebec were divided between Upper and Lower Canada, the former getting one third of the revenue and the latter two-thirds, until 1837, when a new arrangement was made, under which the Upper Province secured five per cent. more of revenue. Montreal at this time was coming to the front as a port of entry. The Upper Canadians saw the possibilities before it, and with a view probably to securing a larger and fairer share of the customs duties they petitioned the King through their Legislature asking that the entire Island of Montreal be annexed to Upper Canada so that the city might become their seaport. Nothing came of this prayer, the union of the provinces making an answer to it unnecessary. After the forwarding of this petition the people of Toronto prepared a memorial to the Congress of the United States urging that wheat, flour and lumber be admitted from Upper Canada free of duty. As at this time American flour and wheat could enter Upper Canada free, compliance with this request would have been a reciprocal privilege; but Congress was unwilling to grant it. Wheat, however, was bringing six and threepence, or a dollar and a half a bushel in Upper Canada at the time.

### Seizure of American Fishing Vessels.

On the 2nd of June, Fishing Officer Fraser, of Victoria Harbor, received instructions from Ottawa to proceed to Georgian Bay and seize the fishing boats and equipments belonging to Messrs. H. S. Davis & Co., of Detroit, Mich. Officer Fraser chartered the steam tug Mabel, and secured Captain Landrigan, of the 35th Battalion, and a small company of picked men, adapted to the importance of the expedition, and then sailed to the north shore of Georgian Bay, and near French River, on the 4th of June, captured six American fishing vessels, over 80,000 pounds of fish and 200 nets. When the fishermen found that they were prisoners, they attempted to retake possession of their boats by force. Officer Fraser placed his men in commanding positions, and then informed the fishermen that, if they attempted to board the vessels, it would be at the peril of their lives. One of them made an attempt, with one hand on his revolver. Fraser ordered Mr. Swatze to draw a bead on him with his gun, which he did; for a moment life hung on a single thread and the excitement was great, but the fisherman recovered his senses and withdrew his hand from his revolver. On Saturday morning, June 4th, about 3 o'clock, Officer Fraser and party departed from French River, having in tow the three best vessels. They arrived at Byng Inlet North, at 11 a. m., and stripped the vessels of their canvas, rigging, etc., and then placed the vessels in charge of her Majesty's Customs Officer, to hold until further orders. The expedition then left for the fishing grounds, where the Americans have their nets set. Officer Fraser is to take with him the Midland and Collingwood fishermen to assist him in taking up the 200 nets. The vessels are strongly guarded night and day, and any attempt to take them without authority would be useless. The vessels are American built and rigged throughout and manned by American seamen. Lively times are expected and the end is not yet.

### The Ways of Prairie Dogs.

Mr. Trimble says it is "now settled beyond all question that the prairie dog hibernates." That is to say, he falls into a state of profound torpidity, like a snake, on the approach of cold weather, his life suspended and practically extinct, until the return of warm weather revives him. It may be so in boreal Montana, but it is not so here. The prairie dog does not like cold weather, and he particularly hates it when it is wet and cold at the same time. When it is raining, hailing or snowing he hugs his hole in the ground; but he does not curl up for a three or four months' sleep and bid adieu to the world and all its joys. No, indeed; he is having a grand time of it down below with his friends. Perhaps he is practicing the art of the pugilist or wrestles in friendly matches, perhaps improving his residence; perhaps holding high discussions on matters of state. Perhaps they distill some sort of intoxicant and all get drunk on punch. I am told that in winter, when all things are snowed up in Canada, Vermont, Maine and other circumpolar regions, the people have their greatest gaiety, feasting, dancing, having a fine time generally, because they can't do anything else. And it is evidently so with the prairie dogs in these parts. Mr. Trimble says they have "tons of hay" stored away in their holes. Why should they go to such labor if they know they are to sleep all winter? For they cannot eat while sleeping.

## A Land Boom in Kansas.

Omaha man—"Are you making a fair living out of your Kansas farm?" Kansas man—"Living? Why, I'm rich! You see there was a little piece of poor ground back of the dug-out which wasn't fit for anything. Well, one night Brother Jake dreamed there was gold under it, and the next morning he offered me \$100 for it, on long time, of course, for he hadn't any money,—and I sold it."—"Yes."—"Well, Brother Bill heard of Jake's dream and bought the lot of him for \$1,000—in the same way, you know. Then I got scared and bought it back for \$5,000. Then I sold it to Bill for \$10,000; and so it went until a few days ago, when I got the lot again and sold it to Jake for \$100,000. Just think of it! No more farming for me."—"But what security have you to show for all that value if Jake has no money?"—"Why, I've got a mortgage on the lot." Some years ago one of the most interesting newspaper columns of the day was written for the *Illustrated London News* by one of the famous *Punch* crowd of journalists, the late Shirley Brooks. It was entitled "Nothing in the Papers." It always struck us as singularly inappropriate for the simple reason that the article itself was in a paper and it was as full of good gossip news as the average egg of meat, to use a rather ancient and common-place simile. If Mr. Brooks were living now and visiting in Canada he might with some show of reason head his article, "Nothing in the Papers," for practically it is true, unless from twelve to fifteen hard solid columns of religious convention routine day after day can be called "something." It is certainly not "news," and the vast amount of it could well be left to the different religious papers to chronicle. The pattern newspapers of to-day are the big New York dailies. It is true they are not so substantial in their contents as the big London dailies, but they are more readable from their snappy, newsy character. They would not dare to sling two or three pages of nonpariel seven days of the week of mere records of business religion at their readers. If they did their circulation would rapidly disappear, and the paper that returned to secular subjects first would get the run. That is just what is happening in Toronto, and the big dailies, whose diffusion is constantly becoming more and more circumscribed, will, in time, realize the fact, but it will be too late. It is not in the order of things that seven days a week should be given up almost entirely to our devotions. If it were so then the order would be reversed, and the devotions would become "labor," and instead of seeking repose in the blessed calm of true Christianity on the seventh day, we should have to seek recreation in things worldly on that day. We submit, with all respect, to our big contemporaries, that a couple of columns each day in larger type of personal and material description of these May and June religious meetings would be far more widely read, and tremendously of more general interest than the routine cart-load that is now shovelled up morning after morning. Nowadays all things have to be made palatable. We furnish our churches after the fashion of opera houses and we sugar-coat our pills.

## Two Hundred Years Ago.

At the present time it will be interesting to Englishmen to take even a longer retrospect than the occasion of the Jubilee suggests. Those who wish to do so need only turn to Macaulay's admirable description of the condition of their country two hundred years ago. At that time the population of England was about 5,000,000; whereas, at the last census, that of England and Wales was nearly 26,000,000. Thousands of square miles now highly cultivated were then moors overgrown with furze or fens abandoned to the wild duck. Down to the eighteenth century much of the country north of the Trent was in a state of barbarism. In Northumberland bloodhounds were kept to track robbers, and the judges on circuit, with the sheriff and his armed retainers, were compelled to carry their provisions with them, for the country between Newcastle and Carlisle was a dangerous wilderness. At Enfield, scarcely out of sight of London, was a region twenty-five miles in circumference which contained only three houses and scarcely any enclosed fields. Deer wandered there by thousands. In 1696 only 2,000,000 quarters of wheat were grown, and the product was consumed only by persons in easy circumstances. The cultivation of the turnip had only recently been introduced, and that vegetable was not used as food for animals, so that when grass was scarce it was difficult to keep cattle and sheep alive. The latter were killed and salted in large numbers at the beginning of the cold weather, and for several months even the gentry tasted little fresh animal food, except game and river fish. The sheep and cattle were small, and horses sold at about fifty shillings each. The greater part of the iron used was imported, and coal was utilized for domestic purposes only. The incomes of the country gentlemen, who seldom left their homes, even to go to London, were not more than one-fourth of what they are now. The yeomanry numbered about 160,000, with an average income of from £60 to £70 a year, and they were more in number than those who farmed the lands of others. Four-fifths of the "common-people" were employed in agriculture at 4d. a day with food—8d. without food. Four shillings a week was considered a fair average wage. A mechanic could exact a shilling a day; handloom weavers had been reduced to sixpence a day. The great majority of the people lived almost entirely on rye, barley and oats, and such articles as sugar, salt, soap, shoes and all articles of bedding were much dearer than now. Blankets were unknown until 1705. The class below the laborer and the artisan—one-fourth of the whole population—depended for a living upon parochial relief. No canals had been dug, and many of the roads during the greater part of the year were almost impassable for vehicles. The judges were unanimously of the opinion that by the common law of England no man not authorized by Crown had a right to publish political news. Such was the England of two hundred years ago. At the time of her Majesty's accession, of course, a wonderful change had taken place, but as we have already pointed out, the history of the national progress during the past half century is unparalleled in any similar period. Never before was there such a vast increase of industrial and social advantages, such a growth of education and of wealth, such development in the application of science, not only to arts and manufactures, but to all the needs of humanity.

## Modern Greece.

We find in the *New Englander* for April, from the pen of T. D. Seymour, an interesting article on life in modern Greece from which we copy the following paragraphs: "Traveling in Greece is no longer attended by the spice of danger from brigands. When I was in Greece in 1872, our party was escorted through Bœotia and Phocis by a squad of soldiers, telegrams were sent to half a dozen military posts to be specially watchful on our account, and the American minister thought it worthy of a paragraph in his report to the Department of State at Washington, that we had seen no brigands. Now, the evils of brigandage have been effectually quelled. The removal of the northern boundary of Greece has aided greatly in this. Poloponessus has been safe for years, but brigands with fleet horses could come from the Turkish frontier into Attica itself in a few hours, and return beyond the reach of Greek pursuit after they had done their work. A particularly painful transaction in the spring of 1870, when three young Englishmen and a Frenchman were killed, aroused the Greeks to do their utmost to put down the infernal disgrace that had grown up during the times of Turkish domination and the anarchy of the revolution.

The Inns of Greece do not abound in furniture. In the best hotel in Sparta, a city of nearly 10,000 inhabitants, one small washbowl, no larger than a soup plate, served for all the guests. The street is the usual slop-jar. In small hamlets washbowls are unknown. A request for water for washing would bring a small pitcher full; this was to be poured over the hands in ancient-Greek and modern school-boy fashion. Once at Thebes, at a hospitable private house, I found no water in my room, but when I came to the sitting-room in the morning, a trim servant-maid came forward with basin and handsome silver ewer, to pour water for my ablutions, just as the maid did in the house of the Homeric Odysseus.

My story has conveyed the impression that Greece is in poverty. This view is correct. The people live in a frugal manner, with an absence of luxuries and comforts that would seem like suffering to most of us. In order to escape from a sudden shower, I sought shelter in a cottage by the wayside. I found in it a small fire on the ground. By this fire was reclining an aged man, too feeble to sit up long. An infant was lying on some boughs in a corner; a small boy was playing with a small kid. Two or three rude shelves held the family stores. My agogates [guides] led my horse without ceremony into the hut, and gave him the place of the family donkey in the one common room. The dwelling had neither floor, chimney nor window. Another cottage was like this, but it had a raised platform to serve as bedroom. The better cottages have two stories, the lower floor being the stable, and the floor above being the family dwelling.

### Maharajah Dhuleep Singh.

The Maharajah Dhuleep Singh lived for many years in England on an income of £40,000 a year allowed him by the British Government as compensation for the revenues which he would have enjoyed as an Indian Prince. To fill the position and discharge the duties of an English country gentleman seemed to be his chief ambition. He professed Christianity and took an active part in county affairs. He even became candidate for a seat in Parliament. He remained in some respects, however, thoroughly Oriental. His expenditure exceeded his large income, and he imagined that the British Government should pay his debts. Because they refused, he renounced Christianity, left England, and under the name of Patrick Casey made his way to Moscow, where he now is in constant communication with M. Katkoff, owner of the Moscow Gazette, who has for some time played an extraordinary part in Russian affairs. It is supposed that Dhuleep contemplates rendering such aid to Russian designs on India as the grandson of the Lion of Lahore may yet be able to render. He thinks that the Sikhs would still recognise him as their Prince and revolt whenever he gave the order. The Russians imagine, it is said, that his influence is powerful in Afghanistan also. The London Times asserts that he possesses little influence either in Afghanistan or in the Punjab and that his "weight in the Anti-British scale" is trivial. His name, it says, is likely to be as potent or as insignificant at one spot as at another. Still he may serve M. Katkoff's purpose for a time. A mysterious personality in the opinion of the Russians, he may serve as an element for stirring to effervescence Russian fancies and hopes. More than that he cannot do, and the Government of India, the Times thinks, can regard his "series of superfluous vaunts, privations and pilgrimages with placid and unremorseful indifference." The advance of the Russians towards Herat may, however, give an appearance of more importance to his movements.

### Can Consumption Be Cured?

Considerable sensation has been caused in medical circles in Vienna—so the correspondent of The Daily Chronicle says—by the discovery of a supposed cure for consumption and other tubercular affections of the lungs and other parts of the body. The discoverer is Dr. Kolischer, a young operator in the clinical department of professor Albert. Dr. Kolischer, starting on the assumption that tuberculous occasionally heals naturally, owing to the tubercules becoming calcified, hit upon the idea of causing artificial calcification by means of hypodermic injections of a compound described as "calcium phosphoricum" into the limbs of persons affected with local tuberculosis. He made a number of experiments with a view of testing his discovery, and in every case the experiment turned out successful. At the last meeting of the Vienna Society of Physicians, Dr. Kolischer read a paper on the result of his experiments, and introduced to the meeting several persons who had been cured by his method. He is about to carry his experiments further by making similar experiments upon persons suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs.

Quick upon the heels of the report of the death in Brooklyn of Henry Chatfield, caused by an orange seed lodging in an intestine, comes a report of a like nature from Norwich, Conn. There Miss Marion Elsie Blackman, a teacher in the free academy, died a few days ago from the same cause.

## The Horse Laughed.

"Bet you a dollar I can make that horse laugh," said a man with a white hat as he patted a demure looking beast on the flank. "Does the horse know you?" asked a sady-eyed man, to whom the challenge was addressed. "Never saw him before in my life." "Is he the same as any other horse?" "Just the same, as far as I can see."

"Well, I'll have to go you a dollar for luck." The man with the white hat passed his hand over the nostrils of the beast, and then stepped back upon the sidewalk. A moment later the eyes of the horse began to roll, and then his upper lip shrivelled up so high that seven teeth sprang into view.

"See him laugh?" yelled the man with a white hat as he danced a Lancashire step on the flagging. Tears leaped to the eyes of the horse and his respirations came heavy and fast as he lifted his head into the air and uttered a hoarse guffaw.

"Give me the money; I win the bet," exclaimed the man with the white hat, amid a series of wheezes and snorts from the laughing beast. The sady-eyed man gave up his dollar and passed on. Just as the animal was about to drop down from exhaustion the man with the white hat pulled a blue-bottle fly from his victim's nostrils.

"That makes \$4 I have won to-day," he said, giving the horse a congratulatory slap. "It's rather tough on the critters, but a fellow must live, you know. You can use a fly for one experiment only, but when you have a bottle full, as I have here in my pocket, you do not mind the loss."

## England's Horse Supply.

The horse stock of England has of late been known not to have been entirely nor even nearly supplied from home breeders. Journals there have given the subject much attention within the past two or three years. A London contemporary, on this matter, lately makes public the following: "During the last twelve years there have been imported upward of 200,000 horses, for which we have paid £10,000,000. While farmers and landowners have been bemoaning the adversity of the times, the breeders on the continent have utilized the material we possessed, and have sent us, in many cases, the progeny of animals bought in this country. Many of our best cart mares have been taken away, and it seemed at one time as if the country would be denuded of every animal worthy of a premier prize. And on the other hand, with thoroughbred animals developed for speed, there was grave danger lest the quality of our native-bred horses would suffer to an almost irreparable extent. Perhaps this was partially owing to the old rural notion that railways would completely obviate all need for horses, but it was principally due to the lack of aim in breeding, and to the use of mares without character of any kind. Horse breeding was conducted on the haphazard style which can only result in failure. Happily, however, there has been an alteration in this respect. The societies formed in the present decade—namely, the Hunters' Improvement Society, the Hackney Stud Book Society, and the Shire Horse Society especially, have been instrumental in creating a change of public feeling, which already has had the effect of at once improving the quality of our horses and stimulating breeding, while the various horse parades have bred the ambition on the part of horse owners to possess better animals, and on the part of horse keepers to take pride in the appearance."

## Ferns.

Of the plants that grow in the woods there are none more interesting, to my mind, than the ferns. I well remember, when a boy, I noticed for the first time the brown spots that appear on the under sides of the fronds in the latter part of the summer. I wondered what the strange bodies were; what part they had in the life of the plant. I did not know that for a long time it had been a great puzzle to the botanists to tell what these brown patches were. A few years later, when I learned a little geology, my interest in ferns was greatly increased; for then I knew that this family of plants grew and flourished upon the earth ages and ages before the tall, thick-stemmed trees that now tower above them. In those days, we are told, the rich young earth was well nigh taken possession of by luxuriant fern forests. Their huge fronds bent and waved in the air; perhaps strange birds flew among them, and odd, unguinely reptiles hid in their cool shade. And these fern forests, growing year after year and century after century, gave rise to the immense coal deposits, the benefit of which we enjoy. From one-third to one-half of all the known species of coal plants, both in America and Europe, belong to the fern family.

## A Drink for the Hay Field.

I have just learned to make a very pleasant, mild, home-made beer, which is very suitable for a summer drink. As it sours quickly it should be kept in a cool place. Two quarts of barley parched to a very dark brown; two quarts of corn browned to the same color; two quarts of rice, dry hops; one cupful of ground ginger, or mashed ginger root can be used. Boil all together in a large sized kettle until the strength is extracted. From one to two hours of hard boiling will be required. Then pour the contents of the kettle into a sack and drain it into an earthen jar. Squeeze the sack as when making jelly. While this work is in operation, have four quarts of nice, fresh bran soaking. Put this into the sack and strain the water into the jar. Add brown sugar or molasses until it is slightly sweetened. When almost cool, add two dry yeast cakes, or one cup of liquid yeast. Stir it thoroughly, put it in a cool place, and in twenty-four hours it will be ready for use. If a tonic is needed for debility, add to the above ingredients, while boiling, sarsaparilla root, dandelion root and wild cherry bark.—*Ex.*

Rev. Dr. Talmage, being asked to give his main idea of preaching, said:—"I have just one idea in preaching, and have had that in mind for twenty-five years, it is helplessness. Every man in this world who is not a fool needs help. He needs it because of domestic troubles, physical ailments, depression from overwork, and a thousand other things. I start out with that idea always in the preparation and delivery of sermons, and have found people will come where they can get that help. There is a great sigh going up from the world, and the preacher should hear that sigh."