

# THE NEWS OF THE DAY.

CANADIAN.

The grasshopper plague threatens certain sections of British Columbia.

It is said that the Quebec Local Government have decided to subscribe \$10,000 towards the relief of the sufferers by the St. Sauveur fire.

Michael Lappan, found guilty at Brockville on the charge of robbery with violence, was sentenced to fourteen years in the Penitentiary.

The Montreal grand jury yesterday strongly recommended the lash as a proper punishment in all cases of indecent assault upon young children.

The Kingston Locomotive Company has just completed one of the heaviest single castings ever turned out in Canada. It is an 18,000 lb. crank for a pump.

Prof. Selwyn, of the Dominion Geological Department, believes that the County of Essex lies over a gas region, but that the region is very deep below the surface.

Application has been made to throw on a conviction in Montreal because one of the jurors got out of the jury room surreptitiously and went home to get a bottle of whiskey.

Without wishing to diminish the rights of creditors, the Montreal grand jury recommend that the law should be made less severe as regards the right of retaining debtors in prison.

On Sunday the new St. James' Methodist church, Montreal, one of the finest ecclesiastical structures on the continent, was opened for divine service. It has a seating capacity of 2,700.

There was a hailstorm at Lachine on Thursday night, and the stones are said to have been of an extraordinary size. One is said to have measured in diameter two inches and a quarter and one inch and a half.

Mr. S. M. Webb, of New Westminster, B. C., who is at present in Ottawa, says he has information to the effect that England and the United States have come to an understanding whereby no seizures of British vessels will be made in Behring Sea this season.

Mrs. Rowe, a Toronto lady, and her sister-in-law, Miss Rowe, of Brooklyn, while standing on the railway track in Coney Island taking ocean sketches, were run over by a train. Mrs. Rowe was instantly killed, and it is feared Miss Rowe has sustained fatal injuries.

AMERICAN.

One man died from the effects of heat in New York on Sunday, and half a dozen persons were prostrated.

Sitting Bull is recovering. He is reported as saying that he had never signed a treaty and never would for the opening of the reservation.

Martinsburg, W. Va., reports a storm of wind, rain and hail on Sunday which caused great damage, the hailstones killing a number of animals.

Two young men on Tuesday night fought a duel at St. Augustine, Tex., with bowie knives. One man is dead and the other is not expected to recover.

A steamer arrived at New York from Jamaica brings confirmation of the report that Hyppolite is in possession of Port-au-Prince, and Legitime is a fugitive.

Frank L. Woodruff, late assistant postmaster at Lawrence, Kansas, has been arrested on a charge of embezzling between \$50,000 and \$60,000 from the money deposit department of that office.

The Pinkerton detectives have succeeded in capturing Dulac, the French Canadian desperado, chief of a gang frequenting the Moose river wilderness, in Maine, for whose arrest the Dominion Government offered a reward.

The delay on the part of the United States Treasury Department in granting bonding privileges to the Canadian Pacific railway for their new line across the State of Maine is causing considerable anxiety to the directors of the company.

The German Baptist Convention, sitting in Harrisburg, Va., having decided on Wednesday that no man using tobacco was eligible as a committee man or delegate, yesterday came to the conclusion that it was a sin to raise tobacco or work in a tobacco factory.

FOREIGN.

The Lord Provost of Edinburgh refuses to officiate at the conferring of the freedom of that city on Mr. Parnell.

The "Journal de St. Petersburg" makes an emphatic denial of the alarmist reports attributing warlike intentions to Russia.

Mrs. Maybrick, who is accused of having caused the death of her husband by poison, was yesterday committed for trial at Liverpool.

The strike of dock labourers along the Clyde shows no signs of weakening, and there are now 6,000 men who have quit work.

Princess Eugenie Esterhazy, a leading Vienna beauty, died on Wednesday, it is said, of grief for the late Crown Prince Rudolf.

The Vienna papers use some very vigorous language in denouncing the intrigues of Russia and the Russophile party in Servia.

It is reported that Luchow, a Chinese city, was recently destroyed to a great extent by fire, and the loss of life is estimated at ten thousand.

It is reported that irregulars under Italian officers have captured and occupied Senabait, an important position on the Abyssinian frontier.

Lord Dufferin is very unwell. The combined influence of the Indian and Italian climates, it is feared, had a very pernicious effect upon his constitution.

The trial of General Boulanger will begin in August. It is believed the indictment is weak, but it will suffice to secure a sentence rendering the General ineligible to office.

The Austrian Clericals are deeply offended by the erection of a monument to the memory of Bruno in Rome, and the Vienna Vaterland says the fete was worthy of the devil.

Gen. Boulanger says that the documents recently obtained by the Paris authorities must have been secured through breach of trust, as only a select few knew of their existence.

The Westminster Review points out that there are 800,000 more widows than widowers in England, and moralises upon this fact in a ponderous and instructive manner.

The plebiscite taken in Edinburgh as to conferring the city freedom on Mr. Parnell resulted in 3,197 votes being recorded for honouring the Irish chief, while 17,808 voted against the proposition.

While Mr. Gladstone was passing through Wadebridge, Cornwall, a missile, supposed to have been a cartridge, was thrown at his carriage. The police, who appear to be more alarmed than the veteran, are making an investigation.

The Vienna Nouvelle Revue announces that it will shortly publish a letter from the Prince of Wales to King Leopold, in which he states that Emperor William's body is seriously attacked by disease, and that he cannot sleep without the use of drugs.

## That Horrible Catastrophe.

The Johnstown catastrophe becomes always more horrible as its extent and various accessories become more thoroughly known. Without doubt it is the most terrible thing of the kind which has ever taken place on this continent. Perhaps, taking everything into consideration, the most terrible that has taken place in any part of the world for centuries. No doubt it is quite true that inundations have taken place which have caused the destruction both of more property and of more lives. The overflows of the great rivers of China, and of other places, and the great inflowing of the North sea in the 13th century which formed the present Zuider Zee at once occur to every one as illustrations of this. But in the Johnstown horror there were peculiarities all its own. All these others may be spoken of as the operations of Nature overcoming the best industrial efforts of men. And so it was to be sure in this case. In this last, however, it is to be noted that the danger was created and maintained not for any useful industrial object but simply to meet the whims and minister to the pleasures of a few capricious self-indulgent and wasteful millionaires who had more money than they well knew how to make use of, and who accordingly created a lake of some three or four square miles in extent to be a standing menace to the whole neighborhood and for no purpose whatever except to promote their pleasures in the manner of the Roman nobles when Rome was going to ruin and had reached that point when it could neither hear its sins nor their remedy. Some people deprecatingly say that the members of that Angling club are good devout Christians and could never dream that their expensive toy was at all dangerous. Pahaw, for such Christianity! In such a world as our world any Christian men spend such fabulous sums as must have been expended in the creation and maintenance of this dangerous plaything—the danger of which they could not but perceive as indeed they did by the frequent examinations made of it and sent at their request by some of the best engineers of Pennsylvania! Such Christianity though common enough is the Christianity of Apicius or Lucullus, not of Jesus of Nazareth. The thousands of lives recklessly sacrificed to this self-indulgent whim cannot, of course, be recalled. But these men ought to be made to pay spanking damages even if the process should involve the loss of their last dollar and make them for the rest of their days obliged to earn their daily bread by the sweat of their brows, instead of making life one long selfish holiday in feeding rare fish in order that they might have the pleasure of catching them with all the etoeteras of yachting, feasting and frolicking, as if such doings were well pleasing in the eyes of the Almighty and all sanctified by a muttered prayer to keep their consciences quiet and their hearts serene.

## The Cronin Murder.

Since the Phoenix Park tragedy, no murder case has excited more general interest than that of Dr. Cronin, in Chicago. It was a murder so foul, and so premeditated, that it aroused universal detestation and eagerness to see the criminals revealed, and the good old doctrine of "a life for a life" acted upon. The case is being vigorously pushed by the Chicago lawyers who have charge of it in the interest of justice, and already a great deal of significant information has been elicited. Startling revelations are expected as the case proceeds. It is likely to prove emphatically one of the great murder trials of this last quarter of the nineteenth Century. The grand jury's verdict was to the effect that Cronin had been foully murdered, and that the assassins have to be looked for within the Clan-na-Gael society. They found further—and this part of their verdict ought especially to approve itself to the minds of all thoughtful liberty-loving men,—that secret societies like the Clan-na-Gael, are not in harmony with and are injurious to American institutions. Just so, and neither are they in harmony with but are highly injurious to Canadian institutions, and all other national institutions that are worth possessing. And therefore if they can be by any legitimate means put an end to and rooted up from the soil of this western continent, by all means let it be done, and let all the people say amen. In consequence of the jury's verdict a number of prominent Chicago Clan-na-Gael men have been arrested and held without bail, as accessories to the crime, if not perhaps the actual criminals. Among the men thus committed is a prominent lawyer named Sullivan. Moroney and McDonald of New York have also been arrested on a similar charge. About the former of these two men a strong chain of circumstantial evidence has already been wound. Canadian and all other loyal British subjects may well pray that this detestable crime may be brought home to that dangerous organization the Clan-na-Gael Society, which is notoriously hostile to everything British, and whose species of loyalty to Irish interests amounts to insane hatred of everything that is Scotch and English. It is avowedly in favour of "physical force," and "physical force" is a mere euphemism for murder whenever in the opinion of the chiefs of the society that dernier resort becomes necessary. It was all but certainly the Clan-na-Gael that murdered Cavendish, and if the Clan-na-Gael has not murdered Cronin, it is not because of anything in its constitution that prevents such a crime. The fact of the matter is that the Clan-na-Gael belongs to that class of secret society which might have done in Sicily about a century or two ago, but which ought not to be tolerated nowadays in any civilized community.

## LABOR.

Labor, in political economy, is a term so dependent for its meaning on the circumstances in which it is used, that any scientific definition of it would lead to misunderstanding. The best service, in fact, towards rendering it intelligible, is to clear away some attempts that have been made to subject it to scientific analysis and definition. It has been separated into productive and unproductive, but no such division can be fixed. A man who contributes to make a book, of course appears as a productive laborer, but what the author contributes is not matter, but intellect, and it would be difficult to maintain that he ceases to be productive if he deliver such matter in an oration or lecture. It is impossible to draw the line between bodily and intellectual labor, since there is scarcely a work to which man can put his hand which does not require some amount of thought. A distinction between capital and labor has often been attempted to be established, with very fallacious and dangerous results. Capital in active operation infers that its owner labors; for if he want profit from it, he must labor and often severely. In a large manufactory, where the proprietor is supposed to be a gentleman at large, drawing his fortune from the sweat of the brow of his fellow-men, he is often the most anxious and the hardest-worked man in the whole establishment. It is undoubtedly correct to divide human labor into two kinds, mental and physical; and to concede that without the one there could hardly be the other. It is only amongst the most laborious and industrious races that we find the most comprehensive and productive mental effort. That is, where the physical labor is the most varied and inventive. So far as the history of man has been traced, there has been found a condition of existence unaccompanied by labor, both physical and mental, the latter, certainly, in the earlier periods, devoted simply to the direction of the former towards the only absolute necessity, the sustenance of life. This brings us by way of a circle to our beginning, that mental labor must precede physical labor, while it can only increase and extend with the increase and extension of the latter, which is to say that while a mental impression of the conditions of hunger, and mental enquiry as to the existing means for allaying it must precede the physical effort to procure such means—mental effort will not proceed beyond this point, except co-relatively with the progress and extension of physical labor. It should then be borne in mind that in considering one kind of labor we are including the other, so intimate is the relation between them, and that the ratio of mental activity is in proportion to the multiplication of the varieties of physical labor. Such knowledge as we possess of prehistoric races has been derived from existing results of their labor, naturally of the most primitive character, rough-hewn implements and weapons of stone giving that period of human existence the distinctive title of the "stone age." After this came the discovery of the metals and what is termed the "bronze age," since which time there has appeared to be no possible limit to the extension of human labor, or to its resources in ways and means. As implements multiplied, wants increased, and the history of the human race is in fact a record of the wants of man and his devices for supplying them. One such device made its appearance very early in history, that of a division of labor, by which one individual became the fisherman, another the hunter, and a third the tailor of a settlement or group—such groups having originated in the instinct of preservation by members, and in the law of the value of numbers, as a factor in labor. On this principle, too, originated the soldier, or guard, whose duty it was to watch while others worked, and the messenger, or carrier, inefficient to originate, but useful to carry out the designs of those better qualified.

The report that the office-seekers at Washington have nearly worried President Harrison to death is borne out by the statement that between March 4 and May 18 he made 9,500 appointments. During the corresponding period of 1885 President Cleveland, according to the Springfield "Republican," filled only 2,000 offices. It might be mentioned in this connection that Republican sentiment on the subject of civil service reform seems to have undergone a remarkable change since the party's platform was formed and adopted at Chicago a year ago.

New York State's new law with regard to capital punishment provides that it shall apply only to criminals sentenced to death for crimes committed since the 1st of January last. Since that date about fifty murders have been committed in the State, but only one murderer has been convicted and sentenced, and as his counsel has appealed against the sentence on the ground of its unconstitutionality it is not at all improbable that the new method of execution will not be put into operation this year. It would seem that it is scarcely less difficult to punish a murderer across the line than it is for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle.

The Victoria, B. C., "Colonist" hints to the tail-twisters in the Senate that they fail to take into account one very important result of a war with the British Empire. Enormous quantities of the produce of the United States now find their market in the United Kingdom. A war would not only close this market, but the glut thus produced in the neighboring republic would force a reduction of prices that must cause distress from one end of the country to the other. The "Colonist" might add that this effect would outlast the war, for the United Kingdom having been led to draw its supplies from other quarters, would be unlikely to abandon the new channels of trade, and would ever afterwards offer less of a market for United States produce.

The closest estimates that can be made of the value of the property destroyed by the Pennsylvania floods are almost as appalling as the death list. The losses at Johnstown are put down at \$30,000,000, and those at various other cities outside of that district at \$13,000,000. In addition the railways have sustained damage to the extent of about \$1,250,000. When to these figures are added the losses by the Seattle fire, estimated at \$5,000,000, it will be seen that capital to the extent of \$50,000,000 has been totally wiped out within the space of a few days. This is a small sum as compared with the total private capital of the United States, but it becomes enormous when it is remembered that the loss is borne by but a few thousands of people.

## FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

THE DUTIES OF OLD MAIDS.

The first duty of the old maid, as "Lillian Mayne" so aptly expresses it, "is to make herself an independent woman—a thinker and a worker." She owes it to herself to make her existence as womanly, true, and healthful as it can possibly be, and to do this she must bravely face her position and uphold with dignity her part and lot in life. The old barbaric idea that a certain opprobrium was necessarily attached to her position is fast dying out, as civilization advances and woman has acquired the privilege of taking her destiny in her own hands. Formerly perhaps the class of old maids was composed of those girls who were outwardly unattractive, or who, from some deficiency in purse or position, were considered undesirable; now, however, it is often just the reverse, and their ranks are reinforced from the brightest, the richest, and the prettiest, whose lot is of their own choosing.

Among a number of young girls who grow up together it often happens that it is the most superior, the most innately refined, and the most truly cultured, who remain unmarried. And her friends will tell you that it is her own choice, that no one was more sought for, or more generally admired, and that many an honorable man who would fain have chosen her was obliged to turn to her less attractive but more approachable sisters. Yet in after years, these same self-important matrons and their children will twit her about being an old maid!

A thoughtful man once told me that the reason why most old maids had never married was because their ideals were so high that no living man could ever come up to them. "And what makes old bachelors?" I asked. "No man is an old bachelor of his own free will," he replied; "if a man doesn't marry it is because the woman he loves won't marry him." But whether a woman marries or does not marry she will naturally outlive her first ideals, simply because they are usually utterly impracticable; and if the truth were known there are probably quite as many disappointed ones among the married as among the unmarried women. Of course a true marriage where love reigns supreme is the happiest state known to man, but this golden ideal will be but seldom realized while so many men, and women too, marry from other causes than those prompted by true and heartfelt affection.

When a woman "begins to be about thirty years of age" and feels herself being set aside, then is the time for her to look calmly at the disadvantages of her position, take account of her resources, and assert her rights—unless she means, as some writer advises, to efface herself, and settle down as a nonentity in some brother's or sister's household. People are very apt to place the same value upon her that she places upon herself; if she is content to drudge day after day they only shake their heads sagely and say, "Oh, well sooner or later we all gravitate to our rightful positions." The old maid may think that she deserves credit for thus making a martyr of herself, but to my thinking, such a course is the result of pure cowardice. Much greater courage is required to face the battle of life as a soldier, than as a hanger-on of the soldier. Woman was designed as a helpmeet, not a servant, for man; as a dispenser of the good things of this world, not a beggar, dependent upon charity.

If she is poor and has to make her own way in the world, let her consider what it is she is best fitted for, and go to work with energy and self-denial to perfect herself in that, so as to take an honorable place among the world's bread-winners. She is still no worse off than her married sister in the same circumstances, who is compelled to begin her toil earlier and continue it later, conscious all the while that with her best endeavor she is unable to procure the necessities of life for those whom she loves better than her own soul.

If, on the other hand, the old maid has an income or a home in her own right, and is inclined to be domestic in her tastes, then let her keep house and invite some of her friends or relatives to come and live with her. But if she be a wise woman she will not surrender the right of controlling her own affairs to another until she has proved herself incompetent, for present development shows that as large a percentage of women who go into business are as successful financiers as men. Here, in her own house, if she holds the reins of government with firmness and discretion, who can be happier than our old maid? She may indulge in self-culture to her heart's content or gratify her taste in whatever direction it may happen to lie, with no one to say her nay. Every true woman finds enjoyment in ministering to the welfare of some living creature, in the consciousness that something weaker than herself is dependent upon her for its happiness; therefore pets of some kind are indispensable. If she loves children, there are any number of little waifs in the world for her to adopt and bring up as her own, who can say in after years as little "King Arthur," (in the story of that name by Miss Muloch) said to his little playmate who twittered him with his adoption, "My mother chose me for her child, but your mother had to take you whether she wanted you or not."

Or if the old maid prefers dumb pets to little human animals, she can fill her house with them and no one can say a word. There is as great sympathy and real appreciation of inmost thoughts between human and so-called brute friends as there is among mankind.

Who can imagine a more charming comrade for a ramble through the fields at sunset than an intelligent dog, or who would barter the silent companionship of a noble horse during a breezy ride over the hills, for any human friend whose obtuseness alone compels him to put his thoughts into words? And last, but not least, let our old maid see to it that she keeps her heart contented and happy, and her hands busy. She cannot throw sunshine on the pathway of others, unless she is sunny and sweet-tempered herself. If her heart and hands are always busy doing good for somebody, she will have no time to sit down and brood over small disappointments, puny discontents, and imagined slights. And she may rest well assured that there will be no lack of the loving ministrations of friends in her old age, if she spends the best years of her life in promoting the happiness of others.

M. WALTON.

## THE BEST TIME FOR A GIRL TO MARRY.

Probably the best time for the average civilized woman to marry would be any age between 24 and 36. It is not said that no

woman should marry earlier or later than either of these ages; but youth and health and vigor are ordinarily at their highest perfection between these two periods. Very early marriages are seldom desirable for girls, and that for many reasons. The brain is immature, the reason is feeble, and the character is unformed. The considerations which would prompt a girl to marry at 17 would in many cases have very little weight with her at 24. At 17 she is a child, at 24 a woman. Where a girl has intelligent parents, the seven years between 17 and 24 are the period when both mind and body are most amenable to wise discipline, and best repay the thought and toil devoted to their development. Before 17 few girls have learnt to understand what life is, what discipline is, what duty is. They cannot value what is best, either in the father's wisdom or in the mother's tenderness. When married at that childish period they are like young recruits taken fresh from the farm and the workshop, and hurried off to a long campaign without any period of preliminary drill and training; or like a schoolboy removed from school to a curacy without being sent to the university or to a theological hall. Who can help grieving over a child-wife, especially if she have children, and a husband who is an inexperienced, and, possibly, exacting boy-man? The ardor of his love soon cools; the visionary bliss of her poetical imagination vanishes like the summer mist; there is nothing left but disappointment and wonder that what promised to be so beautiful and long a day should have clouded over almost before sunrise.—[Hospital.]

## HOW TO TELL HER AGE.

Girls of a marriageable age do not like to tell how old they are, but you can find out by following the subjoined instructions, the young lady doing the figuring:—Tell her to put down the number of the month in which she was born, then to multiply it by 2, then to add 2, then to multiply it by 50, then to add her age, then to subtract 366, then to add 515, then tell her to tell you the amount she has left. The two figures to the right will tell you her age and the remainder the month of her birth. For example, the amount is 822, she is 22 years old, and was born in the eighth month (August). Try it.

## IT WAS ALL RIGHT.

Our marriage is not a failure, is it dear? No. And we just live like two turtle doves in eap year, and not a riplet rises to mar the harmony of our gentle flowing lives, does it?

No. And you love to bring up the coal for me and hang out the clothes, and build the fires in the morning, and do everything to make your little wife happy.

Y-e-s. And you want me to ask mother down to spend a couple of months with us? Now, don't say no, but come and kiss me, that's a dear.

Yes; I will when you drop that rolling-pin.

## NOTES.

There are now 600 Irish ladies, impoverished because unable to collect any rent for their property, selling their work through the agency of a London committee headed by the Queen and having the Princess Louise for one of its members. Open-work table linen and bed spreads constitutes the greater part of the exhibition of these ladies' work, but embroidery of many sorts, and bonnets, hats and caps are included in it.

A traveller recently returned from Turkey says that the dress of the ladies of Constantinople has become so much like that of their "infidel" sisters, that a wife of the sultan would attract very little attention in an American street. The "feridje," the large shrouding mantle, is shopped almost like a dolman, and its flap on the back has diminished to a collar which is fastened by a knot of ribbon in front, and is sometimes trimmed with lace. The "yashmak," or veil, is very thin, and long gloves are worn.

Prince A Metternich of Austria will soon visit Paris. This is important news for Paris. The Princess is the wittiest, most dangerous, brilliant, sarcastic and fascinating woman in Europe. She does the most eccentric things—to use a gentle adjective—and society applauds. To her is due the introduction of the circus among people of leisure. She is fond of smoking a pipe, and as she increases in years is more and more dependent on tobacco for consolation. She speaks a number of languages fluently, even the profane. Altogether she is the most picturesque woman in Europe.

## A Bit of History.

Mr. Henry Clews, the well-known New York broker, having sent a copy of his work "Twenty-eight Years in Wall Street" to Mr. Gladstone, has received from the latter a letter of acknowledgment, and a second one which reads as follows:—

"Having expressed my interest in the portions of your work which I read on the day of its arrival, I think it would be less than ingenious if I did not, after reading what relates to the Cabinet of Lord Palmerston on page fifty-six and in the following chapter, make some reference to it. Allow me to assure you that so far as that Cabinet is concerned you have been entirely misled in regard to matters of fact. As a member of it, and now nearly its sole surviving member, I can state that it never, at any time, dealt with the subject of recognizing the Southern States in your great Civil War excepting when it learned the proposition of the Emperor Napoleon III., and declined to entertain that proposition without qualification, hesitation, delay, or dissent. In the debate which took place on Mr. Roebuck's proposal for the negotiation, Lord Russell took no part, and could take none, as he was a member of the House of Lords. I spoke for the Cabinet. You will, I am sure, be glad to learn that there is no foundation for a charge which, had it been true, might have aided in keeping alive angry sentiments happily gone by. You are of course at liberty to publish this letter. To your reference in page 70 as a record of impressions, which I am not entitled to use, I can make no objection, though you are probably aware that they were many years ago the subject of a detailed explanation from me to the American Government and of a most handsome reply from Hamilton Fish."