

MISCELLANEOUS.

The barred and plaided mshairs in high and bright colors are in high favor for little girls' frocks.

Paper has long been made from woodpulp, but it is now manufactured from the sawdust refuse of mills. When tarred and dried it makes an admirable sheeting for houses.

Glycerine mixed with spirits is being used very largely for sharpening tools. The spirits are added in greater or less quantity according to whether the tools are fine or coarse.

Weight not correct.—Mr. Youngcouple—What is this cake you have made darling? Mrs. Youngcouple—A pound cake, sweetest. Mr. Youngcouple—I think there must be something the matter with the scales.

Arthur—"Yes, indeed, if you happen to send us any poetry that we may choose to accept we'll put your name after it. By so doing we may escape a deal of trouble by letting our readers know who to kill."

Baldhead—"There is a hair in this soup." Waiter—"Probably some of your own have dropped in." Baldhead—"I haven't a hair on my head." Waiter—"That's what made me think it might have got into the soup."

The Mennonite delegation who have been looking for land in the North-West have selected Calgary for their future home, and have asked the Dominion Government to reserve for them ten townships for five years.

A yacht was recently launched on the Thames by electrical appliances, which enabled all the supports to be removed on the pressing of a button, and the vessel glided into the water without the slightest hitch.

The Grocer—Good morning, Mr. Oatcake. What brings you back to the city so soon? Farmer Oatcake—Waal, I'm going to have a good many more summer boarders than I expected, so you might send me ten more cases of canned vegetables!

The native population of Benares, India, cannot have very advanced ideas as to the importance of sanitation, as one hundred thousand of them have signed a monster petition to the government protesting against the proposed new drainage and improved water supply.

"You shouldn't be so uncharitable toward your fellowmen," said a travelling man to a friend who had been railing at human nature in general. "Remember that all men are your brethren." "Yes," was the reply, "I do; and I've got a tremendous lot of mighty mean relations."

A "submarine bridge" is proposed between Elnor and Helsingborg, to be incased in a double tube, having the outer skin iron and the inner one steel, the space between the shells being filled with concrete. It is proposed submerging this bridge sufficiently to allow ships to pass over it.

Application has been made for a patent for an electric apparatus by which an instantaneous photograph is taken of a burglar while he is engaged in his nefarious operations. The moment he touches the door of the safe, or any other place to which the tell tale wire may be fastened, a correct photograph is taken.

Living skeleton (only one in America, at a dime museum)—"These folks make me tired." Sympathetic visitor—"In what way?" "Here I am earning \$500 a week as the greatest living skeleton, yet hour after hour, day in an' day out, one old woman after another steps an' chins and chins at me about the things I ought to eat to get fat."

The result of researches of MM. H. Dubief and I. Bruhl on bacteria shows that gaseous sulphuric acid has a destructive effect on germs contained in the air, especially when saturated by the vapor of water; that it acts mainly on the germs of bacteria, and that when employed in a pure state for a prolonged period it may prove fatal to germs even in pure air. This information should prove useful to those interested in the disinfection of hospitals, dwellings, &c.

The most valuable cat's-eye in the world has just reached Sweden. It came from Ceylon and was found by a laborer loading a cart with earth. He sold it for thirty rupees, and it then in its uncut state weighed 475 carats. Afterward it was sold for 9,000 rupees to a merchant, who had it cut. Its present weight is 170 carats, and it is insured for 30,000 rupees. We are told that cat's-eyes of good quality now sell for almost as much as diamonds.

Little Nan, of four summers, considering it her duty to entertain a lady who is waiting for mamma, enters into conversation. Nan—"Have you got any little girls?" The caller—"Yes, I have two." Nan—"Do you ever have to whip 'em?" The caller—"I'm afraid I have to, sometimes." Nan—"What do you whip 'em with?" The caller (amused)—"Oh, when they've been very naughty I take my slipper." Nan—(most feelingly, as mamma enters)—"Y-yo-yo ought to use a hair-brush; my mamma does and it hurts awfully."

CELLULAR CLOTHING.—This material is now coming into use in England, and is said to be a success. It is woven out of the same material as common cloth, put into cells, the network of which is covered over with a thin stuff. Its porous quality allows the passage of the inside and outside air, giving time for the outside air to become of the same temperature as the body, and thus obviating all danger of catching colds and allowing vapors exhaled by the body to pass off. The ordinary objection to cotton underwear is removed if made in this manner.

A Dr. Evans takes credit for discovering a new test for the freshness of eggs, which consist of holding them to the ear and violently shaking them. If not fresh an egg will rattle. There appears to be little novelty in this suggestion, as the practice is an old one. It is now claimed that an intangible test of vitality in an egg, true freshness, is to hold the broad end of an egg, gently pressed, on to the tip of your tongue. If fresh it will be distinctly warmer than the tongue, while the small end will be as distinctly cold. If the egg is not fresh both ends are cold on account of losing its vitality.

For the Babies

It is not necessary to buy corn cure. Men and women should remember that Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor is the only safe, sure and painless corn remover extant. It does its work quickly and with certainty. See that the signature N. C. Polson & Co. appears on each bottle. Beware of poisonous imitations.

Death by Electricity.

The case of the man Kemmler, condemned in the State of New York to suffer death by electricity for the crime of murder, is exciting a great deal of attention, and this chiefly because in the opinion of very many experts the mode of death is not only novel but unnecessarily cruel. It is convincing proof of the changed order of things under which we are living that there is a strong repugnance to inflicting unnecessary pain even on the most guilty criminals. Our sensibilities are much keener and more tender than those of our forefathers, our powers of imagination more active, and our abhorrence of everything like cruelty so powerful as to be almost indistinguishable. This tendency, creditable as it is in its essential nature to our humanity, may easily be pushed to an extreme. It often is pushed to an extreme, and we are afforded the unpleasing spectacle of ruffian criminals receiving better treatment at the hands of unintelligent sentimentalism than they could ever have expected had they remained steadfastly in the paths of rectitude. But aside from such morbid developments it is surely matter for rejoicing and thankfulness that our natures have become so refined that we inevitably shrink even in the interests of justice from compelling those who have offended against our laws from suffering more pain than is absolutely necessary. In older and more callous days, the more pain the law-breaker was made to suffer so much the better, and the general opinion was that for certain classes of crime he could not possibly suffer too much. Hence the atrocious forms of punishment the recital of which makes our blood run cold, and leads us almost to doubt whether such things could really have taken place among men who called themselves Christians and were our own ancestors.

Among our rough forefathers, had electricity been known, and thought of as a mode of death, it would never have been discussed whether or not such a method was not inhumanly cruel. Would it prove effective? That would have been the only thing thought worthy of debate. Was it painful enough, unusual enough, appalling enough to prove a deterrent from crime, an atonement to the majesty of offended law, and a solemn warning to the community. If it were all these then it was no matter how cruel it might be, what agonies of mind and body its infliction might occasion to the unfortunate victim. Such a being would have been regarded as one whose life was forfeited and who had, therefore, no rights which humane sentiment was under any obligations to consider. Nowadays, however, it is different, and we find numbers of busy men showing themselves not too busy to put in a plea in the name of pity and humane feeling, in behalf of a criminal whom they all believe worthy of death. It appears that the law which made electricity a mode of capital punishment in the State of New York was passed after consideration of certain experiments made by one Harold P. Brown, an electrician, on dogs and other lower animals. The opinions of other experts do not appear to have been sought. And yet if we are to believe the New York papers the great majority of the leading electrical experts in the United States condemn Mr. Brown's experiments as misleading, and pronounce it an outrage that such information should be accepted as a basis whereon to base a new plan for taking human life. One gentleman said in answer to an interviewer that animals are much more susceptible to electric influence than human beings are, another said he feared Kemmler would be badly mutilated before he would be killed, and none of them would venture the opinion that electricity would certainly prove a painless mode of death. All which goes to prove that if Kemmler's execution takes place as agreed upon, it is quite possible there may be some tragical scenes. First experiments are always dangerous.

A City to be Proud Of.

Mr. B. W. Potter, a special correspondent of the Worcester Spy, writing to that paper from this city, June 14, says:—One of the most striking things about Toronto is the rapidity of its recent growth in wealth and population. In 1850 the population was under 30,000; ten years ago it was less than 90,000, and to-day it is estimated at 180,000. This remarkable stride in population has been equalled by its strides in the erection of new buildings and the establishment of new industries. Wherever one goes in the business part of the city he sees fine new blocks in the process of erection, and in the suburbs whole sections of territory are being rapidly covered with substantial and beautiful dwelling houses of stone and brick. The streets are very wide and straight, many of them being eighty to one hundred feet wide, and usually there is a grass plot, with shade trees and sometimes flowers, between the sidewalks and the driveway. The cause of the city's wonderful advancement may be attributed to its splendid location for a commercial emporium, which makes it a great railway and waterway centre, and the market place of the rich Province of Ontario and the great North-West; and also to the ability, energy, and shrewdness of its business men, some of whom are Americans, and partly also to its attractions as a place of residence. The shaded streets, the parks, the cool breezes from the lake, its literary and educational advantages, and its accessibility from the great lakes and the St. Lawrence river, and the many summer resorts in this part of the country, all combine to make a summer or a winter residence in the provincial metropolis a joy and delight.

Shattered Hopes.

A woman in Gallion raised a splendid mustache and a beard nearly a foot long. A young man, with more business than love in his heart, waltzed along and married her. After the honeymoon he took her in his loving arms and hinted delicately at the untold wealth she could accumulate for herself and the royal style she could keep him in if she would accept a dime museum engagement. But she only stroked her long beard, and, raising her soft, liquid eyes to his, said that she would be hanged if she was going to support a great big lazy lubber like him. At last accounts she was dancing up and down in front of a mirror, waxing and curling the ends of her mustache and smoking a strong cigar to soothe her outraged feelings, while the cruelly deceived husband was running from one lawyer's office to another, trying to make arrangements for a divorce and meanwhile had taken to strong drink.

ADVICE TO BRIDE AND GROOM

Methods By Which Marriage Will Never Become a Failure.

In the first solitary hour after the ceremony take the bridegroom and demand a solemn vow of him, and give him a vow in return. Promise one another secretly never, even in jest, to wrangle with each other, on whatever pretext, with whatever excuse it may be. You must continually, and every moment, see clearly into each other's bosom. Even when one of you has committed a fault, wait not an instant, but confess it freely.

And as you keep nothing secret from each other, so, on the contrary, preserve the privacy of your house, married state and hear from father, mother, sister, brother, aunt, and all the world. You two, with God's help, build your own quiet world. Every third or fourth one whom you draw into it with you will form a party, and stand between you two.

Promise this to each other. Renew the vow at each temptation. You will find your account in it. Your souls will grow as it were, together, and at last become as one. Ah, if many a young pair had on their wedding day known this secret, how many marriages would be happier than, alas! they are now.

How a Cable Message is Received

Only the feeblest currents should be used on submarine lines, since heavy pulses which could be employed with impunity on land lines, if they did not soon destroy the cable-covering would, at least, tend to develop faults which otherwise might long remain latent. Defects in cable-covering that otherwise may not lead to harm admit moisture, and hence under the action of a strong current, oxides are quickly formed, destroying insulation. The necessary use, in ocean telegraphy, of the lightest currents has led to development of a class of recording instruments remarkable for delicacy of action—notably the Siphon Recorder, which indicates the electric impulses by a wavy ink-line on a tape, and the Reflecting Galvanometer, which causes a spot of light to move from right to left in a darkened room. With these recorders and thirty cells of battery, messages sent across the Atlantic are telegraphically reproduced in ink at the rate of from twenty to twenty-five words a minute, each way, the cable being duplexed. But for electrostatic induction a single cell of battery would suffice for transmission from the earth to the moon, if those bodies could be connected by a wire of the size used in ocean cables.

Dr. Von Lauer.

Dr. von Lauer, ex-surgeon general of the German army, who died a short time ago, was years ago appointed court physician by old Emperor William. In this capacity he was obliged to visit the ruler twice each day and subject him to a rigid examination. The physician gained great control over his master in the course of time, and was, in fact, the only person whom he would obey. The emperor often spoke of his tyranny in a playful manner, but was ever grateful for his thoughtfulness and care. There is little doubt that the great age which the monarch attained was due in part to the strict rules of diet and exercise which Dr. von Lauer always enforced.

Special and Annual Meeting OF THE ONTARIO MUTUAL LIFE.

THE attendance of members of this Company at its nineteenth annual meeting, in Waterloo, on May 23rd, 1889, though not quite so large as in some former years, was, as usual, both influential and representative.

The President, I. E. Bowman, Esq., M. P. having taken the chair, on motion the Secretary of the Company, W. H. Richardson, Esq., acted as Secretary of the Special and of the Annual Meeting.

The provisions of the Act passed at the last session of the Dominion Parliament to amend the Company's charter, having been explained by the chairman, on motion it was unanimously approved, whereupon the Special general meeting was dissolved.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

of the Company was then held. The Secretary having read the notice calling the meeting, on motion the minutes of last Annual Meeting were taken as read, and confirmed. The President then read the

DIRECTORS' REPORT:

It affords your Directors much pleasure, in submitting to you a statement of the affairs of our Company, to be able to report to the members that the next result of the business transacted during the year 1888 exceeds that of any previous year. The new assurances issued, amount to \$2,518,650, under 1,905 policies, and the total amount in force on 31st December is \$12,041,911, under 13,808 policies. The regular progressive increase of the past ten years in our Premium and Interest Income has been fully maintained.

Our total assets as at 31st December last amounted to \$1,313,853, and our surplus over and above all liabilities as at that date, to \$903,377, which is a very satisfactory showing after the liberal annual distributions which have hitherto been made. A portion of this surplus will be held in hand as a provision against future reductions in the rate of interest and other contingencies.

Our expense account for 1888 is about \$2,000 less than that of 1887, while the business transacted is considerably greater; and the ratio of expense has been reduced to 18.15 per cent, showing a reduction of 2 per cent, as compared with the previous year.

The policies in force at the close of the year have been valued by the officers of the Government Insurance Department and the reserve required to be held has been certified as correct by the Superintendent of Insurance for the Dominion. After the regular annual Audit, the Executive Committee of the board again carefully examined in detail all the securities and the general state of the assets and found them correct and in proper order. The detailed statement prepared and duly certified to by your Auditors is herewith submitted for your examination and disposal.

You will be called on to elect four Directors in the place of Mr. Britton, John Marshall, Francis O. Bruce and J. Kerr Fiskin, whose term of office has expired, but who are all eligible for re-election.

On behalf of the board,

ISAAC BOWMAN, Pres. Printed copies of the Financial Statement and Auditor's Report for 1888 having been distributed among the members, the President moved the adoption of the various reports. He congratulated the policy holders on the favorable results of the year's operations, obtained at a lower ratio of expenditure than in previous years and lower than the expense ratio of any of our Canadian competitors, with one exception only; while the volume of business has been well maintained and its quality improved. The new business of the current year was much in excess of that written during the same period in any previous year, evidencing the continued popularity of the Company and the confidence of the public in the management of the Directors. He had no hesitation in stating that the Ontario was never more deserving of the support and confidence of its members and of the patronage of the insuring public than it is at the present time. Mr. H. M. Britton, Esq., Q. C., James Trow, Esq., M. P., Joseph Ward, Esq., of the wholesale firm of Messrs Ward, Carter & Co., Montreal, and others ably supported the motion, which was adopted amid applause. Messrs Jackson and Scully having been re-appointed by vote of the members present, the report of the year, the Scrutineers appointed to take up the ballots having reported the re-election of the retiring Directors, and the customary vote of thanks to the Board, the Officers and the Agents having been tendered and accepted, the meeting was brought to a close. The Directors met subsequently and re-elected I. E. Bowman, President, and under the amended charter elected C. M. Taylor, 1st Vice and Robert Melvin 2nd Vice. President of the Company for the ensuing year.

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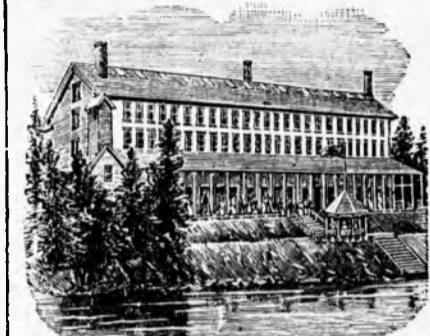
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