REMARKABLE PIANO.

The Only Instance Where the Action Was "On the Hog."

One Bouchet, who complied a history of Acquitaine, describes a remarkable pianoforte built for Louis XI. by the Abbe de Baigne. The king one day hearing a drove of hogs tuning up preparatory to a general rush for and promiscuous scramble at the slop pail, laughingly ordered the priest to contrive means by which these seemingly discordant sounds might produce harmony. Tradition does not affirm that the reverned gentleman scratched his head thereat, but owing to the prevalence of the tonsure it is safe to assert that he did not. Notwithstanding which, however, he managed to nicely grade the drove, from the thin treble of the shoat to the bassoon grunt of the tusked boar, and having arranged them in stalls under 1 pavilion announced to his astonished Majesty, who had not thought of the matter since, that the piano was in tune. TheKing, incredulous, attended, and when the Abbe struck the reys there poured forth to the delight of the entire court a burst of music such as Orpheus never conseived. The explanation, when the srafty prelate chose to expose his plan, was most simple. The keys being struck, a prong set in motion by the fello is going to the reception. action was stuck into the pig, grazand temperament of the player, the dress affair, isn't it? resulting squeal, howl or groan producing harmony.

BRIEFLY MENTIONED.

A woman's brain declines in weight after the age of 30.

While the wedding service is proseeding in Japan, the bride kindles a torch and the bridegroom lights a fire from it and burns the wife's playthings.

More than a century ago a meeting house was erected at the head of the Tuckahoe river, near Tuckahoe, Take up the white mans burden-N.J., and it was painted for the first time three weeks ago. Red was the polor.

In every city or town in the Netherlands you will find a Rosemary street. In olden days only undertakers lived with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they canin them, the rosemary being in the language of flowers, specially dedisated to the dead.

An Anglesea, N.J. gunner killed a duck a few days ago and attached to prescribed by one of the test physicians in this one of the duck's feet was a large clam. The duck had evidently been wading in shallow water and had stepped on a feeding bivalve.

Hunters at South Seaville, N.J., have exhausted all their ingenuity in trying to capture a white crow that lor more than a year has been living in the woods adjacent to the town with several hundred of its black companions.

CALENDARS.

the fact that no century can begin on Wednesday, Friday or Saturday. The same calendar, too, can be used every 10 years.

A WORD OF WARNING.

Great geniuses, they say, are always absent-minded.

Yes, but don't fool yourself; all ab-

cent-minded people are not great reniuses.

lowa Farms for Sale, \$2 per acre cash, Balunce & orop until paid. J. Mulhall, Sioux City, la.

Paper quilts are extensively used abroad by the poorer classes.

la Toscana, 10c. RELIANCE CIGAR FACTORY, Montreal.

The population of the world increases

10 per cent. every ten years. Por Over Fifty Years

psed by mothers for their children teething. It soothes can only be returned by purchase in she child, softens the guins, allays all pain, rures wind solio, and is the best remedy for diarrhosa. 250. a bottle. Sold by all druggists throughout the world. Be pure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup."

years.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tableta. All Druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

Hyenas always fight kneeling, the foreleg being the most vulnerable part of their body.

Many people suffer with catarrh un- | sively. til it becomes chronic, because they do not know how easily it may be cured. Ten days' free trial treatment ought to be convincing. Send fifteen cents to cover cost of mailing outfit. Dr. Ray's Successful Remedy Co., Toronto.

RECRIMINATION.

We had a frightful quarrel; he told me I was no spring chicken.

Shameful! What did you say? Well-I told him that he wasn't the waly canned mushroom in the market.

A Happy New Year Indeed

To those who believed there was ac cure for catarrh and to whom the constant use of ointments, snuffs and washes was a weariness to the flesh. A delightful and sure cure has been found. No need for fetid breath and broken voice. Send for a free sample outfit and be convinced. The name of this sure cure is Catarrhozone. Catarrhozone penetrates to the diseased parts in the form of a pine-scented gas. Write at once to N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

"Example is Better Than Precept."

It is not what we say, but what Hood's Sarsaparilla does, that tells the story. Thousands of testimonials are examples of what Hood's has done for others, and what it will do for you.

Scrofula - "Running scrofula sores made me shunned by neighbors. Medical treatment failed. A relative urged me to try Hood's Sarsaparilla. Did so and in few J. M. HATCH, Etna, N. H.

Inflammatory Rheumatism-"Two attacks of the grip left me with inflammatory rheumatism. Am 89 years old, but Hood's Sarsaparilla cured me and I can climb stairs and walk anywhere." J. Love-LAND, 375 Fargo Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

Never Disappoints Bood's Pills care liver ills; the non-irritating and

only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

ALL FAIR IN LOVE.

Miss Beauti-I wonder if Mr. Nice-Mr. Sharpfello (a rival of Mr. Niceing or piercing, according to the force fello-Um-let me see-its a full Of course,

> Yes, of course. How stupid of mcl If he goes he'll need his dress suit? Presumably.

Then, Miss Beauti, I feel sure you will meet him there. I saw him come out of a pawnbrokers this morning with a bundle under his arm.

THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN.

And the noble savage strode To the nearest bar that came in sight, And got him there a load.

Catarrh Cannot be Cured

not reach the stat of the discase. Catarrhie a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was country for years, and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tenics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the muceus surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

CURIOUS.

Miranda, visiting city friends,-My, here's her visitin' card. Miranda's husband-What does it

Miranda-It says she's at home A curious thing about the calendar is Thursdays. Wonder where she stops rest of the time.

THE PHOSPHATIC HEART.

Mr Wallace hit the nail on the head in summing up a lecture on "Manuring" before our Institute, when he said :- "So you see that after our careful study of geology and of soil physics,; of botany or the science of plants; of the proper feeding of plants and animals; of the history of our systems of farming in general, and the results obtained, and after reviewing the evidence at hand from older countries as well as our own Canada, it is borne in strongly upon us that, excepting in raising hay for sale only, the principal loss our land suffers by cropping and grazing is in humus, nitrogen and phosphates. By the proper use of our farm-yard manures and clover we can restore our humus and nitrogen, but the phosphate has gone from us for-MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been ever in our animals and grains, and some form, which, we may then call commercial. If we are growing hay for sale only, we must restore the potash it removes sooner or later, and In Germany a clock has been made though our lands will certainly stand that is warranted to go for 9.000 a considerable drain, it is not profitable to carry it too far. Here is a motto to paste in your hat, in the old one you wear round the farm,-"A good phosphatic heart is the base of all successful agriculture."

We expected to hear Mr. Wallace tell us something about Alberts' Thomas-Phosphate Powder, but he studiously avoided it and treated the manuring problem candidly and inci-

NOT THE ONLY ONE.

Mr. Whingleby.-Oh you needn't feel so uppish. You're not the only girl in town.

Miss Flasleigh.-No, I'm not the only girl in town who has publicly announced that she wouldn't have you if you were the last man on earth.

INVITATION ACCEPTED.

Mr. Saphead-Ive got a fad, too, don't ye know. I collect old and rare violins. Come around and see em.

Musician-Do you blay? Mr. Saphead-Bless you, no, not a

Musician (enthusiastically)-I vill

FEDERAL LIFE GROWS RAPIDLY.

The report of the annual meeting of the Federal Life Assurance Company which will be found elsewhere in this issue, contains a record of remarkable expansion, even in this growing time. The Federal Life secured enlarged powers at the last session of the Dominion Parliament, and is proceeding to spread its operations into new and profitable months the sores completely healed." Mas. fields The report of the directors show that during 1898 the assets of the company were increased by 20 per cent. a very remarkable increase, which, however, was surpassed by the additior of 21.41 per cent. to the reserve fund. The company has also been able to earn high rates of interest on its invested funds, and exceedingly difficult thing in these days, when the vaults of most financial institutions are scarcely able to contain the surplus of hoarded capital.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL

How many persons can you crowd into a car? I asked the conductor. married folks or couples thinking Beatty, Mr. William Kerns, First Vice President, ocabout it, he replied.

W P C 964

Carbolic Disinfectants, Scape, Ointment, Tooth Powders, etc., have been awarded 100 medals and diplomas for superior excellence. Their regular use prevent infectious diseases. Ask your dealer to obtain a supply. Lists mailed free on application.

> F. C. CALVERT & CO., MANOMESTER - - ENGLAND,

Silies Poultry Grit is the best digester in the market LAURENTIAN SAND & GRAVEL Co., Montreal.

Agents Best seinzs article en the mar Wanted ROWELL & BURY - Unbuge and Montreal

MONTREAL The "Balmoral," Free Bus Am. Plan. pre in the field within the past two years has not dimin-

CUTTING SCHOOL-Tailors and Drossalogua C. & D. SCHOOL CO., Montreal.

Rheumatism—Cure assured in 24 hours, a new specific, sent by mail on receipt of \$1. DR. ROUBY, P.O. Box 365, Montreal.

G. H. GRIM MFG. CO., Mostresi. Bvery stammerer

try. I have spent 40 years' study on this distressing habit. Come and satisfy yourselves. No risk. W. H. BATE, Specialist, 392 Coilege St., Toronto. Especially those who have failed

Dr. Arnott, Berlin, who will convince you he can cure yo tiseptic Pomade, \$1.06 by mail. Write Prof. Lecours,

IE you have any APPLES, BUTTER, EGGS on POULTRY

Pharmacist, 370 Craig St., Montreal.

to ship, ship them to The Dawsen Commission Co., Limited,

Toromto.

NOTICE. St. Canut, Rawdon, and St. Liboire Tragedies -3 crimes -full history of the murder and trial of Cordelia Viaw and Sam. Parslew. These mailed on rescipt of Sc. Agents and Booksellers supplied at \$1.50 per hundred. Leprehen & Leprehen, 1629 Netre Dame St., Montreal.



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No doubt there are other goods teas, but for strength richness and real quality

because comprehensive enough to meet every demand and suit every pocket. Try it-

Lead packages. 25, 30, 40, 50 and 600.



No Money Required!

If you will sell \$2.40 worth of our Brightlight Chemical Lamp Wicks, at 5 cents each, we will send you, free of charge, a Nickel-plated, Stem-winding, Stem-setting, American Watch, gents' size, warranted a reliable time-keeper. These Wicks have heretofore been advertised under the names of Whitelight, Clearlight, etc., and sold at 10 cents each, but we now offer them at the reduced price, FIVE CENTS EACH. For selling \$3.60 worth we give a beautiful ladies' size watch. We give also for selling these Wicks: Accordions, Violins, Autoharps, Mandelins, Guitars, Bracelets, Rings, and other valuable presents. We give a handsome 4-Blade Pearl Handle Knife for selling only 60 cents' worth. Bend your address and we will forward the winks for you to sell post paid, when sold send the money and we will send premium. Wicks returnable if not sold.

Address CEM NOVELTY CO., TORONTO.

The Federal Life Assurance Company.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL STATEMENT.

The seventeenth annual meeting of the Shareholders of The Federal Life Assurance Company of Canada was held at the Head Office, in Hamilton, on Tuesday, That depends on whether they are the 7th inst. In the absence of the President, Mr. cupied the chair, and Mr. David Dexter acted as Secre- Paid policyholders for death claims, endowtary. The fellowing report and financial statement was submitted by the Directors :--

The Directors have pleasure in submitting for the information and approval of the shareholders the following report of the business of the Company, together with a statement of receipts and disbursements for the year which closed on 31st December, 1838, and of the assets and liabilities on that date.

New business consisted of fourteen hundred and fifty-nine applications for insurance, aggregating \$2,-\$48,850, of which thirteen hundred and eighty-one applications for \$2,114,232 were accepted, applications for \$134,000 having been rejected or held for further infor-

Annuity premiums to the amount of \$12,731.50 were leo received.

In the past year, as in the preceding year, fully 90 per pent of the new business written by this Company was on its investment plans. This and the fact that the advant of three additional and well-equipped competitpany has been able to secure indicate the continued growth of feeling in favor of investment insurance rather than tewards other forms of investment on which interest earnings are depreciating steadily.

The income of the Company shows a gratifying inerease over previous years, and the addition of \$143,835 .-14 to the assets is especially noticeable, the total assets having risen to \$866,283.41, exclusive of guarantee

The security of the policyholders, including guarantee Champion EVAPORATORS FOR MAPLE capital, amounted to \$1,475,283.41, and the liabilities for reserves and all outstanding claims, \$757,399.20 for reserves and all outstanding claims, \$757,399.20-showing a surplus of \$717,824.21. Exclusive of uncalled guarantee capital, the surplus to policyholders was Assurances for \$114,575 on fifty-seven lives became

claims through death, of which amount the Company they will come and was reinsured for \$7,000. Including cash dividends and dividends applied to the reduction of premiums (\$30,-878.32) with matured endowments for \$4,600, the total payments to policyholders amounted to \$143,702.25.
In accordance with instructions received from the shareholders at last annual meeting, your Directors ap plied for and obtained from the Parliament of Canada Company to the Federal Life Assurance Company of

Canada, and granting enlarged powers for business and investment in and out of Canada. The investments of the Company have been carefully SKIND BOOKS All kinds cured or looked after, and have yielded for years past the best results reported by any company doing business in this country. Expenses have been kept within reasonable limits, while due effort is being made for new business. The chief officers and agents of the Company are entit-led to much credit for their able representation of the Company's interest. The office staff have also proved faithful in the Company's service. The accompanying certificate from the Auditors

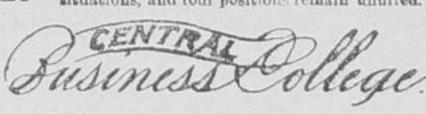
> herewith, all accounts, securities and vouchers having been examined by them. @AUSAGE CASINGS-New importations finest English Sheap and American Mog Casings reliable goods at aght prices. FARK, BLACKWELL & CO., Pozonto.



ALPHA- HAND AND POWER. CANADIAN DAIRY SUPPLY CO., Of Montreal and Winnipeg Sols Agents for Canada.

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W. J. ELLIOTT, Principal.

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SUMMER SAILINGS.

CALIFORNIAN-May 6, June 10, July 13. CASTILIAN-(new), May 20, June 24. BAVARIAN - (new), 10,000 Tons, Twin Screw, July 20, and weekly thereafter. Cabin Passage - \$55.66 and upwards. Second Cabin - \$35.00, Return \$66.50. Steerage-Liverpool, London, Glasgow, L ndonderry, or Queenstown, \$23.50.

For further information apply to

H. BOURLIER, 77 Yongo St., Toronto, or H. & A. ALLAN, Montreal.

BREAKFAST—SUPPER.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT. INCOME.

Premiums, interest and rent...... \$ 410,831 71 DISBURSEMENTS.

ments, dividends, etc 143,702 25 General expenses, re-insurance and divid-

Debentures, mortgages, policy loans, real estate, cash and othor securities.....\$866,283 41 Guarantee capital..... 609,000 00 Potal resources for security of policy-holders..... 1,475,283 41

LIABILITIES.

JAMES H. BEATTY, DAVID DEXTER, President. Managing Director.

AUDITORS REPORT. Te the President and Directors of the Federal Life As surance Company Gentlemen, We have made a careful andit of the books of your company for the year ending 31st December, 1888, and have sertified their correctness. The securities have been inspected and compared with

the ledger accounts and found to agree therewith. The financial position of your company, as on 31st December, is indicated by the accompanying statement. Respectfully submitted H. S. STEPHENS,

SHERMAN E TOWNSEND Hamilton, March 1st, 1899. In moving the adoption of the Directors' Report Mr. Kerns referred to the steady and substantial growth of the Company's business; the large increase from year to year in its income, assets and surplus. He stated that while the expenditure had been de reased 6.56 per cent, in the last year, the assets of the company had increased 19.90 per cent., the net surplus 37.82 per cent. and the reserve funds 21.41, per cent., the capital and assets

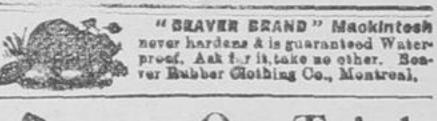
having now reached \$1,475,283.41. He quoted from the December number of The Economist to show that the Company had so carafully managed the investment of funds as to earn a better rate of interest in each of the past eight years than the average rate earned by all of the Canadian life assurance companies. The rate earned by the Federal in 1897-the last year in which the average can be obtained from the report of the Superintendent of Insurance - was 5.64 per a special act of incorporation changing the name of the | cent., and the average rate earned by all the Canadian companies 4.48 per cent.

> After the adoption of the D rectors' Report an interesting report of the mortality exp rience of the Company and of the history of medical examinations for life nsurance was read by the Medical Director, Dr. Wool-

Congratulatory remarks regarding the substantial

progress of the Company and regarding the management were made by several of the shareholders. A vote of thanks to the officers, agents and office staff was responded to by Mr. David Dexter, the Managing vouches for the correctness of the statements submitted

The retiring Directors of the Company were re-elected, with the addition of T. M. MacPherson, Esq., M.P. The Auditors were reappointed.

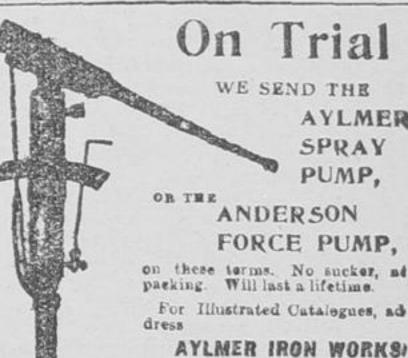


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most disordered Stomach, Lungs, Nerves, Liver, Blood, Bladder, Kidneys, Brain and Breath by

Revalenta which Saves Invalids and Children, and also Rears sucsesafully Infants whose Ailments and Debility have reaisted all other treatments. It digests when all other

Food is rejected, saves 50 times its cost in medicine. Invariable Success, 100,000 Annual Cures of Constipation, Flatulency, Dyspepsia Indigestion, Consumption, Diabetes, Bronchitis, Influsaza, Conghe Asthma, Catarrh, Phlegm, Diarrhon, Nervous Debility, Sleeplessness, Despondency,

77 Regent London, W., also in Paris, 14 Rue de Castiglion, and as all Grocers, Chemists, and Stores everywhere, in tins, Barry's Hevalenta Biscuits, in thus, 3s. 6d. and 6s. Agents for Canada: The T. Raton Co., Limited, Teronice