

MARKETS OF THE WORLD

Prices of Cattle, Cheese, Grain, etc. in the Leading Markets.

Toronto, April 23.—Wheat—There was a fair export demand for Ontario red and white wheat to-day, owing to the firmness in Chicago. Red was wanted at 67c, low freights to New York, and white at 66 1/2c. Manitobas were lower, owing to the approach of the opening of navigation. Quotations are as follows:—Red wheat, 67c; white wheat, 66 1/2c; No. 1 goose wheat, 66 cents, low freights to New York; red and white, 65 1/2c bid., middle freights, for Portland; Manitoba, No. 1 hard, old, g.t., 95c; No. 2, 91c; No. 1 hard, North Bay, 94c; and No. 2 hard, 90c. Millfeed—Searce, Ton lots, at the mill road, Western Ontario points, sell as follows:—Bran, 115; and shorts, 116.

Corn—American, No. 2 yellow, on track, here, 47 1/2c; No. 3, 46 1/2c. Peas—Steady, No. 2, middle freights, at 64 1/2c; and east at 65c. Barley—About steady, No. 2, east freights, was quoted at 44c; No. 3 extra, same freights, 43c. Rye—Steady. Car lots, 49c, west; and 50c, east. Buckwheat—Quiet. Car lots, west, are quoted at 51c, and east at 50c. Oats—Firm. No. 1 white, C. P. R., east 30 1/2c; No. 2 white, north and west, 29c. A lot of 6,000 bush. No. 1 white, middle freights, sold at 30c to-day. Flour—Tone rather better to-day, but prices were unchanged. Holders of 90 per cent. patents, buyers' bags, middle freights, ask \$2.60 per bbl. Exporters were bidding \$2.55.

Duluth, April 23.—Wheat closed—Cash, No. 1 hard, 74 3/8c; No. 1 Northern, 72 3/8c; No. 2 Northern, 66 3/8c to 70 3/8c; May, 72 5/8c; July, 73 3/8c; September, 71 3/8c. Corn—41c; May, 41 1/2c. Oats—27 to 28 3/4c. Minneapolis, April 23.—Wheat closed—Cash, 72 3/8c; May, 70 3/4 to 70 7/8c; July, 72 3/8c; on track, No. 1 hard, 74 3/8c; No. 1 Northern, 72 3/8c; No. 2 Northern, 69 3/8c to 73 3/8c. Flour—Firm; first patents, 33.85 to \$2.95; second patents, 33.65 to 33.75; first clears, \$2.95 to 33.05; second clears, \$2 to 32.10. Bran—in bulk, \$12 to \$12.50.

Chicago, April 23.—Crop situation being practically unchanged, the grain markets ruled quiet and steady to-day. May wheat closing 1-4c higher. May corn unchanged, and May oats 1-8c up. Provisions closed irregular. PRODUCE.—Toronto, April 23.—Eggs—Supplies continue large, but prices hold steady, owing to the active demand. Sales were made to-day at 11 1/2 to 12c. Poultry—Very little poultry now coming in. Bright stock is quoted as follows:—Turkeys, 11 to 12c; geese at 8 to 8 1/2c, chickens at 40 to 50c, and ducks at 63 to 80c. Potatoes—Easy, at 27c for car lots, on track. Sales, out of store, are made at 35c. Field produce, etc.—Turnips, out of store, 25c per bag, onions, \$1 to \$1.10 per bag; carrots, 35c per bag; parsnips, per bag, 35c; apples, per bbl, \$1 to \$2; sweet potatoes, per bbl, \$2.50. Dried apples—Dried apples sell at 4 1/2c; evaporated at 5 1/2c. Honey—Firm. Stocks getting very light. Dealers quote from 10 to 10 1/2c for No. 10, or 10 1/2 to 10 3/4c according to size of order; comb honey selling at \$2 to \$2.25 for dark; and at \$2.50 to \$2.75 for choice clover, per dozen sections.

Maple syrup—New run maple syrup is firm. Receipts continue light. Five-gallon tins are quoted at \$1 per imperial gallon; and gallon tins at \$1.10 to \$1.15. Hops—Quiet. Choice 1900 growth are quoted at 14 to 16c; and yearlings at 8 to 9c. Beans—Steady. Ordinary white beans bring \$1.55 to \$1.60; choice hand-picked beans are quoted at \$1.65 to \$1.70. Beef—Somewhat easier. Choice timothy, on track here, \$10.75; two-ton lots, delivered \$11.50. Straw—Firm. Car lots of straw, on track here, \$5.50 to \$6.

DRESSED HOGS AND PROVISIONS.—Dressed hogs on the street are steady at 68 to 68.50. Car lots continue scarce, and quoted nominally at \$7.75 to \$8, on track here. Provisions are firm, and in good general demand. Local supplies will be sufficient for this year's trade. Quotations are as follows:—Dry salted shoulders, 8c; long clear bacon, loose in car lots, 10c; and in case lots, 10 1/4 to 10 1/2c; short clear pork, \$20 to \$20.50; heavy mess pork, \$19 to \$19.50. Smoked meats—Hams, heavy, 12c; medium, 12 1/2 to 13c; light, 13c. Lard—Pails, 10 1/2c; tubs, 10c. in tierces, 10c.

DAIRY MARKETS.—Butter—Receipts continue large and prices are easy, but no lower. Prices are as follows:—Dairy tubs and pails, good to choice, 12 to 15c; medium, 13 to 14c; poor, 12c; dairy prints, 15 to 16c; large rolls, good to choice, 14 to 15c; creamery boxes, 18 to 19c; and pounds 19 to 21c. Cheese—Easier, in sympathy with butter; full cream, July and August, make, sells at 9 1/2 to 10c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, April 23.—We had 60 carloads of live stock at the western cattle yards this morning, consisting of 1,300 cattle, 1,600 hogs, 162 sheep and lambs, 160 calves, and a few milch cows.

Trade was lively at the start, and prices were pretty well maintained, but later in the day, the demand fell off, and the drovers preferred to hold their stuff until to-morrow. There was a tolerably steady demand for export cattle; choice exporters sold at from 43-4 to 51-4c per lb., with a shade more paid for a few lots; medium shippers sold at from 41-4 to 43-4c per lb. For good to choice butcher cattle there was a steady enquiry at unchanged prices, and good to choice cattle sold well at from 33-4 to 41-4c, with an eighth more for the very best occasionally paid. For medium and inferior cattle we had a fair demand.

Stockers were steady and unchanged at from 23-4 to 33-8c per lb. There was practically no change in bulls, milch cows, and feeders. The price of sheep and lambs were steady and unchanged. Grain-fed lambs sell at from 4 1/2 to 5 1/4c per lb. Spring lambs are worth from \$2 to \$5 each. Good spring lambs are wanted. Bucks sell at from 3 to 3 1/2c per lb. Export ewes are worth from 3 1/2 to 3 3/4c per lb. Sheep are worth from \$2.50 to \$4 each. "Barnyarders" are worth from 4 to 4 1/2c per lb. We had no change in calves, but a few choice veals will sell. To-day hogs are unchanged, but there is a downward tendency. "Singers" sell at 6 7/8c per lb.; thick fat at 6 1/4c, and light at 6 3/8c per lb. Hogs to fetch the top price must be of prime quality, and scale not below 160 nor above 200 lbs.

Following is the range of quotations:—Cattle. Shippers, per cwt. ... \$4.25 to \$5.12 1/2. Butcher, choice do. ... 3.75 to 4.57 1/2. Butcher, ord. to good ... 3.50 to 3.75. Butcher, inferior ... 2.75 to 3.12 1/2. Stockers, per cwt. ... 2.75 to 3.40. Export bulls, per cwt. ... 3.75 to 4.25. Sheep and Lambs. Export ewes, per cwt. ... 3.50 to 3.75. Butcher sheep, each. ... 2.50 to 4.00. Lambs, g.f., per cwt. ... 4.50 to 5.25. Do., b.y., per cwt. ... 4.00 to 4.50. Do., spring, each ... 2.00 to 2.50. Bucks, per cwt. ... 3.00 to 3.50. Milkers and Calves. Cows, each. ... 20.00 to 45.00. Calves, each. ... 1.00 to 8.00. Hogs. Choice hogs, per cwt. ... 6.67 to 6.87 1/2. Light hogs, per cwt. ... 6.37 to 6.57 1/2. Heavy hogs, per cwt. ... 6.00 to 6.25. Sows, per cwt. ... 3.75 to 4.00. Stag. ... 0.00 to 2.00.

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

Increased Income Tax Will Yield About \$55,000,000. A despatch from London says:—Twopence in the pound added to the present shilling tax on income. Extra twopence is expected to realize \$19,000,000.

Duty on refined sugar of four shillings and twopence per hundredweight. Average consumption is 56 pounds per head, and increased duty should not increase price more than a halfpenny per pound. Molasses and syrup will pay two shillings per hundredweight and glucose one shilling and eightpence. A yield of \$25,500,000 is anticipated from this tax. An export duty of a shilling a ton will be placed on coal. This is expected to yield \$10,500,000. Total revenue expected from the new taxation, \$35,000,000.

There will be no Customs duty imposed on manufactured imported goods, and no addition to the beer, wine, tea, spirits and tobacco duties. Cost of the South African war, \$75,000,000, double that of the Crimean war. Decrease in beer revenue, \$20,000,000, owing to beer drinkers being absent in South Africa.

BUSINESS RESUMING.

Pretoria Merchants Have Been Allowed to Return. A despatch from Pretoria says:—A majority of merchants have been allowed to return, and have been granted liberal permits to import goods. The shops are opening, and trade is reverting into legitimate channels. Similar treatment has been accorded the merchants in most of the garrison towns.

There is no longer organized resistance on the part of the Boers, but small, mobile columns roam about avoiding contact with large British forces, attacking weak ones, and looting the task of subduing the country extremely difficult. Still, the aggressive policy of the British is having great effects, as is shown by the daily surrenders. While the end of the war seems still a long way off, a more hopeful feeling prevails.

TWO MORE GUNS TAKEN.

The Boers Compelled to Abandon Strong Positions. A despatch from Durban, Natal, says:—Details of the operations of Col. Dartnell's column on the Swaziland and Zululand borders show that the British compelled the Boers to retire from very strong positions, with the loss of 80 waggons and 40 carts, which were either captured or burned. The British captured a pom-pom, a Maxim gun, 5,000 head of cattle, and a large number of horses and sheep. A number of Boers were killed or wounded. The British sustained practically no losses.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Notes of the Proceedings in the Canadian House of Commons.

BORDEN'S PENSION SCHEME.

Hon. F. W. Borden gave notice of the following motion embodying his pension scheme for the officers and men of the permanent corps: "Resolved, that it is expedient to provide that pensions or gratuities may be granted to staff officers and men of the permanent militia force and to the widows and children of such officers as follows: "To an officer compulsorily retired for any cause other than misconduct or inefficiency after twenty years' service, or retiring voluntarily after 35 years' service, a pension not exceeding 1-50th of the pay and allowance of his rank or appointment at the time of his retirement for each year's service, service beyond 35 years not being reckoned; to an officer who retires voluntarily after 25 but less than 35 years' service, a pension not exceeding 1-40th of such pay and allowance for each year, service beyond 35 years not being reckoned. Towards making good the said pensions 5 per cent. shall be deducted from the pay of officers. To an officer retiring on account of infirmity, or retired to promote efficiency or economy in the service, a gratuity not exceeding one month's pay for each year's service; if retired on account of injury received in the discharge of his duties, a gratuity not exceeding three months' pay for every two years' service. To a non-commissioned officer or militiaman, if he has served 15 but less than 21 years, a pension equal to 10-50th of his annual pay for every year of service; for 21 and less than 25 years' service, 20-50ths, and in addition 2-50ths for every year over 25; for 25 years, 30-50ths, and in addition 1-50th for every year over 25, not exceeding, however, two-thirds of his annual pay, exclusive of extra pay or allowances during the three years preceding his retirement. To the widow and children of an officer who served twenty years, and was at the time of his death on full pay, or in receipt of a pension, the following pensions or allowances:—In the case of a colonel, \$500 to the widow and \$80 to each child; lieutenant-colonel, \$450 to the widow and a yearly allowance of \$80 to each child; major, \$350 to widow and \$70 to each child; captain, \$250 to widow and \$65 to each child; lieutenant or second lieutenant, \$200 to widow, \$50 to each child. The amount to children to be doubled if they are motherless and in need. Warrant officer, \$100 to widow and \$25 to each child. No allowance to a widow aged 18 or daughter aged 21. The total amount payable to a family of an officer in one year, not to exceed the amount of the pension attached to his rank."

CLAIMS BY WORKMEN. Mr. Sutherland, Oxford, in reply to a question of Mr. Puttee, said there were now on hand, and undetermined, eight claims by workmen based on the fair-wage clause in Government contracts. The oldest of these claims was made last October. The determining of such claims rests with the Minister of the department to which the contract belongs. The fair-wage officers of the Department of Labour investigate these claims, and submit their report for the consideration of the Minister to whose department the contract belongs. The Government's policy in regard to off-licence contractors is set forth in the Act as follows:—

In the event of default being made in payment of any money owing in respect of wages of any foreman, workman, or labourer employed on the said work, and if a claim therefor is filed in the office of the Minister, and proof thereof satisfactory to the Minister is furnished, the said Minister may pay such claim out of any money payable by his Majesty under said contracts, and the amounts so paid shall be deemed payments to the contractor.

TO OPERATE ICE BREAKERS.

Mr. McCarthy introduced the petitions of the Western Assurance Company and the British American Assurance Company, which desire to be given power to equip, maintain, and operate ice-breakers and wrecking appliances in connection with their marine insurance business. Mr. McCarthy said that power of this kind was given in the bill to incorporate the St. Lawrence Ice Company. The Minister of Finance had stated that similar power would be granted to any companies which might desire it. Mr. R. L. Borden, did not oppose the petition but thought that a matter of this kind should be dealt with in a general bill, giving such power to all insurance companies. He had expressed that opinion in the committee, and had seen no reason to change his mind. The petition was received and referred to the Committee of Standing Orders.

WILL INSIST ON FAIR WAGES.

The members of Parliament who represent the labour element, purpose insisting that the fair-wage clause shall be inserted in any subsidy grants that may be brought down in the Commons. 4TH OF MAY. Mr. Maclean asked whether the 24th of May this year would be a public holiday. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the public would be informed in due time. P. E. ISLAND MAIL SERVICE. Mr. Lafurgy complained of the unsatisfactory condition of the mail service to the western part of Prince Edward Island. He declared that it was worse now than it was in the winter. Sir Louis Davies replied that the service had never been better than during the past winter. There might have been some delay recently, but it was caused by the fact that the ice was not out of the harbours where the delay was complained of.

WOMAN AND HOME.

EVELYN FLETCHER AND HER METHOD OF TEACHING MUSIC.

Work For Young Women—Germany and the Problem—Queen Alexandra's Talents—Tall Girls of Today. Few Robust Mothers Nowadays.

We are indebted to the inventive genius of a young Canadian girl for the Fletcher music method, simple and kindergarten, which is attracting the attention of many leaders in the educational and musical worlds today. Miss Fletcher received a good musical education in Canada and then studied under some of the best masters in England, Belgium and Germany. The idea came to her for the simplification of the study of music for little children. By the old methods of teaching the little ones were forced to grasp the principles of music in almost the same way as adults. The result has been that the child thus unattractively treated dreaded the hour of practice and even grew to dislike music, while



EVELYN ASHTON FLETCHER.

the amount of time that he took before he was able to play any instrument easily and with enjoyment was far longer than was necessary, as is being proved by this new method. Miss Evelyn Fletcher came to America and settled in Boston. Her method met with a warm reception there and has spread rapidly, so that there are not only 75 teachers in Boston alone, but almost every city in America has at least one of her representatives. Everything that has been difficult for the child in music, such as notation, time, rhythm, scales, chords, intervals, key-board, technique and ear training, is taught in this method, and by the use of tangible materials the information which is given becomes practical to the child.

For example: With the tangible keyboard he breaks to pieces the chords and learns their names and uses. The child is interested and instructed from start to finish with these tangible materials, which he can handle and name and whose uses he can appreciate fully. The children are taught in classes, and it is one of the prettiest sights to see a group of little ones constructing the staff in the large size and putting down the tangible notes. Into the staff on ledger lines above and below they go and then are read so quickly and easily by the little ones that many an older person is out to the blues. Leger lines, etc., have no dread for them. The higher a note goes the more fascinating it is to them and "the higher it is to build."

Another pleasing feature in the method is the new field of labor, successful and pleasant, which this opens up for young music teachers. Artistically and financially they have much to hope for in it. Miss Fletcher makes New York her home, but gives lectures in different cities. In the summer months she has classes both in Paris and London, where her system is well established and where it promises to be as much of a success as it has become in America.

Work For Young Women.

There are trades open to young women in which they not only would be experts, but could add largely to the comfort of others, which will never be forgotten because they would be either laughed at or perhaps set aside by unreasonable and weak minded companions. For instance, there are many girls who have great judgment and skill in cooking who could earn easily \$40 a month and even if very clever \$60 or even \$70 and who would rather stand for weary hours subject to the exactions of ill bred buyers at a counter, travel home in wet and cold and receive from \$5 to \$7 a week without any other compensation. A servant is not a pleasant name, nor is obedience to commands a pleasant thing, and there are both men and selfish employers, but I have personally employed one of the prettiest girls I ever saw, notably refined and delicate, whose dainty taste and touch made her skill wonderful. She had little education and no accomplishments, she knew that she had great talent for cooking, she had a widowed mother without income and a sister dying of consumption, she had to relieve her mother of her own maintenance, and she had to make a certain amount of money. She was kind without familiarity to others in the kitchen. She kept her leisure hours to herself, working much for an exchange, enjoyed her neat and comfortable room, had access to good books and in a year earned the money she required. Her only defect as a perfect servant was that she was so attractive and delicate in appearance that she was often embarrassed by too much attention as she came and went.

Having attained her end, she returned to her home, freed from debt by her efforts, and then made preserves and delicacies which sold well. Had she been afraid of being called a cook she could only have attained by great effort and exposure about \$20 a month by incessant toil and had to support herself out of that amount, leaving not more than half her savings free. She saw what she could do and knew it was right and was not afraid to live out her own life in her own way.

Germany and the Problem.

In Germany the government takes a hand in the servant girl problem and obtains one good result, she cannot change her situation every week in the year. The government has an eye upon her every movement and is kept posted through

its police system. Employing a domestic in Germany is a business transaction. The girl calls, is engaged, and then her employer must go to the police station and pay a cent for a blank upon which the information concerning the new girl required by government is recorded. There are spaces for her full name, where she came from, whether married or single, her position, the date of her birth, her own home and if married additional information concerning her immediate family.

If she has children, the government will look out for them. She must pay a regular fee to the insurance or death fund that she may not become a public charge in case of disablement or death. There is an advantage to the girl in this government interest, for she cannot be discharged without cause. When she does leave, the employer pays another card, green in color, on which the same complete description of the departing domestic as that on the white card is recorded. That must be left at the police station right away, for government brooks no delay in these matters.

This is the system by which the police have their fingers on every man, woman and child in Germany. Any infringement of the rules is promptly punished by arrest and a fine. The result is noted in the harmonious relations existing between employers and employees who, for the most part, are industrious and quiet, willing to do anything asked of them, but expecting a degree of tolerance which many American women are not willing to give. Such relations will be possible in this country only with reform in both parties, justice on the part of the employers, faithful work from the employed, the kind of work we all ought to give, the best in us.

Queen Alexandra's Talents.

Queen Alexandra has once or twice played in public for charity, and she proved to be the very limited public admitted to hear her that she was an uncommonly good amateur musical and well taught. Sir Charles Halle was one of her teachers, and on the piano she is more facile than on any other instrument, although she plays the harp and dulcimer and has been able to entertain herself and her friends on the guitar. She is an enthusiastic Wagnerian in operatic taste and has made repeated pilgrimages to Bayreuth.

One year it was necessary for the sake of the Wagner operas to have at Covent Garden Jean de Reszke, who was not in the least inclined to come to London that year. The Princess of Wales, as she was then, learned that the tenor might decide not to join the company at Covent Garden, and she knew that that would cause the failure of the Wagner season, if not the complete abandonment of "Tristan and Isolde" and "Siegfried." So she wrote the tenor a personal letter requesting him not to fail to come to Covent Garden for her sake and for that of the many Wagner admirers who had counted on him to lend brilliancy to the season. M. de Reszke then consented to appear, and he was rewarded with the personal thanks of the present queen of England. Queen Alexandra is a doctor of music of Dublin university, and the picture of her taken in her mortar board and gown is one of the best known among her photographs.

The new queen has other artistic tastes. She embroiders well in the difficult stitch called "Italian," and some of her work has been displayed at public exhibitions of needlework. She is an expert worker in embossed leather, and specimens of her skill in this kind of handicraft, so eminently suited to a woman, have been shown at the Albert hall exhibitions. It was she who introduced this kind of work into the industrial school at Sandringham, named in her honor. Her water color paintings, especially of sea scenes, are described by those who have had the privilege of seeing them as really artistic.

FOR LETTER CARRIERS.

Shirt Waist Adopted by the U. S. Post Office Department.

A despatch from Washington says:—The shirt waist has triumphed in the Post-Office Department, in witness whereof Postmaster-General Smith has issued the following order:—"Shirt Waist—During the heated term postmasters may permit letter carriers to wear a neat shirt waist or loose-fitting blouse, instead of coat and vest; if the same to be made of light grey chambray lined light grey chevise, or other light grey washable material; to be worn with turn-down collar, dark tie, and a neat belt; all to be uniform at each office."

THE WAR MACHINE.

Huge Additions Made to Field Transport in South Africa.

A despatch from London says:—Earl Roberts' report on the field transport in South Africa, says 21,700 miles of railway are held, and that 200,000 officers and men have proceeded from the base to the front. One hundred and thirty thousand beasts, 36,000 tons of stores and supplies, and innumerable guns and vehicles have also been forwarded. Commenting on this report, the Pall Mall Gazette says that the transport of supplies will win campaigns in the future. When Lord Roberts arrived in South Africa he found that the transport was not only insufficient, but was organized on a system hopelessly unsuited to military emergencies. He had to pull the whole scheme to pieces and reconstruct it from regimental into departmental units.

GENERAL MISSING.

Believed to Have Perished During the Fire in Emperor's Palace.

A despatch from Pekin says that the Emperor's palace which was the headquarters of Field Marshal Count von Waldersee and his staff, has been burned. The entire contents of the building, with the exception of the military papers, were destroyed. Gen. Von Schwartzoff is missing.

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA. May 10th is Manitoba's Arbor Day. Winnipeg's assessment is \$22,861,000 an increase of \$1,045,000. Montreal theatres have received orders to close on Sundays.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier will likely visit British Columbia this summer. Dr. Langrill has been appointed medical health officer at Hamilton. Woodstock College has reopened, after being closed by a fever epidemic. Seven deaths from diphtheria have occurred at Fort Alexander, near Winnipeg.

Ottawa will have a new theatre, the directors of the Russell having decided to rebuild. The formation of a new regiment of infantry, the 24th Kent, with headquarters at Chatham, is authorized. London cigar store keepers have been ordered by the police to remove their slot machines, condemned as gambling devices.

The steamer La Presse has returned to Quebec, and her captain declares that navigation below that port in winter is feasible and practicable. The Executive Committee of the Ontario Christian Endeavour Union has decided at London, to hold the annual convention at Brockville, Oct. 1 to 8. W. F. Merriott, U. S. immigration inspector at Rouse's Point, says the smuggling of Chinese into the United States from Montreal has developed into a "fine art."

A young man giving the name of Geo. A. Winton, swindled the Bank of Commerce out of \$2,900 and the Imperial Bank of Toronto, out of \$2,455 by means of raised checks. Mr. T. H. Underwood, formerly of the Canadian Pacific Railway in Montreal, has been appointed traffic and dock manager for the Cape Colony Government at Cape Town.

The sum of £700 of Imperial money was distributed among the members of O Battery in mistake during the return trip of the steamer from Africa to Canada. The Imperial Government has asked for the return of this money.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Sir Edward William Watkin, the great English railway owner, is dead. The British War Office has decided to strengthen the fortifications of Jamaica. Some alarm has been caused by the fall of an eighteen-foot pillar in Westminster Abbey.

King Edward will make Frogmore his week end residence during May, June and July. The official report of emigration from Ireland shows 47,107 persons left that country in 1900. The year's profits of the Middleborough steel firm were \$1,800,000, says a London despatch.

The historic Thorney House, Kensington Gardens may become the residence of the U. S. ambassador. Great Britain and Germany have agreed about an indemnity for Germans ejected from the Transvaal.

It is said that the Earl of Halsbury is about to resign the post of Lord Chancellor, and that he will be succeeded by Baron Alverstone, Lord Chief Justice of England. London's fashionable milliners declare that the Gainsborough hat will again become the rage among women in consequence of the recovery of the Duchess of Devonshire portrait.

UNITED STATES.

The representative in New York of the Boers denies that Kruger intends to visit America. The Minnesota Senate has been asked to declare that the operations of the Boer trust there are against the State laws.

New York is to have a 12-story department store. The building to cost \$3,000,000. J. Pierpont Morgan is said to be interested. A strike is now on, and a long lock-out is predicted of miners and operators in the entire block coal district of Indiana over the powder question. Employes of the Republic Iron & Steel Company at Youngstown, Ohio, demand increases in wages ranging from 15 to 35 cents a day, or they will strike.

GENERAL.

The Glasgow Exhibition opens May 2nd. The student demonstration in Russia has spread to Siberia. An Odessa despatch says there have been 1,560 arrests in Russia during the past few days. King Oscar of Norway and Sweden will act as arbitrator, in the claims of Great Britain, Germany and the United States in Samoa.

The Turkish Government has raised a loan of £200,000 from the Ottoman Bank to settle the claims of the Cramps and the Krupps. The population of Seattle has increased at least 20 per cent, during the past year, and now exceeds 90,000. In another year it will exceed 100,000. Directors of a large St. Petersburg Insurance Company are being prosecuted for misapplying \$750,000, according to a despatch from Moscow. The three gold bars stolen from the specie room of the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse during that vessel's last trip from New York were discovered by a steward during the cleaning of the ship near the second cabin.

A MOTHER'S INSTINCT.

SHE WHO HAS IT DOESN'T NEED HELP FROM CONGRESSES.

Such a Mother is Not Tied Down to a System in Rearing Her Children. What Do We Recall When We Look Back at Our Childhood?

If one judged from the mothers' congresses and the lectures, articles and books on the subject of the rearing and training of children, it would seem as if in no other era have women been so intent upon fulfilling properly the duties of parenthood. It might be taken also as a tacit confession that the mother instinct is not inborn in every woman, and therefore that which does not come from the heart must be learned from books. There is no intention here to disparage such a movement. In some quarters it has been overdone, and has become accordingly ridiculous, but it has its uses and has doubtless been productive of good in awakening certain women to a more thoughtful view of their responsibilities.

The mere fact of bringing young into the world does not bestow the mother instinct. Many a childless wife, many a heartless mother, has the true mother instinct but lacks the instinct in the mother of ten children. Dumb animals even vary greatly in this respect. There are dogs and cats just as averse to the duties of maternity as any frivolous fine lady. One hen will rear successfully all the chicks she has brought off the nest, while another in the same flock will lose her whole brood successively by carelessness and stupidity. One ticked denizen of the poultry yard afforded a curious study to the observant. She was completely wanting in that protective instinct toward her young which is usually so strongly developed in the hen. She had always a preoccupied and flustered air, as if there were far more serious problems to be solved than maternal ones. In the same manner which hens are addicted to pecking at each other, it was in a desultory and ineffective way, and in the meantime they went astray, became entangled in the long grass or fell into holes. Sometimes, as if in absence of mind, she would even stand with a claw planted firmly on a member of her brood regardless of its "peeps" and struggles, meanwhile uttering one of those raucous squawks which hens are addicted to. Perhaps she was ailing her theories upon the proper rearing of young chickens.

A woman with the real mother instinct does not need to attend mothers' congresses or lectures or to study books. We see her in the most simple and natural manner possible bringing up good, healthy, happy children who are to be the bone and sinew of the nation. If one should ask her upon what system she proceeds, she could not tell, for it is all done instinctively. But the truth is any system for the training of children must be a very elastic one and vary to suit the individual. The mother's sympathy gives her wisdom to deal with diverse temperaments and dispositions, and at the same time her love bridges the difference that love which follows her offspring no matter how far they may go, so that her heart, as Mme. de Sevigne expressed it, is "always on the highroads." If a child of hers is crippled in mind or body, homely of countenance, dull of wit or broken in fortune, around that one is her affection protectively cast, because he needs it the most. Her heart is the unfailing refuge, the sanctuary that cannot be violated, the one place of all where even the erring and the defeated will not be judged, but loved. And though all the rest of her children may be happy, honored and successful, her love is forever wandering away after the unfortunate who has failed into the cold, through the rain and snow, over the dreary stretches of the highway, like a beseeching angel pleading with him to turn homeward. But whether she is a happy or unhappy parent, her love is not, like the passionate egotism of the animal, limited only to her own. For their sake her heart is tender toward all childhood, and her pity embraces the little ones who are orphaned and uncherished.

In one of Coleridge's poems he tells a strange story about a woman who set her affections upon her daughter's suitor and finally invoked a curse upon them both because they had balked her passion. Thenceforth nothing prospered with them. They were beset by misfortunes of all kinds, the curse being so active because

A mother is a mother still. The boldest thing alive. The more modern view, however, is that there is nothing holy in maternity per se. It is the individual who embosoms or degrades it, and the woman who shows herself unworthy of motherhood is not to be an object of honor simply because she has brought forth children. There are women, and mothers, who actually dislike children, and apart from these unpleasant paradoxes, some there are who love the children accordingly as the latter minister to their pride and vanity. The cleverest and handsomest are the favorites, because they reflect glory upon the self-seeking parent, and the less creditable ones are pushed into corners and kept in the shade as much as possible. This is rather a man's than a woman's way of loving, and yet there are families in which the tenderness comes all from the paternal side, and the children are actually "mothered" by the father. Then there are the mothers who in the pursuit of some fixed idea thwart their children, stunt their aspirations and prevent the gradual unfolding of their natures.

"Etre savant, c'est quelquechose," says a French writer; "etre tres bon, c'est encore mieux"—and one fancies that this is true where mothers are concerned. Does any child think more tenderly of his mother because she has written a remarkable book, painted a fine picture or excelled in music? Many a woman has made such efforts in art, spurred on by the thought of her children, and in becoming an artist she has ceased to be a mother. Yet, after all, these are not the things we recall when we look back at childhood. What do we remember is how our mother mended the garments we tore, healed our bruises, wiped away our tears, was glad of our little pleasures, sang us to sleep at evening and soothed us when we woke in the night crying with the terror of bad dreams. Perhaps the woman who did all this for us was gifted and brilliant, but it is her goodness, the inexhaustible tenderness of her mother love, that lives in memory and makes us homesick, even in old age, for that unalloyed solace which else where we have not found.