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## THE DURHAM CHRONICLE

W. IRWIN, Editor and Proprietor.  
DURHAM, APRIL 25, 1907

## SANCTUM SIFTINGS.

The recent discovery of the Altoona Cobble has led to many experiments to ascertain the value of ashes as a fuel. The opinions are much at variance and the probability is that the discovery will not be a very great success. Ashes alone even if treated with salt and Oxalic acid is said to be of very little commercial value and when apparently good results are obtained, it is thought the success would be equally good if the cinders were properly sifted and the unconsumed fuel used without treatment. Inspector Campbell has tried the experiment here, and we learn from him that he has had good results from his efforts and that the mixture burns well in his furnace. We only hope that the ashes may prove to be a very valuable article of fuel, as the heating problem is becoming a very important matter in this country where timber is getting scarcer and dearer.

There's another coal miners' strike on in British Columbia and matters are beginning to look rather serious as a result. Should such a condition be prolonged the people of the West will face next winter under circumstances that will be worse than last year, when there was evidently a great amount of hardship endured from want of sufficient fuel. As matters now stand there is very little coal available and freight trains on the C. P. R. will have to discontinue operations to the extent of hauling nothing but perishable freight. Passenger traffic will be kept up as long as possible, and in order to meet the threatened exigencies coal is being taken from Montreal and points east to supply the railway requirements. An effort is to be made by the Dominion Government to effect, if possible, a settlement between the operators and employees. Opinions differ regarding the seriousness of the trouble and the causes which brought about the present difficulties. Lack of transportation facilities is assigned as part of the cause, and another report goes to show that a threatened reduction of wages led many to leave the mines.

Canadian enthusiasm makes very little enquiry as to color or creed when a man of our own nationality merits distinction in the literary or athletic

world. Only a short time ago there was scarcely a newspaper in Canada which didn't offer its tribute of regret at the death of Oronhyatekha, a full blooded Indian who distinguished himself as the great leader of the Independent Order of Foresters. Again we rejoice over the triumph of another Canadian, and an Indian too, who won the Marathon race at Boston last week over 103 competitors of skilled long distance runners over a course of twenty-five miles. Not only did Thomas Longboat defeat his 103 competitors but he has reduced the long distance time record. The race took place on the 19th inst. It was Patriots' day, the celebration of the Battle of Concord, the first struggle in the American revolution. One of the events was the Marathon race, in which a Canadian carries off the bronze Statue of Mercury. Notwithstanding the unfavorable condition of the weather, the whole distance was made in 2 hours, 24 minutes, 20.1-5 seconds. At the 21st mile he was led by Charlie Petch, an 18-year-old boy, who is also from Toronto. Petch came in sixth at the winning post, Bennett, of Hamilton, fourteenth, and Kerr, of Toronto, eighteenth. Out of 104 of America's best long distance runners the first, sixth, fourteenth and eighteenth positions taken by Canadians is not a record we have reason to be ashamed of. This following so closely on the success of Sherring about a year ago is bringing us rapidly to the front for feats of physical endurance. On the Indians return there will be a hot time in Toronto, where they always make it a point to lionize their distinguished athletes. Immediately on hearing of Longboat's success, the W. J. Gage & Co. sent out cards to their customers and others announcing that Longboat is a valued employee of their firm.

## FIRE BY-LAW.

DEAR EDITOR.—

Will you kindly allow a few words in your valuable space re the actions of our town "Fathers" concerning the fire limits. The more one considers the effect it will have on the place the more absurd it appears, especially to those who have the highest interest in the prosperity of the town.

(1) Let it be remembered that Durham is only a town in name, being guided by the law of population; it can only claim to be a village at the present time. Who ever heard of a village extending its fire limits to the extent that it has been done in this case.

(2) Houses are an absolute necessity at the present time, and brick houses cannot be put up soon enough to meet the need for homes. Seven or eight families have lately gone to other towns because they were unable to secure a house in Durham. We need houses of more moderate rent. Wages are no doubt good, but rent is unequal to the general income. A house or stable should be constructed of material with reference to distance from other buildings rather than streets and localities.

(3) There can be no doubt but that the enforcement of such a by-law will frustrate many plans for building. It would be more becoming to encourage any who desire to build any kind of a house that is respectable.

(4) It is to be feared that our Council have not thought much about the application of the law. What is passing strange, is that a special meeting should be called to hear the views of the people and all who spoke were opposed to the strict by-law with the exception of the ex-mayor, who by the way admitted that it was pretty strict, but he naturally upheld it, being one who helped to put it through. Not a voice to sanction the by-law in its present form. Were the opinions of the ratepayers sought only for the purpose of turning them down? If so the time may come when the turn-down will be on the other side.

(5) The on-looker without much interest in the matter would not expect much to be accomplished by men who do so much petty scuffling. Why should personal ill-will and ungentlemanly language have dominion around our town table. It appears not to be a matter of right or wrong, but who suggests or moves in any matter that determines whether it is supported or not.

It is wonderful to see how some love to suck the old bones that should have been buried long ago. The mayor has a virtue that few possess. For self-command and a cool head he has few equals. When one of the last year's rulers was invited to pass his opinion, the language used would merit a fistic rebuke, but not so in this case. The happy faculty of taking a thing from whence it comes with a quiet smile is a quality to be sought.

I trust the men in whose hands the welfare of the town very largely rests will weigh the matter of the fire limits on an even balance, and not degrade our Town Council into a cock fight.

Yours,  
RATEPAYER.

## The Late Major Rorke

Joseph Rorke, ex-M. P. for Centre Grey, died on Friday, 11th inst., at his residence near Clarksburg, at the age of 75 years. Major Rorke had been identified with the settlement of this county from its earliest days. For many years he was Reeve of Collingwood township, and was also Warden of the county. For eight years prior to 1894 he was a member of the Provincial Legislature, and was a strong advocate of the reduction of the number of County Councillors. He was also active in military matters, holding the position of major when he reached the age limit. Colonel Rorke, of the 31st Battalion, is a younger brother. Major Rorke was twice married, and is survived by Mrs. Rorke, two sons and four daughters—Capt. H. V. Rorke, of the Customs Department, Ottawa; Joseph A. Rorke, of Heathcote; Mrs. B. R. McIlroy, of Ottawa; and Misses Ada, Susie and Jean. In politics he was a Conservative of the old school, straightforward in business and much beloved by those who knew him best.

## Durham Helps Famine Stricken China.

During the past ten days Mrs. Torrey and Mrs. Brooker have been out collecting for those who are starving to death. The sympathetic and hearty response has been most gratifying, with the result that on Saturday last a "draft" for \$30.00 was sent to Dr. Klopsch, Editor of "The Christian Herald" from the sympathising townspeople of Durham, Ont., per Mrs. Brooker.

Upwards of \$300.00 has already been contributed in money and food stuffs through this Fund of the Christian Herald.

Owing to the illness of her little daughter Winnie, Mrs. Brooker is not able to finish seeing our people, but other collectors, with Mrs. Torrey, it is hoped will finish the collecting. There is already another \$20.00 on hand ready to send.

Should any of our people in the country like to contribute, money may be left at the office of this paper.

## A Boom to Humanity.

M. D. Tugendhaft's improved famous patent ear drum is meeting with great approval wherever he has demonstrated, that he finds it necessary to remain only a limited time in each locality as the demands for this article all over the country from unfortunates make this step necessary.

If ever a man deserved the fruit of his labor, that man is Mr. Tugendhaft for he treats the poor and rich alike. While his strength holds out and in the short time he has to meet individuals during his stops through the country he wants everyone to call on him who have lost their sense of hearing, no matter how poor they may be and he will do what he can to restore them the happiness they yearn for. At Mr. Tugendhaft's headquarters, 68 King street west, Hamilton, Ont., he is daily besieged for particulars as to dates when he expects to speak in different towns and cities.

Owing to great reputation this gentleman has made for himself as an eye specialist, his name is a guarantee of merit in his new discovery, the famous patent invisible ear drum. He causes those to hear as readily as he restores the sight to others, and hundreds throughout the country have benefited through his efforts.

Be sure and see him; it may be the only chance of a life time.

Mr. Tugendhaft will give a free demonstration of his wonderful Ear Drum, at the HAHN HOTEL, DURHAM, SATURDAY MAY 4TH. ONE DAY ONLY.

# Peas Pay

Field peas brought 77 cents a bushel last year. The average price was 75 cents. There's good money in peas even at 65c. And you have the vines left for fodder or to plow under—better than stable manure or commercial fertilizer. It paid to grow peas last year. This year it will pay as well, — demand keen, pea bugs vanished,—plant peas for profit. Get them in EARLY.

# Plant Plenty Now

## IN DARKEST AFRICA

### BRITISH OFFICER'S PERILOUS JOURNEY OF 3,000 MILES.

Secures 1,500 Zoological Specimens—Motley Collection of Birds, Beasts and Fishes—Surveys African Lakes—Pagan Tribes Use Poisoned Arrows—Resent White Man's Rule—Two of Party Succumb to Climate.

After an eventful and perilous journey of 3,000 miles across Africa, Lieut. Boyd Alexander, has arrived home. The expedition of which he was the organizer left England in 1904, and consisted of Lieut. Boyd Alexander, his brother, Capt. Claude Alexander, Capt. Gosling, and Mr. R. A. Talbot. Lieut. Alexander was the only one to complete the journey, Mr. Talbot having returned home after exploring the Chad region, and the other two having been mortally stricken with disease. The exploits of Lieut. Alexander entitle him to be placed in the first rank of African explorers. The expedition has secured extensive collections of the birds, beasts, and fishes characteristic of the regions traversed in the course of the long journey across the continent. In addition to those sent home from time to time, Lieut. Alexander has brought back with him as many as 1,500 zoological specimens. As regards individual species, peculiar interest attaches to the information secured respecting the habits and habits of the okapi, the curious mammal first revealed to the scientific world by Sir Henry Johnston. Of equal importance with the zoological work of the expedition is the geographical information embodied in the diaries and survey records.

### Surveyed the Lakes.

Particularly valuable is the very careful survey carried from the Benue to Lake Chad by Capt. Claude Alexander and Mr. Talbot. The hydrographical investigations pursued by Mr. Talbot and Lieut. Boyd Alexander on Lake Chad after the death of Capt. Claude Alexander show how greatly the character of the lake has changed in recent years. Instead of being a veritable inland sea, in which character it formerly appeared, the lake is now shown to consist of two wide expanses of shallow water differing little over a large part of its area from a huge pond. After leaving the Congo basin the expedition made its way to the Nile down a tributary named the Yeh, which was much obstructed by rapids, and the full account of the journey may be expected to throw some new light on the hydrography of the Upper Nile basin. In Northern Nigeria the expedition came into contact with some of the pagan tribes who were

### Never Thoroughly Subdued

even by the Fulani, and who have still to be brought under British control. The Munshi people to the south of the Benue who have been giving a good deal of trouble to the British administration are described by Lieut. Alexander as industrious agriculturists, though strongly opposed to the extension of the white man's influence in their midst. The wealth of the Fulani had much diminished with the reduction of slave-trading. The street corners are now remarkable for their beggars. Keffi, another large town of round and square mud-built houses, is in great part in ruins—the result of the reprisals taken by the British authorities after the murder of Capt. Maloney. The influence of the Fulani, according to Lieut. Alexander, is not so remarkable as it might seem. Inter-marriage has caused an almost total disappearance of the original Fulani stock, though an indication of what this must have been like is afforded by the "Bush Fulani," a small and dwindling community. Retiring and shy in disposition, they seldom approach the town.

### Women Are Handsome.

The women are handsome, tall, and pale-skinned, with oval faces, surrounded by thick twists of silky hair. It is the general opinion and hope amongst the Fulani that the rule of the white man will not be long now, and this idea is fostered by the Senussi, who are very active just now, especially about Vinka. Of the Kaboro tribe Lieut. Alexander said they lived in a village built on the sides of a rocky hill. Their small mud houses are cemented to projecting rocks, and are reached only by the narrowest and steepest of paths. The people turned out to be strongly built. They were seen from a distance squatting like monkeys on the rocks. Their features were disagreeable. He found them to be keen hunters, accustomed to the use of poisoned arrows.

### Prison Horrors.

The Anglo-Russian, of London, in an article on the tortures inflicted on suspected persons in Russia, says—"From independent Russian, German, French and English sources come heart-sickening accounts of systematic tortures practised in Russian prisons upon 'politicals' with the object of compelling them to betray their friends and supporters. For a long time such tortures have been reported from various prisons all over the empire, but the worst atrocities seem to be habitually perpetuated in the prisons of Poland and the Baltic provinces. In Riga, for instance, a special chamber has been fitted up with all the instruments of torture known to the Inquisition of old. Rubber sticks, long pins, pincers, a rack, and so forth, are used in the process of making the victim 'confess,' and all this not only by permission of the higher local authorities, but frequently even in their presence and under their personal guidance. Such things as knocking out the teeth, tearing out the hairs and pieces of flesh are in ordinary usage."

### Railway Slaughter.

With a record of nearly 400 persons killed in railway wrecks during the last six months and about 450 injured, the public is asking whether the railway commissioners of the several states and the Interstate Commerce Commission can not intervene to stop the slaughter.

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The best fitting White Waists made, we have already received three consignments and they are selling rapidly, newest effects in embroidered and lace trimmed waists **1.25 to \$4.00**

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