An Actual Maple Leaf Inspired Noted Song.

How "The Maple Leaf Forever" came to be written by Alexander Muir is related in the following interesting narrative by Lieut.-Col. A. E. Belcher, first vice-president of the Ontario Historical Society.

I had the pleasure of knowing the author some years before he wrote these immortal verses. He was a school teacher, and in those days the remuneration was very small. I speak of him fifty years ago. He then lived in the east part of Toronto; almost immediately opposite his small house, was what was then called Leslie's Gardens, where they raised fruit and other trees for sale; it was quite a park as well, as other kinds of trees grew there.

We young men coming from outside places boarded at three or four dollars per week at the then farmers' taverns situated in the vicinity of Market Square. Instead of going to church on Sunday we would take a nice long walk down to these gardens, which were like the countryside. Our friend, Alexander Muir, lived in a small house almost opposite the gates of the gardens. At times he asked me into the house, and we enjoyed a chat, so I had the good fortune of knowing Alexander Muir in other days.

On being elected the first mayor of the town of Southampton, in the year 1904, I wrote asking him if he would come up later in the summer and deliver a sort of patriotic or inaugural address, which he kindly consented to do. I entertained him during his stay. I had prepared a speaker's platform in our town hall park, and at its entrance I had at least 200 school children, each with a small flag, and a large one to lead to escort him; he was tender-hearted and I noticed he was quite affected.

Of course there were very many citizens present to hear his address, which was strong, impressive and patriotic. After he had finished I took him to my home and of course I had a very profitable time. Among other things I asked him how he came to write the Maple Leaf.

He stated that one day in Leslie's Gardens he was passing along a path when a Maple Leaf fell upon his coat sleeve. They have little sprigs or spines on them, and it stuck fast—he brushed it off, or thought he had. Looking down it was there still, and he gave it another brush and it came off. He went home and related to his wife how the leaf had stuck to his coat and said, "I think I will write about the maple leaf." The day was lovely and bright; it was the autumn when the maple leaf was beautiful in color. After writing the poem he read it to his wife, who said, why not put it to music, so they can sing it? He went to a music store, but he could not find any music that would suit—so he sat down and composed the tune to suit the words. It was sung, and he found it quite popular; from that time it obtained favor.

When Alexander Muir died I had become quite attached to him, and came to his funeral. Sitting on the bench with Judge Coatsworth we heard that there was need of funds, and his honor gave quite liberally, and I added a little, after which the Orange brotherhood subscribed a sum for the erection of a tombstone, which bears a portrait medallion of Muir, the work of A. J. Clark, sculptor.

I was also at the unveiling, which was conducted by Lieut.-Col., now Judge T. H. Scott, of Leeds.

Mushrooms Grown in "Mines."

In Paris, underground passages and caverns are utilized for the growing of mushrooms. There are hundreds of miles of mushroom beds flourishing beneath the city. Catacombs and disused chalk quarries have been linked up, suitably ventilated and warmed, and laid out as mushroom galleries.

Access to this strange garden is gained by a post fitted with rungs, attached to the inside of the ventilating chimney. From the foot of this shaft stretch out numerous passages, lit here and there by small lamps.

The galleries, as they are called, are made to yield their crops in rotation, so that there is never a shortage.

Each workman takes with him a small lamp fitted with a long handle, and a huge wicker basket. Bending low beneath the rocky walls of his "garden," he picks the mushrooms and places them in a basket. One owner will send up as much as a ton of mushrooms in a single day. These are exported all over Europe and yield a very substantial profit.

A Mechanical Marvel.

"You know, Bridget, that I require the fire lighted every morning by 7 o'clock, but I cannot get you to do it, so I've bought you this alarm clock."

Bridget examined the timepiece thoroughly and after a few moments' silence said: "Thank ye, mum; it's very pretty. But fancy a thing like that being able to light a fire."

Smile.

Is it not a thing divine to have a smile which, none know how, has the power to lighten the weight of that enormous chain which all the living in common drag behind them?—Victor Hugo.

Builds Nest in Bee Hive.

The ruddy kingfisher, a bird native of Borneo, makes its nest in the hive of a vicious kind of bee.

RED ROSE COFFEE

For particular people

Pure! No chicory or any adulterant in this choice coffee

C-8

Surnames and Their Origin

JEFFRIES.

Variations—Joffre, Jefferson, Godfrey, Geoffrey, Jepson, Jeff.

Racial Origin—French and Norman French.

Source—A given name.

You might easily draw all sorts of analogies among the great number of famous personages who have borne the name of Jeffries or one of its variations, starting with Godfrey, who with his crusaders of the middle ages finally wrested Jerusalem from the grasp of the Moslems, and including Jim Jeffries, of pugilistic fame, and General Joffre, right down to little Jeff, Mutt's partner of national fame—fighters all!

As a family name, Jeffries and its variations came into use simultaneously in France and England. As a given name it comes originally from France to the early Teutonic period, that is, the period of the barbarian invasions, following the fall of the Roman Empire. It was brought to England Among the followers of William the Conqueror.

In France its development has been from Godfrey, through Geoffrey, Jeffrey, Joffory, to its final form of Joffre.

In England it took on many different methods of spelling, and developed in many different directions, some of them paralleling the French as far as Jeffrey, while in other instances the original form of Godfrey was maintained. In the old English records it is often found as Jefre and Jefer, and even Jepher, from which last the variations of Jepson was developed.

CURTIS.

Variation—Curtiss.

Racial Origin—English.

Source—A sobriquet.

The origin of this family name is likely to prove quite puzzling to you and then, when it is explained, make you wonder why you never thought of it.

Say "courteous" real quick, and you have it.

Courtesy in the Middle Ages apparently was a virtue none too general, else it would have been no distinction to call a man "Walter le Curteys." On the other hand it was by no means unknown, or the name would not be so widespread as it is to-day.

Curtis is one of those names which developed in many sections of England about the same time, and all Curtises are by no means sprung from the same stock.

There is another source of the name, however, though a search of the old records discloses that it was the source only in a minority of cases. It was the word "Curt-hose," literally "short-stocking," the sort of sobriquet that a man would gain for himself by reason of a peculiarity in his dress. As a matter of fact, the name of Shorthose" is to be found to-day in England, though the variation is extremely rare.

There is a tendency among many students of language to explain these sobriquet family names by assuming that they are but corruptions, at one period or another, of already established names sounding somewhat like the corruption. But in this case, as in many others, actual records prove the contrary.

Brother Dies for Brother.

Carrying a lion skin and a blood-stained spear, a native entered the office of the district officer at Kota-Kota, Central Africa. He had a story to tell—a story that, according to the district officer, writing in Field and Stream, celebrated one of the most gallant deeds imaginable.

It appeared that about a week or ten days previously the native's two brothers with two women had set out from Kota-Kota to go to Fort Alston, a journey of some eighty miles. The only arms they had were a rough native-made knife and the small spear. On the evening of the third day the party reached a water hole about twenty miles from Fort Alston. The women were tired and incapable of pushing on farther that evening; so one man went a little way into the bush to cut boughs and long grass for a rough shelter. While the man was hard at work a lion attacked him, and his cries attracted the attention of the others. The second man immediately ran to his brother's assistance and succeeded in driving the brute off with his spear. His brother was still alive, but had been terribly mauled and evidently was dying.

In spite of the danger the three agreed that the two women should go back along the road on the chance of getting help while the uninjured man should remain with his dying brother. By a great deal of good fortune, after going back a couple of miles the women fell in with a party of natives. The women told them what had happened, and the whole party hurried to the water hole. When they got there they found the dead body of the man who had been first attacked; he had no doubt died shortly after the women had left. A little way off was the dead body of the lion stabbed in many places with the short spear, which was lying on the ground close by. A few yards from the dead lion was the corpse of the man who had remained behind to look after his brother. He was terribly bitten about the head and shoulders.

It was easy to guess what had happened. While the women were away the lion had returned and attacked the man who was guarding the body of his brother. A short but terrible fight had taken place. Though badly bitten, the native had repeatedly stabbed the lion, striking with such force that he had sunk the spear, blade and shaft, into the vitals of the man-eater.

I had the skin of that lion for a long time in my office. To anybody who did not know its history it was just a bit of tattered hair and hide. To me it was an emblem of a heroic fight by a very gallant man against overwhelming odds.

One of the largest forests in the world, situated between the Ural Mountains and the Okhotsk Sea, in Russia, stands on ice.

DONALD KIRKE GIVES TANLAC FULL CREDIT

Popular Actor Says Medicine Completely Overcame Stomach Trouble and Nervousness.

That Montreal play-goers are literally packing their Orpheum Theatre at every performance is at once a tribute to the high standard of the entertainment offered and to the finished artistry of the famous Duffy stock players, not the least popular of whom is Donald Kirke.

Mr. Kirke is not only a favorite on the legitimate stage but is a screen player of note, and it is a further tribute to his consummate acting that, even while tortured with stomach trouble, nervousness and other ills, he kept "on with the play" day in and day out until he found relief by taking TANLAC. As he says:

"My stomach had almost failed me and I wonder now how I ever kept up, I ate so little. Nights I would toss and turn for hours in nervousness; piercing sick headaches made me suffer agony, and at times on the stage I was so nervous, weak and trembly that I could hardly remember my lines.

"I would have given a thousand dollars to get the relief Tanlac has given me for less than five dollars. My appetite was never better, I eat everything and have gained 12 pounds. I'm never a bit weak or nervous, never

have a headache, and I feel fine and dandy. I will gladly confirm these facts by phone or letter."

Tanlac is for sale by all good druggists. Accept no substitute. Over 40 million bottles sold.

Tanlac Vegetable Pills For Constipation. Made and Recommended by the Manufacturers of Tanlac.

Britain's Biggest Dome.

What is the largest dome in Britain? Most people would plump for St. Paul's; but they would be wrong.

The dome of the Reading-room of the British Museum is thirty feet greater in diameter. It contains 60,000 square feet of glass, and weighs 4,200 tons. Beneath it are housed two and a half million books and manuscripts on fifty miles of shelves and in countless presses.

Here is found the largest collection of Bibles in the world. There are 27,000 volumes in Chinese, 12,000 in Hebrew, and 13,000 in other Oriental languages. The largest book in the world, an atlas measuring 5 ft. 10 in. by 3 ft. 2 in., is to be found here, also an encyclopedia of Chinese literature which cost the nation $7,500. It consists of 5,000 volumes!

VICTIMS OF ANAEMIA

Need New, Rich Blood to Restore Health and Strength.

It is an unfortunate fact that nine women out of every ten are victims of bloodlessness in one form or another. The girl in her teens, the wife and mother, the matron of middle age—all know its miseries. To be anaemic means that you are breathless after slight exertion. You feel worn out and depressed. You turn against food and often cannot digest what you do eat. Sleep does not refresh you, and when you get up you feel exhausted and unfit for the day's duties. If neglected anaemia may lead to consumption.

You should act promptly. Make good the fault in your blood by taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, the most reliable blood enricher ever discovered. These pills purify bad blood, strengthen weak blood, and they make good blood, and as the condition of your blood improves you will regain proper strength, and enjoy life fully as every girl and woman should do. The case of Mrs. Mary Trainor, Perth, Ont., shows the value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in cases of this kind. She says:—"I had not been feeling well for some time and had been gradually growing weaker. I found it very hard to do my housework; had severe headaches and was very pale. I took doctor's medicine for some time, but they did me no good. I was growing weaker and used to faint and take dizzy spells. In this condition I began the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and after a time found they were helping me. I continued their use until I found the troubles that afflicted me had gone and I am once more enjoying good health and strength."

You can get Dr. Williams' Pink Pills through any dealer in medicine, or by mail at 50c a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

A Good Story, But Abe Told it Too Well.

"Out in the farming district where I used to live," said the village storekeeper after I had asked him to weigh several pieces of pork from the hog that we had just butchered, "there was a shiftless sort of fellow by the name of Abe Winters. His family always put off butchering until he'd borrowed from all the neighbors. Sometimes he would even get through the winter on borrowed pork, sell his hogs and then be ready to borrow again next fall.

"But one year the indifference of some of his neighbors caused him to butcher a little earlier than usual, and he asked a neighbor who was almost as shiftless as himself to help him. All through the work of scalding and scraping he kept complaining that by the time he had paid off his borrowings for the year there would be little left for himself.

"At last, as they hung the dressed hog up between the poles to cool, the neighbor said, 'Why don't you get up early to-morrow morning, Abe, take your pork in and pretend it was stolen. Then these people you owe pork to will excuse you and feel sorry for you into the bargain.'

" 'Oh, but they wouldn't believe me,' said Abe.

" 'Yes they would,' replied the neighbor, 'if you'd stick to it.'

"During the night the neighbor, who was in need of meat himself, stole the hog.

"At the first ray of dawn Abe Winters burst into his neighbor's house, saying, 'Some one has stolen my hog!'

" 'Good,' remarked the neighbor. 'You did that well.' Now the main thing is to stick to it.'

" 'But, protested Abe, 'some one really has stolen it!'

" 'Fine, fine! You say that in a way to convince anyone, but stick to it.'

" 'I tell you,' shouted Abe, 'I'm not fooling! The hog is gone.'

" 'Why, Abe, you can do it even better than I thought! No one will doubt you if you insist upon it that way.'

" 'But,' yelled Abe, beside himself, 'I went out there to take it in as you told me, and it was gone—clean gone! There wasn't any hog there.'

" 'That's right, stick to it, stick to it,' said the neighbor.

"And so," concluded the storekeeper, 'Abe went about telling his true story. He stuck to it all right, but no one believed him, perhaps because he insisted too hard."

Money by the Carload.

Four railroad carloads of new Polish banknotes arrived in Warsaw recently. The paper for the notes was prepared in England, and they were engraved in France.

The best Tobacco for the pipe

Ogden's CUT PLUG

Queer Freaks of Father Neptune.

As most people know, the tides are produced by two pairs of waves which travel round the earth daily, the greater pair produced by the pull of the moon, the smaller by the attraction of the sun.

So far, simple enough, and if the earth's surface was all water the tides would be perfectly regular. But no tidal wave can travel very far before it bumps against land, and the results are exceedingly complicated.

For instance, there is a strip of the southern coast of England which has double tides. These occur from Southampton to a little beyond Poole, and it is to this phenomenon that Southampton owes its position as one of Britain's greatest seaports, for at nearly all times there is water to allow of the biggest ships coming in.

At Colombo, in Ceylon, the same thing may be seen—four tides daily instead of two; but the oddest freak of all is at Papeete, one of the Society Islands, in the South Pacific, where high tide occurs always between midday and two o'clock.

On British coasts the biggest tides are in the Bristol Channel, Where, at the mouth of the Avon, the difference between ordinary high and low tide is 40ft. At Chepstow, a little farther up the Severn, it is 52 ft. This huge tide pouring up an ever-narrowing funnel causes the roaring wave called the Severn Bore.

The biggest tide in the world is in the Bay of Fundy, where the extreme rise and fall differs by 70 ft. Up Stoney Creek, at the head of the bay, the tidal wave rushes at 9.61 miles an hour.

The smallest tide so far observed is in Lake Superior. It does not rise more than 1½ in.

CHILDHOOD CONSTIPATION

Constipated children can find prompt relief through the use of Baby's Own Tablets. The Tablets are a mild but thorough laxative which never fail to regulate the bowels and stomach, thus driving out constipation and indigestion; colds and simple fevers. Concerning them Mrs. Gaspard Daigle, Demain, Que., writes: "Baby's Own Tablets have been of great benefit to my little boy, who was suffering from constipation and indigestion. They quickly relieved him and now he is in the best of health." The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25c a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Tut, Tut!

Turtle—"I hear your son is quite proficient in arithmetic."

Snake—"Yes, he's a good little adder!"

BETTER GREEN TEA IMPORTED.

Many think that those who drink Green Tea are more critical judges of quality than those who drink black. Such would seem to be the case, because some years ago great quantities of poor quality Japan and China Green Teas were brought into Canada. The demand for this type of tea soon fell off. Now, however, the much finer quality of India and Ceylon Greens, imported mostly by the Salada Tea Company, has sharply revived the demand by those who enjoy the distinctive flavor of Green Tea.

Wisdom.

Say to your girl the sands are running,
Tell her this of old wisdom and cunning
(I am remembering my own days),
That not one hour of her bliss be wasted,
No kiss ungiven, no joy untasted
(I am remembering my own days).
Tell your boy 'tis his hour of plenty.
Only once is he golden and twenty
(I am remembering my own days).
Bid him build, since beyond recover
Fleet the days of the loved and lover
(I am remembering my own days).

—Katharine Tynan.

Remit by Dominion Express Money Order. If lost or stolen you get your money back.

There is about 86 per cent. of water in milk.

Minard's Liniment for Sprains.

Seeing Through the Skin?

We know that blind people are consoled in some measure for the loss of their sight by the greater alertness of their other senses.

But a statement has recently been made that the blind might actually see—not with their eyes, but with the skin of the face, neck, and chest.

Apparently such a gift is common to all, but in the average person the sight-seeing power of the eyes overcomes the waker sight of the other organs. If we all had this power developed, it is stated that it would be possible for us to see in a surrounding circle from various angles of the body through "myriad eyes."

M. Jules Romain, the French scientist, has made this discovery. His book, "Eyeless sight," which has just been translated into English, describes his method and his deductions.

The first essential for the man or woman who wishes to develop this gift is to bring about a complete concentration of all his attention. Considerable time must elapse before the result of this quiet concentration can become apparent. Sittings of about an hour's duration, if persisted in, should eventually enable the patient to perceive light, and then to visualize shapes and sizes of surrounding objects. After that swift progress is assured, and in time M. Romain claims that it is possible to read type almost as rapidly and accurately as one would with the eyes.

Not Worth Having.

"Timothy dear," remarked Mrs. Smith one evening on her husband's return from business. "I think you waste a terrible lot of money."

"I, darling?" replied the devoted husband. "Why, I have never spent a penny unnecessarily in my life!"

"Oh, yes, you have! That encyclopedia you bought on the instalment plan last month is no good at all."

"Why, whatever's wrong with it?" inquired Timothy.

"This morning I wanted to find out why swallows migrate in the winter."

"And couldn't you find it in the encyclopedia? Where did you look for it?"

"I looked under 'Why,' and I didn't even find the word there at all!"

A Necessary Meal.

A schoolmaster had just finished a lesson on "Food," when a little boy put up his hand. On being asked what he wanted, he replied:

"Please, sir, Jones said he knew a baby that was brought up on milk, and it gained ten pounds every day."

"Jones ought not to tell you such rubbish," said the master. Then, addressing Jones, he added:

"Tell me whose baby was brought up on elephant's milk?"

To which Jones hesitatingly replied:

"Please, sir, it was the elephant's baby."

Sculpture in Concrete.

Sculpture is now done in concrete, the figures being originally molded in clay, and from these forms are taken molds for making casts in the concrete. The "synthetic granite" is composed of the best possible ingredients, finely powdered and carefully mixed. The result is a very hard, nearly white stone of smooth texture, pleasing to the eye.

Ambitious.

"My hired man gets up at four o'clock every morning without waiting to be called," said Farmer Fumblegate.

"Great governor! He must want to get to work early!"

"No, he wants to get to loafing early."

France registered more births than deaths in 1923.

The Old Reliable REMEDY

MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

Strong Nerves

Pure organic phosphate, known to most druggists as Bitro-Phosphate, is what nerve-exhausted, tired-out people must have to regain nerve force and energy. That's why it's guaranteed. Price $1 per pkge. Arrow Chemical Co., 25 Front St. East, Toronto, Ont.

Every Man to His Own.

Work is play when it is the work we love. The English novelist, Mr. H. A. Vachell, in his book of memoirs, Fellow Travelers, makes the point in this little story:

I remember a rare old boy in California, a pioneer who had crossed the plains in a prairie schooner. I found him digging post holes under a blazing sun. And he was a rich man.

"Why do you do this?" I asked.

He looked at me with twinkling eyes. "Why do you drive tandem?" he demanded.

"Because it's such fun," I replied.

"And that," he observed solemnly, "is why I dig post holes."

Minard's Liniment for Distemper.

Grown in Sweden Perhaps.

The old lady in this colloquy from Punch is not the first to assume a knowledge that she did not have.

"Have you ever tried Swedish massage, Mrs. Brown?" the squire's daughter inquiered of the gardener's wife, who suffers with chronic rheumatism.

"I have heard say it be very good for rheumatism, miss," was the reply, "but we don't grow it in these parts."

Boys and girls nowadays are better in health, intelligence, and physical strength than in any previous generation.

Classified Advertisements

WANTED — CAR OWNERS TO send for our Big Free Catalogue showing 101 bargains in Auto Supplies. It will save you money. Send for it to-day. Canadian Auto Shops, Box 154, Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Use MURINE NIGHT & MORNING & KEEP YOUR EYES CLEAN CLEAR AND HEALTHY. WRITE FOR FREE EYE CARE BOOK. MURINE CO. CHICAGO USA

Cuticura For Skins That Itch And Burn

Bathe the affected part with Cuticura Soap and hot water. Dry gently and anoint with Cuticura Ointment. This treatment not only soothes but in most cases heals.

Sample Each Free by Mail. Address Canadian Depot: "Cuticura, P. O. Box 2616, Montreal." Price Soap 25c. Ointment 25 and 50c. Talcum 25c. Try our new Shaving Stick.

YOUNG DAUGHTER MADE WELL

Mother Tells How Her Daughter Suffered and Was Made Well by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Vancouver, B.C.—"My daughter is a young girl who has been having severe pains and weak and dizzy feelings for some time and had lost her appetite. Through an older daughter who had heard of a woman who was taking it for the same trouble, we were told of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. My daughter has been taking it for several months and is quite all right now. It has done all it was represented to do and we have told a number of friends about it. I am never without a bottle of it in the house, for I myself take it for that weak, tired, worn-out feeling which sometimes comes to us all. I find it is building me up and I strongly recommend it to women who are suffering as I and my daughter have."—Mrs. J. McDonald, 2947 26th Ave. East, Vancouver, B. C.

From the age of twelve a girl needs all the care a thoughtful mother can give. Many a woman has suffered years of pain and misery—the victim of thoughtlessness or ignorance of the mother who should have guided her during this time.

If she complains of headaches, pains in the back and lower limbs, or if you notice a slowness of thought, nervousness or irritability on the part of your daughter, make life easier for her.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is especially adapted for such conditions. C

ISSUE No. 26—'24.

ONTARIO ARCHIVES TORONTO